Soils and Urban Trees

A Groundbreaking Two-day Conference

Toronto Botanical Garden - April 26 & 27, 2011

Presented by Urban Forest Innovative Solutions

Agenda
April 26 & 27, 2011

Day 1: April 26,2011

- 8:00 Registration – Breakfast
- 8:15 Opening Remarks: Philip van Wassenaer
- 8:30 Session 1: William Bryant Logan
- 10:00 Morning Break
- 10:20 Session 1 Q&A
- 10:50 Session 2: Paul Stamets
- 12:20 Lunch
- 1:10 Session 2 Q&A
- 1:40 Session 3: Olaf Ribeiro
- 3:10 Break
- 3:30 Session 3 Q&A
- 4:00 Wrap up Day 1 Discussion

Day 2: April 27,2011

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:30 Session 4: Peter Wild
- 10:00 Morning Break
- 10:20 Session 4 Q&A
- 10:50 Session 5: James Urban
- 12:20 Lunch
- 1:10 Session 5 Q&A
- 1:40 Field Session A&B
- 2:40 Break
- 3:00 Field Session C&D
- 4:00 Wrap up Day 2 Discussion

In this two day conference, leading experts will introduce you to the concepts of ideal soil structure and biology. Five international speakers will show how a new breed of arborists are growing healthy trees and preserving mature trees by literally looking at the roots of tree care.

Featured Speakers

William Bryant Logan

Living Dirt:
The Life Cycle of Soil

Paul Stamets

Solutions from the Underground:
How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World

Olaf Ribeiro

The Role of Soil Microorganisms, Root Pathogens & Nutrition in Maintaining Tree Health & Longevity

Peter Wild

Transitioning From Conventional to Organic Tree and Soil Care: *Making it Work for You & Your Customers*

James Urban

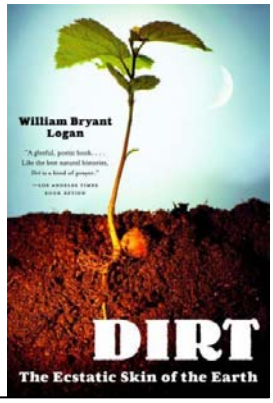
The Physical Properties of Soil:
Reusing Existing Urban Soil Resources

William Bryant Logan See the trailer for *Dirt! The Movie* at www.dirtthemovie.org

Day 1 Living Dirt: *The Life Cycle of Soil*

Description: Dirt is alive. It isn't a set of numerical specifications. It isn't substrate. A historian of religion called it "the generative source of all terrestrial manifestations of existence". A pair of soil scientists agreed, writing, "soil is at the base of the primary production of terrestrial ecosystems." When you calculate the breath occurring in a forest, more than 75% of it is owed to the soils.

How are soils born? How do they live and die? How can we nourish and adapt them to our needs? How do they guide and limit our plans? What is the purpose of clay? What is the use of humus? What role do fungi and bacteria play, and how do they travel? These are the subjects of this brief anatomy of living soils.



Bill Logan is an award-winning natural history writer and environmental columnist. He wrote the Cuttings column for the New York Times and helped launch Garden Design magazine. Logan has been a contributor to numerous magazines. His book on gardening tools won the Best Book of the Year award from the Garden Writers Association of America. In 1992, Logan founded Urban Arborists to care for trees in New York City. Three years later, *Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth*, was published. It was named Book of the Week by Entertainment Weekly and received a glowing front-page review in the Sunday Los Angeles Times Book Review. Logan's most recent book, *Oak: The Frame of Civilization*, was published in 2008 .

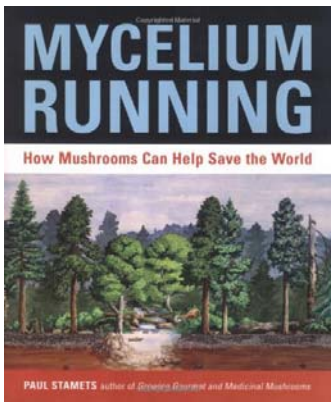
Paul Stamets See Paul's TED Talk at www.ted.com/speakers/paul_stamets.html

Day 1 Solutions from the Underground: *How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World*

Description: As we are now well engaged in the 6th Major Extinction ("6 X") on planet Earth, our biosphere is quickly changing, eroding the life support systems that have allowed humans to ascend. Unless we put into action policies and technologies that can cause a course correction in the very near future, species diversity will continue to plummet, with humans not only being the primary cause, but one of the victims. What can we do? Fungi, particularly mushrooms, offer some powerful, practical solutions, which can be put into practice now.

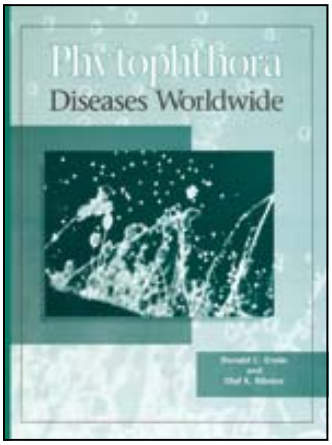
The central premise is that habitats have immune systems, just like people, and our close evolutionary relationship to fungi can be the basis for novel pairings that lead to greater sustainability and better health.

Paul Stamets will discuss the evolution of mushrooms in ecosystems and how fungi can help heal environments. As environmental health and human health are inextricably interconnected, fungi offer unique opportunities that capitalize on mycelium's diverse properties. Fungi are the grand molecular disassemblers in nature, decomposing plants and animals, creating soils and the food web of life.



Paul Stamets has been a dedicated mycologist for over thirty years. Over this time, he has discovered and co-authored four new species of mushrooms, and pioneered numerous techniques in the field of edible and medicinal mushroom cultivation. He received the 1998 "Bioneers Award" from The Collective Heritage Institute, and the 1999 "Founder of a New Northwest Award" from the Pacific Rim Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils. In 2008, Paul received the National Geographic Adventure Magazine's Green-Novator and the Argosy Foundation's E-chievement Awards. He was also named one of Utne Reader's "50 Visionaries Who Are Changing Your World" in their Nov–Dec 2008 issue. In February 2010, Paul received the President's Award from the Society for Ecological Restoration: Northwest Chapter, in recognition of his contributions to Ecological Restoration.

Olaf Ribeiro: Day 1 The Role of Soil Microorganisms, Root Pathogens & Nutrition in Maintaining Tree Health & Longevity



Description: Microorganisms are increasingly recognized for their vital role in the soil. It is now known that without good microbial activity, maintaining tree health is difficult. Microorganisms are involved in several important interactions in the soil including, but not limited to: nutrient uptake, antagonizing root pathogens and improving soil structure and function. Recent sophisticated molecular techniques have shown that soil microorganisms are more complex than previously assumed. It is now believed that that there are approximately 4 million species of bacteria in the soil, all involved in specific roles that either hinder or enhance root function (Bardgett & Mallot, 2008). Exploiting the various benefits of these microbes in the soil milieu has resulted in novel methods for improving tree health. This session will describe various methods that have been successfully utilized to increase root growth and improve tree health and longevity.

Olaf Ribeiro, B.S. (Agr.), M.S. (Plant Pathology), Ph.D. (Plant Pathology & Genetics). Diploma in Tropical Agriculture.

Olaf has over 30 years experience in diagnosing plant health problems in both the U.S and overseas. He is nationally and internationally recognized for saving historic and ancient trees by improving their health. A segment on his work saving historic cherry trees was featured on Channel 5 Evening Magazine. His work with cherry trees also resulted in being presented the Cherry Blossom Award by the Consul General of Japan. In 1978 he published a sourcebook on *Phytophthora* and in 1996 co-authored *Phytophthora Diseases Worldwide* with Dr. Don Erwin of the University of California. Olaf has published over 50 scientific papers in refereed international journals as well as several popular articles on plant diseases and tree preservation. He has been an invited speaker at several national & international meetings and conferences and has presented seminars and workshops to arborists on tree health in the US and UK. Olaf is a member of the American Phytopathological Society, International Society of Plant Pathology, International Society of Arboriculture and Sigma XI (Research Honorary), a former member of the Certifying Board of the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops & Soils and the President of the Murden Cove Preservation Society.

Peter Wild: Day 2 Transitioning From Conventional to Organic Tree and Soil Care: *Making it Work for You and Your Customers*

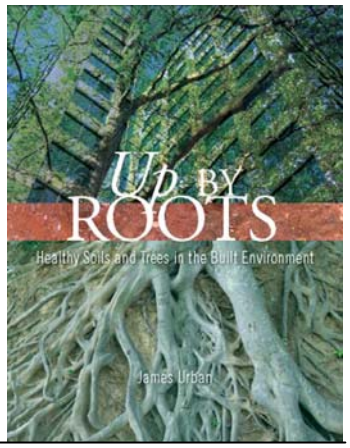
Description: Description: Arborist Peter Wild will discuss the journey of incorporating organic based tree care technology into the business arena and making it profitable with minimal investment. He likes to say that all you really need is a passion and a good customer base. His company, Boston Tree Preservation, is located in the greater Boston area. While the industry relied on the heavy use of chemicals to control pest invasions such as the Gypsy Moth Caterpillar, in the mid-1980s Peter and his customers moved into the 21st century by transitioning from chemical to organic approaches. His company now utilizes approaches such as composting, compost tea and vermi-composting as well as the use of humates, kelp and fish hydrolysates to promote healthy soils for urban trees.

Peter Wild is the founder and CEO of Arborjet Inc., a manufacturer of tree injection systems and medicaments. Wild is also the president and owner of Boston Tree Preservation, an organic-based, proactive tree-care business founded in 1977. He was one of the first people to develop and use vermicomposting for fertilization and disease and insect pest management. He also developed Soil Solutions, the first completely organic lawn-care program in the Boston area. Peter is a graduate of University of Massachusetts Stockbridge School of Agriculture. He is recognized nationally and internationally as an organic tree expert and has consulted in Turkey and the UAE with orchard owners about managing their insect and soil problems organically, as well as with leading experts on the Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Mountain Pine Beetle infestations in the United States. Peter is a true forerunner in the green industry, passionately trying to preserve and protect the urban forest and the environment through the use of organics.

James Urban: Day 2 The Physical Properties of Soil:

Reusing Existing Urban Soil Resources

Description: Most designers throw away existing soil resources in favor of importing new, highly processed soils. However, the mineral soils that are found in urban areas are often usable with relatively minor modifications. This lecture will explain how to make the determination of usability and discuss ways to incorporate these ideas into the design and soil modification requirements. When combined with the ideas of the other speakers at this conference, a powerful environmentally sound approach is created.



James Urban, FASLA, specializes in the design of tree plantings and soils in urban spaces. He has written and lectured extensively on the subject of urban tree planting and has been responsible for the introduction of numerous innovations including many of the current standards relating to urban tree plantings. His 2008 book *Up By Roots: Healthy Trees and Soils in the Built Environment*, is becoming one of the principal tree and soil references and won an ASLA Honor Award in 2009. Urban was instrumental in the development of structural cells and structural planting soils for use under sidewalk pavements, and is credited with helping to re-awaken the profession of landscape architecture to the skills required to successfully plant trees in difficult urban soils. In 2007, he was awarded the ASLA Medal of Excellence for this work

Field Sessions: Afternoon Day 2

In the afternoon of day 2, four 30-minute field sessions are scheduled on the grounds of the Toronto Botanical Garden and Edwards Gardens. Weather permitting, these sessions will be hosted by Bill Logan, Olaf Ribiero, Peter Wild and James Urban. Attendees will be separated into four field groups and rotate through the half hour sessions.

1:40 Field Session A 2:10 Field Session B

3:00 Field Session C 3:30 Field Session D

All conference attendees are reminded to dress for the elements on Day 2.

Philip van Wassenaer

Conference Host: Welcome Address and Moderator

Philip is the principal consulting arborist and founder of Urban Forest Innovations Inc. (UFI) and Urban Forest Innovative Solutions Ltd. (UFIS). He has over 20 years experience as a practicing arborist, has been ISA Certified since 1996 and has been a member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists since 1999. His academic qualifications include an undergraduate degree in Environmental Sciences, and a Master of Forest Conservation degree, from the University of Toronto. In 2009 Philip was a recipient of the ISA "True Professionals of Arboriculture" award in recognition of his commitment to education and the advancement of arboriculture.

Soils and Urban Trees—Conference Registration - April 26th & 27th 2011

Registration……..$350.00 + $45.50 HST= **$395.50**

Name_____

Agency/Company_____

Billing Address _____ City_____

Prov./St._____ Postal Code_____ Phone_____

Email_____ ☐ I would like a vegetarian lunch

ISA Arborists: Participation in this 2 day course will earn the attendee 12 to 14 (est.) ISA Continuing Education Units (CEU's)

Continental breakfast, lunch and refreshments will be served on both days

Questions?

Contact us at:

Urban Forest Innovative Solutions

905-274-1022

or email

info@ufis.ca

Payment Method & Information

By Cheque or Money order Please enclose a cheque or money order payable to: "Urban Forest Innovative Solutions".

Mail registration form and payment to: *Urban Forests Innovative Solutions Ltd., 1248 Minnewaska Trail, Mississauga, Ontario L5G 3S5*

By Credit Card Please visit http://www.ufis.ca/soil.php to pay by Credit card and either fax the registration form to Fax # 905-274-2170 or email to: info@ufis.ca

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Take advantage of the group rate of $105.00 per night. Please quote: "Soils and Urban Trees Conference" Booking deadline is April 4th, 2011

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Conference Location:
"The Floral Room"

1250 Eglinton Avenue E.
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Toll Free Reservation:
1-877-474-6835