



2015 ISA True Professionals of Arboriculture™ Recipients

The True Professionals of Arboriculture™ recognition program honors arborists and tree care professionals for their positive impact on the industry in and around their communities. Visit www.isa-arbor.com and the *Arborist News* for future case studies from each of the winners.



James P. Allen

—True Professional of Arboriculture

ISA Board Certified Master Arborist®
Owner—James P. Allen & Associates
Santa Cruz, California, US

James Allen makes it a goal to instill a strong foundation of arboriculture for future generations. When his children were young, he volunteered to teach the basics of tree biology, planting, and care in their classrooms. Allen's lessons became so popular throughout the Santa Cruz school district that he spent years teaching children how their community can be improved by the planting and proper care of trees.

Allen, who owns his own company, believes that education and training are the building blocks of a successful team. Requiring his employees to obtain

ISA certification has resulted in a skilled and knowledgeable workforce that is well-respected within the community.

In 2002, Allen was recruited to design and teach an arboriculture class at a local community college – the first course of its kind in the area. Allen developed a “hands-on” training program that has attracted more than 400 participants to date and inspired many to earn ISA certification. James Allen is a dedicated professional who is achieving his goals and making a difference.



Paul Revell

—True Professional of Arboriculture

ISA Certified Arborist®
Urban and Community Forestry
Coordinator—Virginia Department of
Forestry. Charlottesville, Virginia, US

Paul Revell feels a deep responsibility to the public he serves as urban and community forestry coordinator for the Virginia Department of Forestry. Since 1995, he has administered millions of dollars in federal grant funds to communities for environmental education and local improvement projects and has been responsible for developing many components of the urban forestry program in his 30-year career.

Revell takes special pride in the Urban Forest Strike Teams (UFST) project, a post-storm response program he helped organize following Hurricane Katrina for assessing tree damage caused by natural

disasters. He has participated as a task specialist, team leader, and instructor for UFST and coordinated response teams for six weather events in four states since 2008.

Revell began promoting ISA certification within his department by offering field staff an annual pre-exam training program. He later collaborated with the ISA Mid-Atlantic Chapter to initiate annual training for anyone interested in ISA certification. To date, 450 individuals have participated in the training, and the department now employs 32 ISA Certified Arborists – more evidence of Paul Revell's dedication to the advancement of arboriculture.



Ernest Rezens

—True Professional of Arboriculture

ISA Certified Arborist®
Owner—Tree and Landscape
Decisions LLC. Makawao,
Hawaii, US

Ernie Rezens is highly regarded on the island of Maui, Hawaii, not only as a consulting arborist, but as an educator and communicator who demonstrates his passion for educating others by never missing an opportunity to teach, whether in a classroom or in a tree owner's back yard. He has written more than 95 articles for the *Maui News* and has taught two home gardening courses on educational television.

Rezens feels that his most important contribution to arboriculture is teaching a preparatory course for the ISA Certified Arborist exam using the *Arborists' Certification Study Guide*.

In the last 11 years, nearly 100 tree workers on Maui have passed the certification exam after taking his course. Ernie also obtained state funding to build a classroom/laboratory/greenhouse facility for teaching horticulture, arboriculture, and other plant management courses at Maui Community College.

Ernie Rezens is recognized and respected within his community as the go-to professional for tree care advice who lives his philosophy: “Treat trees as you want to be treated; they will reward you with benefits you could not find elsewhere.”