

*For Immediate Release*

## ISA and UAA Focus on Expansion

CHAMPAIGN, Ill (November 10, 2015) – As a professional affiliate organization, the [Utility Arborist Association](#) (UAA) provides the [International Society of Arboriculture](#) (ISA) with a network for serving the needs of utility arborists. The growth of this sector in the arboriculture industry has led UAA and ISA to move toward a mutually-beneficial, autonomous administrative relationship similar to that of other ISA affiliate organizations.

Through the years, ISA has ventured outside of normal professional affiliate offerings to provide UAA with administrative staff and services. These streamlined administrative services have helped UAA to achieve its current level of success. This growth has created an increased need for administrative support, making it more efficient for UAA to manage their operations internally. “ISA has been proud to help UAA grow as an independent organization and professional affiliate,” says Jim Skiera, executive director of ISA. “However, ISA’s own increase in programming and services now requires us to utilize more of our own resources to focus on expansion.”

Administrative support provided by ISA has included ISA staff serving as a part-time executive director, a full-time finance and operations manager, and a part-time administrative support specialist. UAA’s move toward greater independence began in 2011 when the association hired its own executive director, with support staff still provided by ISA. UAA has now begun the process of determining how best to manage its administrative support needs separate from ISA.

UAA and ISA will remain professional affiliates that will continue to support each other. As a professional affiliate, UAA will maintain an official memorandum of understanding with ISA, which will continue to provide UAA with certain benefits and services. “UAA has grown to over 3,300 members and is now in a position to operate more autonomously like ISA chapters and other professional affiliates,” adds Philip Charlton, UAA executive director. “We thank ISA for the many years of additional support, and we look forward to our ongoing relationship.”

Membership and credentialing services for members of UAA and ISA will be unaffected. ISA will still manage certification for the Certified Arborist Utility Specialist™ credential, and individuals will have the option to join ISA, UAA, or both through either organization. ISA will also continue to provide educational programming for utility arborists during the ISA Annual International Conference and Trade Show.

For questions regarding the long-term relationship of ISA and UAA, review the list of [frequently asked questions](#) or contact [isa@isa-arbor.com](mailto:isa@isa-arbor.com).

### *About ISA*

*The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., U.S., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the newly re-launched consumer education web site, [www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org), which fulfills the association’s mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA’s dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com).*

### *About UAA*

*The Utility Arborist Association (UAA) is an organization of over 3,000 individuals with interest in and a commitment to the maintenance of trees and other vegetation whose mission is to be the leading North American organization for the enhancement of quality utility arboriculture and right-of-way vegetation management. The primary goal of UAA is to ensure the safe and reliable distribution of energy, including electric, oil, and gas, to businesses and residences. To learn more about the UAA, visit [www.utilityarborist.org](http://www.utilityarborist.org).*



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