



Environmental Concerns in Rights-of-Way Management

The Utility Arborist Association announces the Environmental Concerns in Rights-Of-Way Management 13th International Symposium in Charlotte, NC October 9-12, 2022

(FOREST LAKE, MN) February 18, 2022 – *For Immediate release.* A gathering of influencers and practitioners invested in understanding and mitigating environmental concerns associated with the management of rights-of-way corridors will be conducted in Charlotte, NC this October. The 13th International Symposium on the Environmental Concerns in Rights-of-Way Management will continue building on the work of its predecessors, while evolving topics and themes timely to the current audience of practitioners seeking a balance between environmental concerns and the safe, reliable, and cost-effective transportation of energy.

With 12 million acres of transmission corridors, and approximately 500 million trees running adjacent and under electric distribution and transmission lines, utility vegetation managers play a vital role in maintaining both urban and traditional forests. Utility Vegetation Managers are the men and women who work to keep the pathways clear from obstructions caused by incompatible plant growth that can disrupt power and cause outages or potential hazards caused by contact with the voltage. The vegetation management sphere of influence also includes academic, scientific, and industry researchers, rights-of-way managers, environmental specialists, wildlife managers, sustainability officers representing electric, pipeline, roadside, and other industries along with government regulators, and land management agencies.

Call for papers is currently underway for consideration of publication and presentation at the event. Abstract submission is sought from students, researchers, and industry leaders worldwide on a broad spectrum of topics including controlling invasive species, biological control mechanisms, integrated habitat management, technology systems for monitoring and reporting, among others. For a complete list of topic suggestions, visit www.rights-of-way.org. Abstracts will be accepted until March 23, 2022.



News Release

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From the first symposium in 1976, two main objectives, while influenced by contemporary concerns, remain intact and are 1) to provide a forum for discussion of the environmental impacts that result from siting, constructing, using, and maintaining rights-of-way "ROW", and 2) publishing practical information on ways to reduce the environmental impacts and developing multiple uses of ROW's. The event is comprised of presentations, discussion sessions, and exhibits of the latest technologies to achieve the environmental goals of the audience. "Bringing the science to the practitioner as well as the stakeholder from a multi-national perspective is gracefully executed at this event," said Dennis Fallon, Executive Director of the Utility Arborist Association. "It is one of my favorite events to attend because the content always challenges my paradigms in a positive way."

While this event provides a premier learning exchange, it is also a much-needed opportunity to network with industry experts, earn continuing education credits and take advantage of professional development opportunities. "Charlotte is the perfect venue to host this event," said Tom Johnson from Duke Energy who serves on the steering committee. "The area has a lot to offer and there is a myriad of utility industry resources and assets nearby. The planned field trip will highlight several of the interesting features such as conservation partnership in powerline Rights-of-Way, natural gas storage, pipeline ROW maintenance and hydro-electric power generation.

To learn more about the Environmental Concerns in Rights-of-Way Management 13th International Symposium, please visit the website at www.rights-of-way.org.

The Utility Arborist Association is an organization of over 5,000 individuals with interest in and a commitment to the maintenance of trees and other vegetation for the purpose of ensuring the safe and reliable distribution of energy, including electric, oil and gas, to business and residences. For more information, call 800-680-4106 or visit our website at [Utility Arborist Association - Home \(gotouaa.org\)](http://Utility Arborist Association - Home (gotouaa.org)).