VEGETATION MANAGEMENT: ENHANCING SYSTEM RELIABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

April 16-17, 2018
Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel Chicago
Chicago, IL
OVERVIEW

Many items impact the reliability of a utility system and vegetation is typically one of the largest. Our industry often discusses best management practices, new technologies and tools available to improve our vegetation management programs, but we rarely are able to get together in the same room to discuss solutions. This program is going to focus on sharing solutions that have worked.

The goal of this course is to look at how specific challenges impact reliability and how utilities can reduce that impact. The course will begin by looking at the impact of major events such as storms, weather and pest epidemics. How do the leading utilities in the industry prepare for these events and manage them to reduce the overall impact to the system? In addition to looking at how major events impact reliability, this course will also spend time looking at the role of utilities in environmental stewardship along the ROWs.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Discuss storm response during major events
- Demonstrate how trees react and respond to storm events
- Explain techniques to manage ROWs in a high fire risk zone
- Utilize weather patterns and technology to prepare for storm events
- Explain the value of environmental stewardship in the ROW
- Examine a few case studies of environmental projects in the ROW
- Discuss outage investigations and the relevant metrics
- Explain how utilizing outage data can improve system reliability
- Identify reliability risk posed by Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
- Discuss EAB mitigation strategies

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Utility foresters
- Program managers and directors
- Public relations professionals
- Procurement specialists
- Reliability focused utility managers (vegetation or asset)
- Utility vegetation management specialists
- Electric reliability directors
- Students interested in utilities
### AGENDA

**MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am – 8:30 am</td>
<td>Registration and Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 8:45 am</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Safety Message</td>
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<td>8:45 – 10:15 am</td>
<td><strong>Storm Panel</strong>&lt;br&gt;This panel will look at several utilities and how they manage storms and the impact to reliability. It will discuss storm response, resource availability, and programs and processes that have been developed to reduce reliability impacts during storms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:45 am</td>
<td>Networking Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 – 11:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Storm Response</strong>&lt;br&gt;This talk will discuss the process of contractors assisting utilities during a major storm response. It will discuss lessons learned, best management practices and teamwork. This is important from the initial mobilization through complete restoration.</td>
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<td>11:30 am – 12:15 pm</td>
<td><strong>Effects of Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation (EAB) on the Structure and Material Properties of Ash Trees</strong>&lt;br&gt;Discuss the impacts EAB has on the structural integrity of ash trees as they die from the infestation. What additional risk does this pose to the reliability of the electric service and the safety of the tree workers.</td>
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<td>12:15 – 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Group Luncheon</td>
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<td>1:15 – 2:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Biomechanics of How Trees Dismantle</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Davey Tree Expert Company has long sponsored a &quot;Biomechanics&quot; week where scientists from around the country look at trees and how forces impact them. This talk will discuss how trees fall apart during the aging process and how wind and other forces impact the process of dismantling. How trees fall apart is critical in how utility managers think about risk and reliability.</td>
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<td>2:00 – 2:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation</strong>&lt;br&gt;EAB is an enormous threat to the reliability of utility companies throughout the United States. It first impacted utilities in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio with virtually no warning. This talk will discuss what some utilities have done to proactively plan for this pest and what some of the recommendations are based on what stage of infestation your region is in.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 – 3:15 pm</td>
<td>Networking Break</td>
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<td>3:15 – 4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Duke Energy's Storm Restoration Efforts in Puerto Rico</strong>&lt;br&gt;Duke Energy has sent crews over to assist with restoration efforts in Puerto Rico. All utilities have lent crews to assist neighboring utilities or even utilities from different regions during catastrophic events. Sending crews to assist in Puerto Rico offered a unique set of challenges and opportunities. This talk will discuss this process and the lessons learned during the restoration efforts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 – 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Wrap Up &amp; Adjourn</td>
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AGENDA

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

8:00 – 8:30 am  Continental Breakfast:

8:30 – 8:45 am  Introduction to Day 2 & Safety Message

8:45 – 9:30 am  Commonwealth Edison’s Vegetation Outage Investigations
Get an inside look into how ComEd manages vegetation outage investigations. Discuss their criteria for determining which outages to investigate and what information is collected during the investigation. This presentation will also summarize the outcome of the investigations and how that was applied to improve customer reliability.

9:30 – 10:15 am  Integrated Approach for Managing ROWs to Maintain Environmental Compliance
In a time of heightened environmental awareness, government oversight and community activism, ROW managers are facing an ever-increasing burden of providing reliable electric and gas service across a versatile environment. Short and long-term planning is crucial to ensure ROW management plans are in compliance with the growing list of environmental requirements. This session will discuss integrated solutions to managing ROWs in a holistic approach that combines environmental awareness and stewardship, community engagement, IVM and technological tools.

10:15 – 10:45 am  Networking Break

10:45 – 11:30 am  Gas Pipeline Vegetation and Encroachment Assessment
This talk will discuss a project that looked at 2,800 miles of gas lines across 8 states. Aerial imagery was utilized to perform an initial desktop reconnaissance which was later field verified. The reports, maps and digital spatial data will be used to determine maintenance and budget requirements.

11:30 am – 12:00 pm  Open Forum Discussion and Program Wrap Up

INSTRUCTORS

Shannon Peters
Senior Program Manager, ComEd
Shannon Peters is a Senior Program Manager in the Vegetation Management Department at ComEd, an electric utility that serves most of northern Illinois. In her current role, Shannon is responsible for managing high priority special projects for the distribution side of the company, particularly those with poor power reliability performance due to vegetation concerns. Shannon has a B.S. in Geography and Geographic Information Systems and is currently working towards obtaining a Masters in Organizational Management. She has worked in various departments throughout ComEd over the past 7 years, including Mapping and Distribution Project Management prior to her role in Veg.

Jimmy Guzman
Emergency Preparedness Manager, Duke Energy
INSTRUCTORS (CONTINUED)

Roy Van Houten
Director, Wetland Studies & Solutions Inc.
Roy Van Houten, PWS, CE, CPESC is the Director of environmental compliance for Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. With over 16 years of experience assisting a wide array of clients in the utility, residential, commercial and transportation sectors, he has an excellent understanding of what processes need to be in place to insure projects do not incur delays or costly fines due to non-compliance issues with local, state and federal environmental regulations. Roy has a Bachelor of Technology degree in Wildlife Management from State University of New York College of Agriculture and Technology. Roy is a professional wetland scientist, past president of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Erosion Control Association, board member of the Wildlife Foundation of Virginia and has numerous certifications in erosion and sediment control.

Sara Dreiser
Project Manager, Davey Resource Group
Sara Dreiser is the Upper Midwest Project Manager for Davey Resource Group. Sara has been with the Davey Resource Group since November 2012. Sara began as a distribution field utility forester in Northern Illinois, and has hands on experience work planning, performing quality control audits, and interacting with homeowners. Sara moved into the Quality Assurance Field Supervisor role before taking on her current position. Before coming to Davey Sara worked as a Research Assistant in Urban Forestry at The Morton Arboretum. Sara has presented as a guest instructor at the Davey Institute of Tree Science, and has attended many Davey trainings such as Safety Leadership, Personal Excellence, and Growing Leaders. Sara is an ISA Certified Arborist and has a Biology and Environmental Science Degree from Knox College.

Jim Neeser
Group Business Developer, Davey Resource
Jim Neeser is a Business Developer for the Midwest and Rocky Mountain regions with DRG. Jim brings 17 years of experience in arboriculture and has recently emerged as a leader in the utility arboriculture and vegetation management industry. He is constantly working with utility companies to provide innovative solutions and has done significant amounts of work with innovative tools. Jim has been on the UAA Training Committee since 2010 and is currently the treasurer and Champion of the finance committee. He has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry with an emphasis on Hydrology and Soils from the University of Minnesota and is an ISA Certified Arborist with the Utility Specialist endorsement. Jim is also a frequent speaker at industry events across the country, including the international show in Australia.

Anand Persad
Manager of Plant Sciences, The Davey Institute
Dr. Persad pursued postdoctoral studies in 2001-2003 at the University of Florida, Gainesville- in Invasive Species, Insect Molecular Genetics, Hi-Fidelity PCR. He has a PhD from the University of the West Indies in Entomology. Dr. Persad leads a team of industry focused educators and researchers at the Davey Institute, Kent, OH as Manager of Plant Sciences. His current activities include: Chair of the Sustainability Working Group (SWG) of the Davey Institute; Arboriculture and Improving Tree Care Technology; Tree Biology, Structure and Biomechanics; Restoration of Urban Landscapes; Invasive Species Research; Ecology and Planning in Urban Landscapes Globally; Vertebrate and Invertebrate Interactions with Community Green Spaces. He is an Adjunct Professor at Kent State University Kent, Ohio: Department of Biology 2012- current and contributes regularly as a member of the Horticultural Advisory board. He has been an avid researcher and educator in the field of arboriculture within the Davey Tree Expert Company for about 11+ years and have been an invited speaker to numerous ISA -chapter meetings, the ISA national meetings, ISA-Bio-Mechanics Weeks and the Utility Arborists Association meetings along with several related international events. He is the author of several peer-reviewed manuscripts and is instrumental in transferring technology to the broad tree and turf care industry groups through collaborative research and joint teaching with several national and international agencies.
REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

Participants must sign in/out each day and be in attendance for the entirety of the course to be eligible for continuing education credit.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

PowerPoint presentations and case studies will be used in this course.

IACET CREDITS

EUCI has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). In obtaining this accreditation, EUCI has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard which is recognized internationally as a standard of good practice. As a result of their Authorized Provider status, EUCI is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/IACET Standard.

EUCI is authorized by IACET to offer 0.9 CEUs for this course.

EVENT LOCATION

A room block has been reserved at the Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel Chicago, 163 E Walton Pl, Chicago, IL 60611, for the nights of April 15-16, 2018. The room rate is $139 single occupancy plus applicable taxes. Call 1-312-751-8100 for reservations and mention the EUCI event to get the group rate. The cutoff date to receive the group rate is March 15, 2018 but as there are a limited number of rooms available at this rate, the room block may close sooner. Please make your reservations early.

REGISTER 3, SEND THE 4TH FREE

Any organization wishing to send multiple attendees to this course may send 1 FREE for every 3 delegates registered. Please note that all registrations must be made at the same time to qualify.
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APRIL 16-17, 2018: US $1395
Early bird on or before March 30, 2018: US $1195

How did you hear about this event? (direct e-mail, colleague, speaker(s), etc.)

Print Name

Job Title

Company

What name do you prefer on your name badge?

Address

City

State/Province

Zip/Postal Code

Country

Phone

Email

List any dietary or accessibility needs here

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Name on Card

Billing Address

Account Number

Billing City

Exp. Date

Billing State

Security Code (last 3 digits on the back of Visa and MC or 4 digits on front of AmEx)

Billing Zip Code/Postal Code

OR Enclosed is a check for $ ____________________ to cover ____________________ registrations.

Substitutions & Cancellations

Your registration may be transferred to a member of your organization up to 24 hours in advance of the event. Cancellations must be received on or before March 16, 2018 in order to be refunded and will be subject to a US $195.00 processing fee per registrant. No refunds will be made after this date. Cancellations received after this date will create a credit of the tuition (less processing fee) good toward any other EUCI event. This credit will be good for six months from the cancellation date. In the event of non-attendance, all registration fees will be forfeited. In case of course cancellation, EUCI’s liability is limited to refund of the event registration fee only.

For more information regarding administrative policies, such as complaints and refunds, please contact our offices at (201) 871-0474.