



Texas Vegetation Management Association

September, 2011

QUARTERLY CLIP

Volume 9, Issue 3

Time to Register

A bit over a month away if that! Get your early registration in for the Texas Vegetation Management Association Conference at the YO Resort and Conference Center in Kerrville. Early bird registration runs until September 9th and you can register online at tvma.net. Call the YO to reserve your room at 830-257-4440 or call toll free at 877-967-3767. The board, with Larry Mauldin as conference chair, has unique and educational plans for all attendees. Sponsorship space is still available with categories and advantages to each on tvma.net including the new scholarship sponsorship which is designed to generate money and increase the number of scholarships TVMA awards. Not enough can be said about fulfilling CEU requirements available for six states and ISA requirements at one meeting. The educational sessions are geared specifically toward those in vegetation management and related fields and the conference offers opportunities to network with what we hope will surpass last year's record breaking attendance.

Certainly don't forget about the location in the beautiful hill country of Texas and the Tuesday afternoon short jaunt to Schreiner University for outdoor, hands on presentations under a covered pavilion in case the relentless heat persists or incase we may have those elusive rains. Plans have also been made for the annual Monday golf tournament at the Hidden Springs Golf Course to benefit scholarships and finishing with a burger meal made by TVMA chefs for all attendees and weary golfers back at the hotel. Tuesday evening will not be what had become the annual casino night. Tuesday, to benefit scholarships again, TVMA is hosting several tournaments (ex: Texas Holdem, Dominoes, WII) and a raffle with a television, Yeti Cooler, iPad and several other "Can't Live Without Prizes." Fajitas will be served. Become a part of the scholarship program through participation.

Join TVMA for the education, training, and testing and leave with a broader network of peers.

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Reserve Your Room Now!

877-967-3767



TVMA Conference
October 3 - 5
YO Ranch
Kerrville, TX

Presidential Update

Boy! It's HOT!...

I think it safe to say we are all tired of talking about the weather. As this record heat carries on, keep those who have suffered from this year's natural disasters across the country in your thoughts and prayers. I can only imagine what they are going through right now.

The TVMA board met earlier this month in Kerrville to prepare for the annual conference October 3-5. With an enormous amount of work from Larry Mauldin as chair for the conference, Layne Field and Mike Standish on scholarship funds, Kedrick Bryant on training and Walter Hambrick, the conference is set to be a success. The speaker lineup is excellent. The Tuesday afternoon outdoor program is ready. The training is in place. The scholarship drive activities from golf to Monday Night Football to raffles are there for everyone to enjoy and help raise money for promising future vegetation managers. As always, TVMA looks to find ways to increase your educational and enjoyment experience at the conference. So don't hesitate to call me anytime you have an idea.

In this issue of the CLIP you will lots more information about the conference. This is a great source to network and connect with your industry peers that you may be able to help out and/or use their expertise to help you accomplish your goals. As you get ready to attend the conference, remind your peers who could benefit from attending and being a member of TVMA. Help spread the word about the growth of our association and our conference. With your help we can continue to grow and prosper to become the premier vegetation management conference. After all, this is Texas.

See you in Kerrville,

Scott Dunham



Become a Board Member

TVMA board members are elected for three year terms. Consider sharing your time and talents to become a part of the VM voice and services provided by the Texas Vegetation Management Association all across the state and to many out of state members. This year three positions need to be filled. Layne Fields holds a contractor spot and will be moving to the position of secretary leaving that spot open. Mike Standish is a Supplier and will be placed into the nomination process to serve another term as will Steve Prather who holds the State Government position. If you would like to nominate a candidate or yourself, please contact the TVMA office at 979/968-5612, email kay.dippel@chbinc.net, or contact any officer. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the business meeting luncheon on Tuesday October 4th.

TVMA Quartely Clip

TVMA Mission Statement

To promote and support the vegetation management industry in Texas through professional development, continuing education and training, sound environmental stewardship, and academic scholarship for its members and the public; to assist and cooperate with legislative and regulatory agencies.

**2012 TVMA Annual
Conference
Embassy Suites
San Marcos
October 15-17, 2012**

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Industry Updates

Red River Specialties, Inc

Red River Specialties, Inc. is pleased to announce the acquisition of Townsend Chemical, LLC, a herbicide supplier that provides vegetation management products and services for end-user customers, applicators, and government agencies. The strategic objective of this acquisition is to be able to provide our customers with the very best in service and a larger range of product choices, and be in more places where you need us to be.

Over the next few months, Townsend Chemical will be fully merged into Red River Specialties and will assume the Red River Specialties name. Our goal is to continue to grow our business through strategic investments in people and products.

Chemical Weed Control, Inc

Chemical Weed Control, Inc. is pleased to announce the acquisition/merger of R.O.W. Contraction Corporation out of Burnet, TX. The new company is now operating as CWC Right of Way, Inc. and is headquartered in our Bryan, TX office.

CWC Right of Way, Inc. specializes in:

- Right of Way Clearing
- Line Clearance
- Pipeline Maintenance
- Mulching, Side Trimming and Tree Trimming
- Seismic Clearing
- Build and Maintain Access Roads

Chemical Weed Control continues to expand our services in the Vegetation Management market and with this merger we are now positioned to be a “One Source” provider of vegetation control. For additional information on right of way services, contact Erin Kelly, V.P. Operations at 979-778-1080.

Side-trimming Trees with Herbicides

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently completed a research project to look at the practice of side-trimming trees with herbicides and develop best management practices (BMP) to address some concerns that had been brought to the agency by some concerned public citizens.

TxDOT has eliminated or modified several of its maintenance practices in recent years in order to save money to meet reduced budgets. One of those practices was mechanical trimming of trees that encroach onto the rights-of-way and reduce visibility of signs, bridges and oncoming traffic. The practice of trimming trees with herbicides was evaluated by the Vegetation Management Section of the Maintenance Division and found to be very successful and cost effective. The statewide average cost for mechanical trimming was \$1,000 to \$3,000 per centerline mile compared to \$140 per centerline mile for chemical side-trimming.

The research project compared and assessed the following area when it comes to these two methods of trimming trees:

1. Safety Issues – general public, employees and wildlife.
2. Effectiveness – included longevity and repeat applications.
3. Cost Analysis – included materials, labor and mobilization.
4. Industry Best Management Practices – other DOT's, Power Companies.
5. Aesthetics – including screening, noise abatement, and pollution.

Save the Date - CEU Workshops

The TVMA is offering a great way to get your CEU's and actually learn something.

No other workshop will offer you so much information and training specific to our industry. Check out the topics below and you won't find anything on lawn insects or how to control a corn earworm – yuck!! And you will save money.

Locations:

Tyler: Tuesday, November 1st

Lubbock: Monday, December 12th

Plus you will get CEU credit in 7 states: TX, OK, NM, CO, KS, AZ and LA

Cost: \$75.00. Most other workshops that are \$95 – \$120

Lunch is included

Agenda topics

1. Update on NPDES – How will it affect your herbicide applications
2. What is going on with the Weather – NWS Expert will explain our weather and what to expect
3. What Equipment is best for You – A display & demonstration of what's new and what will work for you
4. Preparing for a State Department of Ag audit – nobody likes it but you better be prepared
5. Protecting the Environment through Responsible Applications

TVMA Scholarship Golf Tournament

Benefiting the TVMA Scholarship Program

Hidden Springs Golf Course, Harper, TX

Monday, October 3, 2011

T-time is 12:30pm.

What a fun and unique little course!! That was my first impression of Hidden Springs Golf Course, the site of this year's TVMA Scholarship Golf Tournament. The course, tucked away in the limestone hills and live oak trees with elevations up to 2020 feet, panoramic views and water everywhere, is challenging and delightful. It's approximately a 20 minute drive from the YO Ranch Hotel in Kerrville.

We would like to have over 50 players to help spread out the cost and raise some good money for our scholarship program—so invite your co-workers, suppliers or friends. Lunch will be available. Cost will be similar to last year.

Check it out at www.hidden-springs-golf.com

For more information or to help sponsor contact:

Mike Standish; 512-887-0318 or Chris Smith 713-464-3391

Continued from page 3

The researcher investigated these areas and concluded that trimming of encroaching trees was necessary to safety. In most cases, the mechanical was more dangerous to TxDOT employees, contractors and the driving public. Both methods were effective and chemical applications lasted longer than mechanical. The best management practices included a recommendation to use chemical trimming in the fall for spot and small project in areas where oaks are the predominant tree species. It also concluded that chemical trimming reduced the potential to spread the disease "Oak Wilt". The final report is available by contacting Dennis Markwardt or John Mason.

Representatives of the Texas Vegetation Management Association made valuable contributions to the research project and participated in the public meeting to report the research findings.



2010 TVMA Sponsors

TVMA wishes to extend our THANK YOU to the following individuals and companies who went ABOVE AND BEYOND in their support of TVMA this year!

PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



Applicator Licensing Training

Facilitated By TVMA

Kedrick Bryant of TNMP (Texas-New Mexico Power Company) will facilitate the applicator licensing training during the TVMA Annual Conference October 3-5. Training will begin Monday morning at 10 AM and Tuesday at 8 AM with testing on Wednesday, October 5.

TDA (Texas Department of Agriculture) offices offer monthly testing throughout the state. However, this is a good opportunity to receive an overview of the exam. Applicants must be able to read and comprehend the subject matter; oral tests are not given. A passing grade is 70% or higher.

There are no test fees for the general, law or regulation exams. However, a \$24 test fee is charged before testing each category or subcategory. For example, a \$24 fee will be charged for Right-of-Way Pest Control category. Payment will need to be made out to TDA. NCPS applicators are exempt from all exam fees.

Study material for license exams may be purchased from Texas AgrilLife Extension Service or can be ordered at <http://www-aes.tamu.edu>

There is no additional cost to attend; the training the cost is covered in the conference registration.

For questions contact Kedrick Bryant at Kedrick.bryant@tnmp.com or (409) 948-8452 Ext.4218.

Current 2011 Sponsors

The following have already committed to sponsorship for the 2011 Annual Conference. Everyone needs to welcome the new sponsors and thank the those who continue to sponsor. Sponsors are an integral part of the services the Texas Vegetation Management Association can provide to its growing number of members. If you are not already a sponsor, please go to tvma.net to choose your level of sponsorship and examine the advantages listed.

Platinum	
Chemical Weed Control	CWC Right-of-Way
Gold	
Crop Production Services	Wright Tree Service, Inc.
Silver	
Alligare Davey Resource Group Davey Surgery	Dow AgroSciences DuPont Land Management Trees, Inc. Winfield Solutions
Bronze	
B-D Field Services Brandt Consolidated Edko, LLC	Farmers Electric Coop NaturChem, Inc. Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements Red River Specialties, Inc.
Nickel	
ABC Professional Tree Services, Inc. ACRT, Inc. Becker Underwood Monsanto Norstar Industries, Inc.	Progressive Solutions Powel, Inc. Sprayco SSI Maxim Tec Labs, Inc.

TVMA Leadership



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VM Industry Calendar of Events

October 3-5, 2011
TVMA Annual Conference
YO -Kerrville, TX

November 1st
Tyler Regional Meeting
Tyler Rose Garden
Tyler, TX

December 12, 2011
Lubbock Regional Meeting
Koko Palace
Lubbock, TX