

### Version 2.1 Updates for i-Tree Applications & Utilities are now available!

The i-Tree 2.1 mid-cycle release includes improved functionality and corrects errors reported by you—the i-Tree Community. Thank you for your participation!

Users of i-Tree v2.0 will find valuable upgrades in v2.1. However, projects using any previous version of i-Tree that are currently in the data collection phase may be required to complete data collection before installing the updated application or utility in v2.1. Any new users, that have the v2.0 installation CD, but have yet to start a project, should update their installations to gain access to the improved applications. Click on the title links below to update.

#### [UFORE Updates](#)

- Microsoft Vista compatibility issues resolved
- Manual data entry and validation problems fixed
- Written Summary Report DBH classification bug fixed
- Reference object data entry bugs fixed
- i-Tree Update Tool added to Help menu
- Manual revised and updated

#### [STRATUM updates](#)

- New functionality for the Lower Midwest and Tropical climate zones.
- Microsoft Vista compatibility added
- Sample Project included with installation
- Replacement Value reporting errors fixed for North climate zone and user-defined condition classes
- i-Tree Update Tool added to Help menu
- Manual revised and updated

#### [STRATUM/MCTI Tree Inventory PDA Utility Updates](#)

- New species lists for the Lower Midwest and Tropical climate zones
- Microsoft Vista compatibility issues resolved
- Corrected errors associated with transferring data from PDA to desktop utility
- i-Tree Update Tool added to Help menu
- Manual revised and updated

#### [Sample Plot Generator Updates](#)

- New Random Plots Workbooks for UFORE users of ESRI ArcGIS: no stratification, pre-stratification, and post-stratification sample projects.



Professor Eric Wiseman (left center) discusses the inventory area for the STRATUM project with students in Virginia Tech's Urban Forest Management and Policy course.

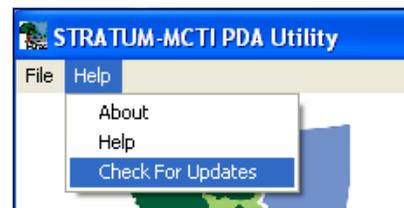
### **i-Tree Project Profile: City of Radford, VA and Virginia Tech University**

The City of Radford, Virginia is a small town located in southwest Virginia in the valley along the New River. Like many small cities with limited resources and funding, caring for community trees properly can be a challenge. Furthermore, conducting a tree inventory and i-Tree assessment of the community forest would be unheard of if not impossible. However, that is exactly what happened.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### **i-Tree Update Tool now available!**

The new update tool can be found under "Help" on the desktop menu bar of version 2.1 i-Tree applications and utilities.



The update tool will check your computer to make sure that you are running the most current version of an i-Tree application or utility available.

# Tools for assessing and managing Community Forests



Read "[Don't Sell the Value of Your Trees Short](#)" by ISA Executive Director Jim Skiera in *Arborist News*, June 2008

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Dr. Eric Wiseman, Assistant Professor of Urban Forestry at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, VA, and his senior Urban Forestry Management and Policy class spearheaded a collaborative effort to provide the City of Radford with a valuable street tree inventory and assessment. Recommendations were also included to address structural and functional management concerns such as excessive topping which was identified during the spring 2008 STRATUM sample inventory.

Dr. Wiseman was a participant in an i-Tree Workshop held at Clemson University in 2006 and also participated in sessions of the i-Tree Academy held in Blacksburg during the spring of 2007. He often wondered if he could incorporate i-Tree in an academic setting. Would his students stay interested and grasp the concepts? Could the field work and reports be completed within the constraint of a semester? These were some of the planning and logistical obstacles that needed to be addressed.

## Partnerships were Key

Fortunately, the Virginia Department of Forestry, City of Radford Engineer and the New River Valley Green Infrastructure Initiative assisted with developing a working framework and providing training needed to move the project from concept to reality.



Radford City Engineer Jim Hurt (center facing, in orange coat) discusses public rights-of-way with urban forestry students before they commence the street tree inventory.

The City of Radford does not have a dedicated forestry department as tree care is provided by Public Works staff. Therefore, the Virginia Tech Department of Forestry students and university resources were essential to completing the project. With the aid of maps provided by the City Engineer, the southwestern part of Radford was identified as the priority area for completing a STRATUM sampling project.

Students then integrated GIS and remote sensing technologies to help predetermine which

## Annual Street Tree Benefits for Southwestern Radford

- \$260,000 Total
- \$70 average per tree
- Energy Savings \$79,433
- CO2 Sequestration \$10,069
- Air Quality \$12,465
- Stormwater \$112,656

trees where actually in the city right-of-ways. All field work was completed by student teams during their normal weekly class

and lab sessions. Student project deliverables included sharing the project results and recommendations by developing a brochure, making presentations to public Officials, and producing a report for the City Engineer.

Former student Ethan Crockett believed that working on this project was one of the most valuable experiences of his urban forestry education. Ethan said, "It is absolutely essential for urban forestry students to have exposure to technologies such as the i-Tree Tools." His Radford project experience has led him and fellow VT grad Matt Rhodes to pursue integrating GIS and inventory applications with their current employer.

## Turning Results into Action

Professor Wiseman will soon be meeting with the City of Radford's Beautification Committee to go over the STRATUM results and management recommendations to maximize benefits and ensure public safety for the City of Radford's Community forest. He also plans on continuing with integrating i-Tree training with future classes. As Dr. Wiseman said, "This was a win-win situation for everyone involved."

*The i-Tree Team thanks Professor Eric Wiseman and Ethan Crockett for sharing their experiences and photographs.*

## i-Tree Bug Reporting System

The i-Tree Team has launched an [online bug reporting](#) and tracking system which is available to the i-Tree Community. The system can be accessed from the [i-Tree Support page](#) or the [i-Tree Forum](#) and will allow users to report and monitor technical problems such as bugs or similar issues that cause functional glitches in i-Tree applications. Please continue to use the i-Tree forum, email and phone line for general support questions.

A cooperative initiative between:



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