

Tools for assessing and managing Community Forests



i-Tree Newsletter—November 2009

i-Tree version 3.0 updates

i-Tree users who requested and installed the version 3.0 upgrade package will notice that installation has been streamlined. Now, all i-Tree software tools can conveniently be installed at the same time if desired.

As a result, a new i-Tree version control numbering system was implemented to allow easier tracking of subsequent updates to the various applications within the suite. Users will notice two numbers: one for the entire i-Tree suite and a separate version number for each individual application.

For example, a new number will be issued to an application for a minor update such as Streets 3.0.6. This will also require that the suite number be updated as well such as i-Tree 3.0.8.

It is important for active users of i-Tree to periodically use the **“Check for Update”** tool found under the **Help** menu of all applications. This will ensure that you are using the most up-to-date version available. If you installed all i-Tree components, they will all be updated when performing this function. An updated [i-Tree version control document](#) detailing changes to the applications is available on the i-Tree website and forum.

**i-Tree User Base Growing:
4,800 in the US & 5,700 worldwide
in 49 countries**



I-PED Inventory Pest Detection and Evaluation Pilot Testing Update

The beta [Inventory Pest Evaluation & Detection \(I-PED\)](#) protocol is a new option that is now available within the i-Tree Streets application. The protocol was conceived and developed by the US Forest Service to provide community tree managers with a universal and systematic methodology to detect and monitor for pest and disease signs and symptoms.

During the month of June, I-PED developers and partners provided hands-on classroom and field training for three New York State communities who agreed to pilot test and provide feedback on multiple aspects of the I-PED project. Participants included representatives from the NY State Department of Environment and Conservation, the US Forest Service, the Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network and the State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. Thanks to all participants who provided valuable feedback on the functionality and usability of the I-PED protocol.

Subsequent training days were spent working individually with I-PED testers: Brian Liberti from the City of Syracuse, Christian Mercurio from the City of Rome, and Lew Ward from the City of Ithaca. Test data has since been collected and evaluated to identify any protocol inconsistencies and additional training needs.



I-PED Pilot training program participants learn how to use the protocol to evaluate a tree for pest signs and symptoms in Syracuse, NY. Photo courtesy of Donna Murphy

Currently, the I-PED team is refining the protocol and focusing on the next stage of the project which is developing training, online resources, and advanced reporting functionality. While current Streets users who are considering using the I-PED pest option have basic summary reporting options, future versions will include diagnostic analysis for known pests and diseases as well as flagging unknown issues for further investigation.

i-Tree Summer Training Highlights

Following the release of i-Tree version 3.0 in June 2009, members of the i-Tree team have been busy participating in several i-Tree training events and workshops throughout the country. Whether the event focused on a specific i-Tree application or an overview of the entire suite of Tools, we are grateful for all who participated, organized and instructed at these events. Below is a brief recap of some of the highlights.

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A cooperative
initiative between:



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i-Tree Presentations and work- shops

Here is a list of recent and upcoming conferences featuring i-Tree presentations by i-Tree Team members.

- 2009 [Coping with Costs: The Economic, Social and Environmental Impacts of Invasives on our Communities](#) Lisle, IL. Sep. 29th-30th
- 2009 [Why Trees Matter Forum](#) Wooster, OH. Oct 22, 2009
- 2009 [Partners in Community Forestry Annual Conference](#) Portland, OR. Nov. 9th-11th
- 2010 [Wisconsin Arborist Association Annual Conference](#) Green Bay, WI. Feb 7th-9th
- 2010 [Ohio Tree Care Conference](#) Columbus, OH. Feb 14th –16th
- 2010 [Midwest ISA Chapter Annual Conference](#) Columbia, MO. Feb 17th - 19th

i-Tree workshops and training are often organized locally. Interested users should check with their [regional or state urban and community forestry coordinators](#) for future training opportunities and presentations featuring i-Tree.

i-Tree Hydro Development Work Progress Report

The i-Tree Development Team continues to make progress with the i-Tree Hydro application and are looking forward to its expected late-winter 2010 release. Stay tuned....

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[An Applied look at i-Tree v3.0 , ISA Annual Conference workshop - Providence, RI](#)

Several members of the i-Tree Team provided a detailed overview and demonstrations of the i-Tree v3.0 applications and utilities to workshop participants. This sold-out event was for an international audience, including representatives from Australia, Germany and the Netherlands. Dr. Dave Nowak, Project Leader for the US Forest Service's Northern Research Station, also provided participants with a glimpse into the future direction of i-Tree.

i-Tree Streets Training - Malvern, PA

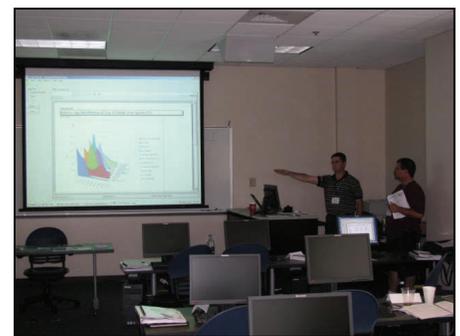
The Pennsylvania State University Cooperative Extension organized a (2) day training program combining introductory Tree Inventory Planning and i-Tree Streets Training at the Penn State Great Valley Campus in Malvern, PA. Participants spent day one of the program learning basic tree inventory planning and implementation skills provided by PSU Extension Foresters. On day-two, i-Tree instructors provided a diverse audience of volunteers, consultants, municipal foresters, educators and UF Coordinators with an introduction to i-Tree Streets which included hands-on field and computer-based sessions.

i-Tree Hands on Workshop: SMA Annual Conference - Savannah, GA

Participants of the Society of Municipal Arborists' i-Tree workshop were introduced to i-Tree Eco and i-Tree Streets in one of the nation's most beautiful cities. The day-long workshop was held at the Southern Georgia Coastal Center education facility which allowed participants to work directly with the software in a computer lab combined with outdoor instruction. In addition to Streets and Eco methodology and data collection training, this unique workshop focused on using the i-Tree tools to address the City of Savannah's current and future urban forest management challenges. Participants were able to work with recent Savannah i-Tree Streets and Eco project data to address issues including:

- Budgeting for Outcomes
- Strategic Planning
- Creating a Compelling "State of the Urban Forest" report
- Exploring the opportunity for urban forestry to be integrated into local Climate Protection initiatives

Many of Savannah's challenges are common for community tree managers, which enabled the SMA participants to integrate their own perspectives with Savannah's i-Tree data to propose creative solutions and ideas. Many thanks to Eric Kuehler, US Forest Service Technology Transfer Specialist, for coordinating and assisting with this workshop. The cooperation and efforts of Bill Haws, Savannah Forestry Administrator and his staff were greatly appreciated by all for collecting the i-Tree data utilized during the workshop.



Dave Bienemann from the City of Bowling Green, OH uses a Relative Age Distribution report of Savannah's street trees to recommend future strategic management actions.

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