



AMTOPP *Winter News*



January 2019

Reserve Your Room Now

January 11 is the cut off date for group room rates and for holding our block of rooms. Take advantage of this savings for your conference attendance and reserve your room BEFORE January 11.

Also after the 11th the block of rooms that are held for the conference is released to the public, so if it is a busy time for Fairmont, the rooms may not be available.

General Membership Meeting & Board Meetings

Just a reminder that the annual conference is held in conjunction with the Annual Membership Meeting. The Annual Membership Meeting starts with the opening session of the conference and runs until the meeting is adjourned on Tuesday, after voting and other business is conducted.

This year there will be a short Business Meeting during the conference on Monday, January 28, at 12:50 to 1:20 PM. This is the last part of the lunch break and the Board of

Directors would like to invite everyone to attend.

On Tuesday during the last part of the lunch break we will conduct the final business of the year, with the voting in of new director and voting on the proposed changes for the Articles of Incorporation and the change in the By-Laws.

On Sunday, January 27 at 4:45 there will be a Board meeting. Then on Tuesday, January 29 will be the first board meeting of 2019 with the new board.

It's Ski Time! Fun Time!



Hello everyone,

For those of you who are planning on attending the AMTOPP conference, at Fairmont Hot Springs, why not plan on coming over on Sunday and staying through Wednesday; to get in on some skiing.

If you didn't know we have an unofficial AMTOPP Ski Team! For the past few years some of the board members

have taken advantage of being close to Discovery and made of day of skiing on Sunday and Wednesday. Last year we thought it would be fun to get a bigger group together. We set up with Fairmont to extend our group room rates for Tuesday night and provide some discount lift tickets, thus launching the unofficial AMTOPP Ski Team.

This year we will be meeting on Sunday morning January 27, 2019 at Discovery Ski Area at 9:30. We will also plan on Wednesday morning January 30, the day after the conference. Please meet at the

See fun p 2

Growing the Future of AMTOPP

-AMTOPP is a leading force in the green industry and is a reflection of the progressive future here in Montana. AMTOPP provides a platform for its members to network, it builds a standard in continued education, and implements industry advocacy on a state wide and national level. As professionals of the industry we must lead the future by establishing and maintaining the professional standard, and ensuring that the profession has a voice.

As members of the association we have access to a wealth of resources that have been built and sustained by its members for over 28 years. It is important that members of the association stay involved so that the future of AMTOPP is secured for generations to come. We are invested as professionals, educators, and residents. By having the foresight to get involved, it establishes a pilot of protection to the future of the green industry in our great state. We need members, who are willing to join the board of directors, it is extremely important to the framework of the association. One of the common misconceptions perceived by our members is the level of commitment needed. Being a board member is not as time consuming as some would assume, please do not let that discourage you from joining the board.

When I was asked to join the board I was extremely apprehensive. I was worried about the time commitment, and to be honest, I questioned how I would even be of benefit to the board. It didn't take long after I joined for senior members to mentor me. The encouragement for involvement was not an accountability factor, but a diversity factor. We are a diverse group of industry professionals that share and develop innovative ideas that influence the future of the green industry. I encourage our members to consider being a board member. We need members to consider the challenge as a rewarding experience that can help benefit the association, its member, and the industry itself. If you are on the fence about joining the board, please do not hesitate to contact any director; an inquiry does not commit you to joining.

I personally look forward to discussing possibilities with any of you prospects out there!-

Sam Strickland

2018 Vice President of AMTOPP

SILENT AUCTION

We are in need of Silent auction items. Think outside the box when choosing something as variety is a good thing. As you know, it doesn't need to be industry related. Remember the ladies that attend and also children's items are always a big hit.

President's Message



of AMTOPP.

As my Presidency began, I knew it was important for the board to set fourth innovative ideas and goals that would help AMTOPP grow and provide its' members with as many benefits as possible. With the help of a dedicated board and an executive director that kept the ship straight, most of the goals we as a board set fourth have been met. Thanks Trudie Southwick and all my fellow board members for your dedication and hard work to making my Presidency successful. I could not have done it without each and every one of you.

One goal the board set fourth was to add an irrigation tract to the conference. As we all know, great landscapes are not so great without proper irrigation. So with fellow board member Steve Jonas leading the way, we were able to implement the irrigation track. With Steve's drive and dedication to seeing the irrigation track succeed, I am certain AMTOPP's members will benefit greatly from his vision. Great job Steve, AMTOPP and its' membership will benefit greatly from your efforts.

Another goal the board set fourth was to provide more educational and training opportunities outside of the conference. With the help of Dave Stice from WesSpur's Ascension Group NW training division, in September, AMTOPP was able to put on an Areal Rescue Clinic in Great Falls. The clinic was well attended and free to AMTOPP mem-

bers. Thanks Dave Stice for all that you do for AMTOPP and providing the information for keeping our members safe.

The one goal that has yet to be fulfilled is the recruitment of new board members. Recruitment of new and motivated board members is crucial to the future of AMTOPP. Several of our current board members have served on the board for many years and their terms are coming to an end. These vacancies will need to be filled by other members. With all that said, I would like to encourage AMTOPP's membership to step up and join the board this year. Our great association needs your help, we are looking forward to some fresh ideas and faces on the board.

As I mentioned, I realize how great the opportunity to serve as AMTOPP's president was. The personal and professional growth that comes from serving as the President will benefit me for the rest of my life. Again, I encourage AMTOPP's members to take the opportunity to join the board and experience the growth for themselves. If you would like to join the board and have any questions about joining, please contact me or any of the other board members.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our speakers, suppliers, and sponsors who have made the commitment to attend AMTOPP's 2019 Annual Winter conference. AMTOPP and its' members appreciate your support and commitment to our association, and we look forward to seeing you all.

Sincerely,
Jason Stringer
President of AMTOPP 2018

Fun continued from p 1

Northside of the lodge near the ski/snowboard racks.

If you have a current 2019 season pass at another Montana resort bring it to the lift ticket counter and receive the half-day rate. Otherwise please contact our Executive Director Trudie via email at trudieamtopped@gmail.com or call the AMTOPP Office (406) 204-0100, if you want to arrange for the discount tickets. She will make arrangements with

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort and you will get a discount that can be billed to your hotel room. This has to go through the AMTOPP office as you cannot do it when you make your room reservations.

Please join us! We usually have great conditions and we always have a great time! See you on the slopes!

Ed Nolder
Director and
2016 Past President

Secretary/Treasurer's Message



Happy winter AMTOPP members!

The board continues to make strides in putting together the final touches for the 2019 conference. Along with a new irrigation tract this year, we also will have quite a few interesting topics, including crane safety as well as several discussions on insects and diseases in turfgrass, as well as trees. Take a look in the previous newsletter for full details

or check it out on the website where you can register, www.amtopp.org!

We are also looking for items for the silent auction for this year's conference. Keep your eyes peeled for anything that you might find appropriate to donate!

One topic that has been discussed at length in our meetings this last year was the need for new blood on the board. We want to reach out to each one of our members, old and new, to invite you to participate in taking AMTOPP into the future.

Due to the demographics of AMTOPP's members and the issue of members that would like to serve on the board but, cannot due to the current By-Laws. The board has been in lengthy discussions on opening up the requirements for board members by doing away with the Department of Agriculture licensing requirement. This discussion will continue through conference as we will be seeking feedback from the membership. With any organization, getting people to serve on the board is challenging, but once on a person serves time on the board they come away with a lot more than they came into it with.



Intermountain STIHL in conjunction with RDO Equipment from Missoula will be giving this chainsaw away.

I can attest personally to the benefits of serving on the board. This past year has seen a very sudden and unexpected change of employment for me and marked the beginning of a new business. While starting a new outfit is taxing on anyone, I can say with 100% certainty that I would not have been able to do this if it had not been for the relationships that I have built while serving on the board for AMTOPP. While at times sitting in a board meeting and discussing logistics can be tedious, the bonds that I have been able to build with my fellow board members is well worth it, and I can honestly say that I would no longer be in the green industry at all if it had not been for the people on our board. Please consider joining our board of directors for the coming year. If you'd like to see what the board is all about, remember that all the board meetings are open to the membership!

Please feel free to contact any of the board members currently serving if you'd like more information on dates and times of meetings, or even to help arrange transportation to the meeting site. We are happy to help!

Cooper Elwood
Secretary/Treasurer 2018

Food Drive!!

Don't forget to bring some
NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS
for our food drive.

2,000 Pounds Is The Target!

For the past couple of years our food drive has netted just under 2000 pounds. This year we are shooting to hit the 1 Ton weight.

Please pack up a bag or box or many bags or boxes and haul them over with you to the conference this year.

The food is taken to the Food Bank, in Anaconda, and is greatly appreciated. This is a great way to show that AMTOPP is involved in communities of Montana.

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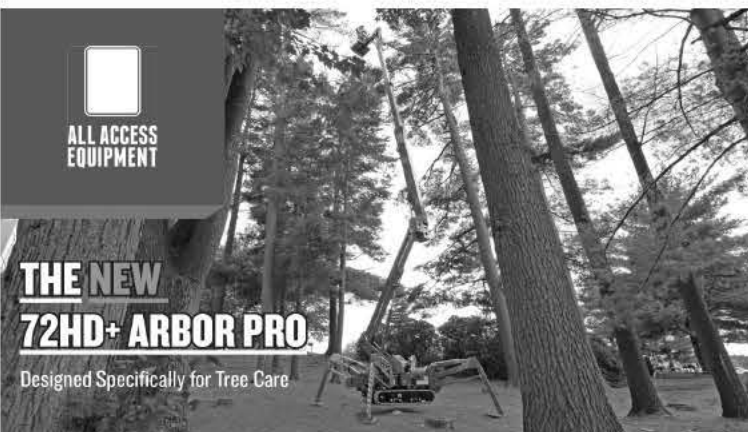
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the booth during the
Conference!

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We invite you to stop by our booth during the conference.
Pick up an LR Inspection Checklist and some Swag!

From the Board of Directors

AMENDMENTS TO AMTOPP BY-LAWS

AMTOPP Regular Members,

During the board's review of the by-laws, we determined that the Amendment to Article III. Members and Meetings of Members, Section: 3.01 Classes of Members, adopted on December 15, 2006, amended (c) under, Regular Members which did not pertain to Corporate Membership, thereby making the rules for a Corporate member to serve on the board and have a vote, confusing and unclear. After this Amendment was adopted the original language was removed from (c) and the new language inserted. The original language of By-Laws should always remain. The amendments are used at the end of the By-Laws to override any of the original language.

The reasoning for the amendment was to allow up to 2 corporate members to serve on the board and each have a single vote.

We are proposing to put the original language back under (c); to Amendment (g) Corporate Membership and to Amendment (e) Associate Membership. Below is the proposed wording for each.

The original language of (c) No firm, partnership or corporation shall be eligible for Regular Membership if fifty percent or more of its control is owned by one or more existing Regular member(s) of the Association.

(g) Corporate Membership-Any firm, partnership or corporation in the business of providing services and materials to public or private green industry businesses is eligible to be a Corporate member of the Association and pay any dues as required by the Board of Directors. There may be no more than a total of three members combined from Corporate and Associate members who may serve on the board, and each will have a single vote. Corporate members will receive all Association mailings and correspondence.

(e) Associate Members - Any person, firm, partnership

or corporation who is not actively engaged in the application of pesticides is eligible to be an Associate member of the Association and pay any dues as required by the Board of Directors. There may be no more than a total of three members combined from Associate and Corporate members who may serve on the board, and each will have a single vote. Associate members will receive all Association mailings and may attend all Association events at the Regular member rates.

We believe these changes will provide clarity for the one section, and provide a voice for the direction of AMTOPP, from the other members of the Association.

Please take the time to review the proposed amendments to the by-laws. The proposed changes will be in the registration packets of the company representative of Regular Members.

The proposal will be read 3 times during AMTOPP's annual general membership meeting at Fairmont Hot Springs and voted on by AMTOPP's regular members.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact any of the board members or the Executive Director, Trudie Southwick.

2018 Board of Directors: Jason Stringer; Sam Strickland; Cooper Elwood; Robert Dillon; Robert Worden; Jon Higgins; Ed Nolder; and Steve Jonas.

New This Year! - An Irrigation Track

Pass the Word! - Monday 10 AM - 5:30 PM

The irrigation track kicks off at 10AM with a round table discussion headed up by Steve Jonas, of Jonas Sprinklers and Fertilizer; Lynda Wightman, Hunter Industries, and Dan Devor of 2M Company, "Steering the Irrigation Industry Into the Future."

After the round table, Lynda will host "Intro to Irrigation Audits," followed by "Basic Design and Specifications."

Finishing up the day with Dan who will address "Electrical Troubleshooting"

Don't miss out on this!

The Board of Directors would like to extend their appreciation to the following people who helped make this tract possible:

Steve Jonas of Jonas Sprinklers and Fertilizer.

Dan Devore of 2M Company

Lynda Wightman of Hunter Industries,

First Aid/CPR Class

We have a First Aid/CPR Class on Sunday, January 27 beginning at 1PM to 5PM. This is good for a 2 year certificate and 4 ISA Credits. There is no additional cost to attend.

This class has limited seating of 12.

You must provide the names of those attending to reserve a spot.



Don't Forget About our Sponsorship Challenge!

Earn Rewards
Secure a sponsor for AMTOPP!



So What's In It For You, The Amtopp Member?

- \$100 Sponsor - receive 1/2 off 1 year membership
- \$500 Sponsor - receive 1 free year membership
- \$1,000 Sponsor - receive 1 free year membership plus 1 conference attendee

Simple and easy process:

1. Secure the sponsor with a verbal commitment
2. Send the company name and contact information to the AMTOPP office and we will take it from there. Once the sponsor has paid the agreed amount, your reward confirmation will be sent to you.

Note: sponsor must be paid before rewards are posted. Corporate Membership excluded from offer.

Email: amtopp@amtopp.org or Call: (406) 204-0100



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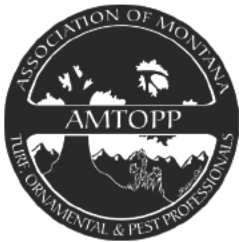
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AMTOPP 29th ANNUAL
CONFERENCE & MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION
JANUARY 27 -29, 2019

Fairmont Hot Spring - 1500 Fairmont Road, Fairmont, MT
FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL: 1-800-332-3272

REFERENCE: AMTOPP CONFERENCE FOR GROUP RATE PRIOR TO 1-11-2019

Company Name: (as it should appear on badge)_____

Name (1st attendee): _____

Contact name (if different from 1st attendee): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell: _____ Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Website: _____

Please list additional names of attendees from the same company, at the same address. Each individual must be employed by this company to receive the member rate. Please note discounted rate after two full price attendees from same member firm.

2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____

5) _____ 6) _____ 7) _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL		COST		MEMBERSHIP TOTAL
Regular- has pesticide license- (at same location) Pesticide License # _____		\$115 per company (\$10 of this is not tax deductible as it could be used for lobbying expense.		\$
Associate-NO pesticide license ISA # _____		\$50 per company (\$10 of this is not tax deductible as it could be used for lobbying expense.		\$
Corporate		\$800 (\$10 of this is not tax deductible as it could be used for lobbying expense.		
Conference Registration (post-mark is registration date)	Prices - Pre-Register Before 1-15-19	Prices - Post-Register After 1-15-19	Number of Attendees	Registration Total
Member Rates (regular or associate)	\$280 per person	\$295 per person		\$
Additional attendees after 2 from same Reg. or Assoc. member firm	\$195 per person	\$210 per person		\$
Additional CORPORATE Member attendee after 2 from same firm	\$145 per person	\$145 per person		\$
Non-Member Rates	\$395 per person	\$410 per person		\$
Spouse attending - meals only (Mon/Tue AM & Lunch, Mon. Dinner)	\$95. Per person	\$95 per person		\$
TOTAL	Check/money order # _____			\$

FIRST AID CLASS - PLEASE PUT ME DOWN FOR _____ PEOPLE ATTENDING @ NC
LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE - SUNDAY, JAN. 28 - 1PM TO 5PM

Conference registration includes attendance to all seminars, trade show and meals served during the conference.

Please make checks payable to AMTOPP. Mail completed form with check to: AMTOPP, 173 Cottonwood Rd., Townsend, MT 59644-9533. You may pay with a credit card through PayPal on the website: www.amtopp.org. NO REFUNDS AFTER JANUARY 15, 2019.

Silent Auction Items are appreciated and do not have to be related to our industry If you would like a receipt, please send the value of the item(s) to trudieamtopped@gmail.com. Thank you for your support! See you at Fairmont!

I agree to abide by the Association of Montana Turf, Ornamental, and Pest Professionals (AMTOPP) ByLaws and any other reasonable codes or standards established by AMTOPP with member approval. Contact the AMTOPP office for a copy of the By-Laws or check the Membership Directory.

Signature _____ Date _____

For AMTOPP Office use: Date Paid _____ Check # _____ /C.C./PayPal - Added to Membership File: _____

Added to 1990-Present File: _____ Added to Conf. Registration: _____ Name Badges: _____

AMTOPP CONFERENCE AGENDA					
Sunday, January 27, 2019					
1 PM	4:30PM	ISA Testing		108	
1 PM	5 PM	First Aid		103	
4 PM	8 PM	Vendor Set Up		Cutthroat, Grizzly & Meadowlark	
4:45 PM	5:55PM	Board Meeting - All Welcome		Executive Board Room	
6 PM	8 PM	Early Check		Reception area of Conference Facility	
6 PM	8 PM	Educational Networking Session		Lounge	
Monday, January 28, 2019 - Registration Desk Open @ 7AM					
6:30 AM	8 AM	Vendor Set-up		Cutthroat, Grizzly & Meadowlark	
7 AM	8 AM	Continental Breakfast		Cutthroat	
8 AM	8:55AM	Opening Session & Exhibitor Introductions		Cutthroat	
9 AM	9:50AM	Keynote Speaker - Tom Shotzbarger		Cutthroat	
Start	End	WORKSHOPS			
10 AM	10:50 AM	Lift Truck Inspection -Part 1 (must attend to be in Part 2) Mathew Fleishans, Chris Whitmore & Myles Gasvoda <i>Altec National Service</i>	Phytoremediation - creating functional ecosystems Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott <i>WA ST Univ.</i>	Safety In Montana There is Hope! Herb Byer <i>MT State Fund</i>	Steering the Irrigation Industry Into The Future Steve Jonas <i>Jonas Sprinkler & Fertilizer</i> Lynda Wightman <i>Hunter Ind. & Dan Devor 2M Company</i>
11 AM	11:50 AM		Treating Comm. vs Residential Victor Gust <i>Warne-Chemical</i>	Tree Risk Assessment Tom Shotzbarger Muhlenberg College Graver Arboretum	Intro to Irrigation Audits Lynda Wightman <i>Hunter Industries</i>
12 PM	1:20 PM	Annual Membership Luncheon and Business Meeting - <i>Cutthroat Room</i>			
1:30 PM	2:20 PM	Lift Truck Inspection Part 2 (must have attended Part 1)	Organic Pesticides: reviewing the science Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott <i>WA ST Univ.</i>	Hands on Disease Diagnosis on Woody Ornamentals Dr. Eva Grimme <i>MSU Extension</i>	Basic Design and Specifications Lynda Wightman <i>Hunter Industries</i>
2:30 PM	3:20PM		Forest Insect & Disease Update Amy Gannon <i>DNRC</i>	2018 Major Pest Sarah Eilers <i>MSU Ext</i>	
3:30 PM	4:420PM	Trade Show Open - <i>Cutthroat and Grizzly Rooms</i>			
4:30 PM	5:20 PM	Arborculture in the Wildland Urban Interface Rob Dillon <i>Robert Dillon Tree Service</i>	Modes of Action Pesticides Michaela Hystad <i>MT Dept of Ag</i>	Ecology and Management of Tree Insects Dr. Anamika Sharma <i>MSU Research Center</i>	Electrical Troubleshooting Dan Devore <i>2M Company</i>
5:30 PM	7 PM	Social Mix with Cash Bar-Silent Auction & 50/50 Raffle - Dinner - AMTOPP Year In Review - <i>Cutthroat Room</i>			
		Tuesday, January 29, 2019			
8 AM	8:50 AM	Tree Biology - Reaction Wood Tom Shotzbarger Muhlenberg College Graver Arboretum		Turf Diseases: ID & IPM Kima Traynham Tonda Moon <i>MT Dept of Ag</i>	
9 AM	9:50 AM	Trade Show Open			
10 AM	10:50 AM	Sonic Tomography & Resistography Christopher Boza <i>City of Missoula</i>	Insects of Turfgrass Toby Day <i>MSU Extension</i>		Crane Operations from the Operator & Climber Perspective Pete Nieves-Sosa - <i>The Crane Man</i>
			Employee Management - <u>For Business Owners</u> Logan Iverson <i>Avitus Group</i>	The Many Ways Applications Go Wrong Tonda Moon & Kima Traynham <i>MT Dept of Ag</i>	
12 PM	2:30 PM	Lunch - <i>Cutthroat Room</i> -Vote for new Board member - Introduce Executive/Board of Directors - Raffle Drawing			
3:30 PM	5:30PM	Board Meeting			
2 PM	5 PM	Exhibitors Take Down Exhibits			

2018 OFFICERS - terms end 1/29/19

President - Jason Stringer, Tree Amigos; 406-268-8733; jcstringer12365@msm.com:

Term Expires: 2/2021

Vice President - Sam Strickland, All Things Green, LLC; 406-531-7125; samthegardener@msn.com;

Term Expires: 2/2020

Secretary/Treasurer - Cooper Elwood, Mountain Tree Company; 406-529-0185; coopere@gmail.com;

Term Expires: 2/2021

Past President: Robert Dillon, Robert Dillon Tree Service LLC; 406-542-5485; info@robertdillontreeservice.com;

Term Expires: 2/2019

DIRECTORS

Robert Worden, TruGreen; 406-256-9499; rworden@trugreenmontana.com: Term Expires 2/2019

Jon Higgins, Nitro-Green of Helena; 406-443-5088; jon@nitrogreenhelena.com: Term Expires: 2/2020

Ed Nolder, Natures Best Inc.; 406-207-9004; ednolder@naturesbestinc.com; Term Expires: 2/2021

Steve Jonas - Jonas Sprinklers and Fertilizer; 406-216-2281; stevejonas84@gmail.com; Term Expires 2/2021

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Trudie Southwick - trudieamtopped@gmail.com - (406) 204-0100

amtopp@amtopp.org

www.amtopp.org

Contact AMTOPP

173 Cottonwood Road,

Townsend, MT 59644

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