



AMTOPP News



Winter - Jan 2021

President's Message

Happy Holidays AMTOPP!



As we finally transition into the winter weather, I hope that everyone has had a productive and safe year, despite all of the craziness that 2020 has brought to us!

As you likely have heard, your board of directors is working on putting together some small "mini conferences" to help provide some education credits to our members. While the social distancing protocols and mask mandates are extremely important and must still be adhered to, the future of AMTOPP and everything that we have put together over the last few decades does depend on providing services to our members.

With this in mind, we have decided that putting together some small meetings with limited attendance is necessary to maintain our organization while still maintaining the protocols put in place by the state.

Our first course will be held in Billings on January 21st, and will have both an EHAP course as well as a class pertaining to turf applicators for Department of Agriculture credits. Classes are limited to a maximum of 30 as per the statutes set forth by the state, although we will have to remain flexible to abide by the state directives. Hopefully there will not be any new changes that will put a damper on our first round of classes! For updated information, please reach out to Trudie or any of your board members for more information.

Please keep in mind that in order to keep

everyone safe and prevent the spread of COVID we will have to maintain the social distancing protocols, and wearing a mask during the talks will be required. If you do not have a mask upon arrival we will provide you with one when you get to the site!

So long as we are able to maintain the safety protocols and the classes go over as well as we anticipate, we are planning on doing several more classes this year. Please let me or any other board member know if you have any suggestions on topics or if we can be of further assistance during this time!

In the meantime, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and wish each and every one of our members, a Happy and Productive New Year!

Cooper Elwood
President - 2020

Educational Opportunities Coming

By now you have probably heard about the Mini Workshop scheduled for January 21, 2021, in Billings. If not, where have you been?

Since there will not be a conference, as a way to continue with one of AMTOPP's goal of providing educational opportunities the Board of Directors is happy to announce two upcoming classes scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021, in Billings. In addition to these classes, there are webinars and e-learning opportunity through the AMTOPP website.

In Person Classes

EHAP which will be taught by Dr. John Ball. This is the class portion only. No aerial rescue or first aid are offered during this class. It is a TCIA class which upon completion of the class will provide documentation of completing the class. The class will be held at Vermeer Rocky Mountain from 8 am to 5 pm. There are 7.5 CEU's for the following categories: Certified Arborist; TW Climber Specialist; Utility Specialist; BCMA Practice: TW Aerial Lift Specialist and Municipal Specialist.

The other class is "Professional Lawn Care Application Training" and Victor Gust will be the instructor. This class will be held at the Big Horn Resort from 8 am to 3:30 pm. This class is good for 6 CEU's in the following categories: Dealer (10); Ornamental & Turf (34); Demonstration & Research Pest Control (39); and School IPM (45). After this class you are invited to Vermeer Rocky Mountain for a tour and to see all their equipment lines.

Both of these classes have limited seating of 30, pre-registration

is required. There will not be any registrations available the day of the class. The Deadline to register is January 5. No refunds will be issued, unless the class is canceled. All COVID restrictions that are in place at the time of the class must be followed. Lunch will be provided for both classes.

There is a room block for special room rates at the Big Horn Resort for this event.

To register for either class visit the AMTOPP website or use the registration form in this newsletter. See the flier in this newsletter for hotel reservation information.

Webinars and On-Line Course

For those of you who are looking for CEU's without attending 'in person,' there are webinar links listed on the AMTOPP website. We are seeking out these events for you and providing information and a link for registration for you, so make sure to check the website often. An email is usually sent out as well as a Facebook notice.

Also, the Board is excited to announce we have launched our first on-line (e-learning) course that is now up and ready for you.

This course is "Understanding Pesticide Licensing," a narrated power point presentation by Theresa Schrum, of the Montana Department of Agriculture. The course is free, however you must enroll to take it. It is available anytime and is not a webinar. There is a quiz at the end of the lesson which consist of six questions which you must pass with 80 percent to receive credit. To submit for your credit there is a form to complete.

Quarterly Board Meeting to be held, Wednesday, January 20, 2021, at Vermeer Rocky Mountain, Billings. If you are interested in attending please notify the AMTOPP office. amtopp@amtopp.org or (406) 204-0100.

Why the US Navy Manages Its Own Private Forest

By Blake Stilwell/Military.com

Maintaining a forest for ship building would make a lot of sense if ships were still made of wood. But they aren't. So why does the U.S. Navy maintain a white oak forest in the middle of Indiana?

The white oak tree might have been the most fundamental building block of the young United States -- literally. These giants provided the earliest Americans with shelter, built the country, laid the railroads that connected its coasts and kickstarted an industrial revolution.

From Maine to Florida and inland to the Great Plains and the American Southwest, white oaks were used to conquer the frontier, enforce U.S. foreign policy and kick the Royal Navy out of our waters. The USS Constitution, the only still commissioned ship in the U.S. Navy

that has sunk another vessel, is made from that same white oak.

And the Navy needs to repair her from time to time.

The Constitution and other ships of its time were made were the hardest woods available for shipbuilders. For the nascent American Navy, the white oak was the perfect hardwood. When Constitution was launched in 1797, it was one of the most formidable ships of its time, among the strongest, fastest and most powerful ships of the day.

Nowhere was this more apparent than the fight in which the frigate earned its nickname. During its famous encounter with the HMS Guerriere in the War of 1812, it's said the ship's 22-inch thick hull caused British cannonballs to bounce off its sides. When the U.S. sailors saw

see Forest, continued on page 6



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April 18, 2012) Navy foresters Trent Osmon and Rhett Steele from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Midwest's Public Works Department Crane, Production Manager Robert Murphy from the Charlestown Navy Yard, and Cmdr. James Stewart, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Crane, assess a white oak tree set aside for future use in repairing USS Constitution. The ship's next dry docking repair availability is planned for 2014 through 2018, and will involve replacing deteriorated 40-foot-long hull planking and supporting structures with the same kind of wood used to build the ship in 1797. Crane's forest, the largest contiguous forest under single ownership in Indiana, includes nearly 150 GPS-located mature white oaks set aside for future use by Constitution. (U.S. Navy photo by Bill Couch/Released)



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Let's do this!

No really, what have you been waiting for? Today's the day to officially become an Arborwear partner. (We apologize in advance for any unsolicited hugs.)

Contact Kevin Tierney at ktierney@arborwear.com or call 808.265.1125

Mini Workshops - Thursday, January 21, 2021

Limited Seating - Pre Registration Only

Registration is now open.

VISIT: www.amtopp.org to register or use form in newsletter

EHAP

*Please note this is the class part only
Aerial Rescue and First Aid Are On Your Own*

Dr John Ball

Location: Vermeer Rocky Mountain
7710 S Frontage Road, Billings, MT

Time: 8 am to 5 pm

Check In:

Wednesday, Jan 20 5-7pm at the Big
Horn Resort or

Thursday at Vermeer - 7 to 7:45 am

No on-site registrations - no exceptions

No refunds unless the class is canceled.

Class cost: \$250 - includes a manual and
lunch

Professional Lawn Care Applicator Training

Victor Gust

Location: Big Horn Resort
1801 Majestic Ln, Billings, MT

Time: 8 am to 3 pm

Check In:

Wednesday, Jan 20 - 5 to 7 PM

Thursday Jan 21 - 7 to 7:45 AM

No on-site registrations - no exceptions

No refunds unless the class is canceled.

Class cost: \$55 - includes lunch

**The DEADLINE for registration is
January 5, 2021.**

**ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE
PAID IN ADVANCE.**

*Hotel Accommodations: Big Horn Resort, 1801 Majestic Lane, Billings, MT 59102 - 406-839-931
reservations@thebighornresort.com Group Rate: Association of Montana Turf Ornamental and Pest Professional
Group Code: FI57Y1*

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Mini Workshop Registration January 21, 2021

Big Horn Resort, 1801 Majestic Lane, Billings,
Phone: 406-839-931
reservations@thebighornresort.com
Group Rate: Association of Montana Turf Ornamental and
Pest Professional Group Code: FI57Y1

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

Contact name: _____

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.

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
4) _____ 5) _____ 6) _____

Membership Regular - (at same location) has a pesticide license	\$115 per company	\$
Membership Associate - no pesticide license	\$50 per company	

Please Note: Deadline to register is January 5, 2021

		Number of Attendees	Registration Total
EHAP	\$250 per person		\$
Pesticide Training	\$55 per person		\$
TOTAL	Check/money order #		\$

Please make checks payable to AMTOPP.

Mail completed form with check to: AMTOPP, 173 Cottonwood Rd., Townsend, MT 59644-

You may pay with a credit card through PayPal on the website: www.amtopp.org.

NO REFUNDS UNLESS CLASS IS CANCELED.

Signature _____ Date _____

For AMTOPP Office use: Date Paid _____ Check # _____ /C.C./PayPal - Added to Membership File: _____
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Forest, continued from page 2

this, they were said to have shouted, "Huzzah, her sides are made of iron!"

From that day on, she was known as "Old Ironsides."

There isn't much trouble coming from the King of England these days and the age of sails has long given way to the age of steam (including nuclear steam). Yet the USS Constitution remains commissioned in the U.S. Navy, connecting the history and traditions of the past to the traditions of today.

Constitution is the last of the remaining original six frigates authorized by Congress in 1794. The other five were broken up or captured by the mid-1800s. The Constitution survived because its victory over Guerriere was so resounding that keeping her together remained popular among

citizens for decades.

She became a training ship for midshipmen at the Naval Academy during the Civil War and, after that, became a notable ship used for ceremonial purposes before being converted into a museum ship in 1907. In 1997, in a celebration of its bicentennial, Constitution underwent a complete refit and sailed on its own power to ports around the United States.

The refitting of a 200-year-old ship was not an easy task. There aren't a lot of 200-year-old white oak trees laying around. That's why the U.S. Navy had the foresight to grow them.

When the Constitution was constructed, the white oaks used to build it were plentiful but over time, those resources dried up as American settlers pushed west



H. Robert Freneau, Secretary of the Navy Special Assistant [left], and Cmndr. Tyrone G. Martin of USS Constitution dedicate the ceremonial "Constitution Grove" at NAVFAC Crane, Indiana on May 8, 1976. (Courtesy U.S. Navy)

and used them to build homesteads, railroads and bourbon barrels.

The Navy, still very concerned with the idea of European bul- lies crossing the Atlantic to push them around, decided it was in its best interest to grow replacement timbers for its advanced warships.

At Naval Support Activity Crane, near Bloomington, Indiana the U.S. Navy maintains

"Constitution Grove," where a forest of white oaks are grown for the sole purpose of restoring and refitting the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned vessel still sailing (the UK's HMS Victory is older than Constitution, but remains in drydock).

NAS Crane is the third largest naval base in the world, and Constitution Grove is not only protected for the white oak trees, but also the biological diversity an oak forest provides, including the wildlife that live there. Three Navy civilian foresters help maintain the wood and ensure that no tree removed from the ecosystem will have an adverse effect on the grove's biodiversity. So while old growth forest is removed from the grove from time to time, the Navy will continue to make sure middle aged trees (70-80 years old) are in good health for the future and that the North American white oaks will create new saplings for as long as Constitution is afloat.

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A big shout out to Vermeer Rocky Mountain for hosting the AMTOPP January Board Meeting and the EHAP Mini Workshop in January

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Term Expires: 2/2023

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Danny Lamb, Intermountain STIHL; (303) 880-2186; danny.lamb@stihl.us: Term Expires 2/2023

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