

FEBRUARY 2019



ARBORISTNOW
URBAN FORESTRY

News from the Urban Forest

Sharing updates with our clients and friends on our growing urban forestry presence in San Francisco with relevant information, trivia, special features, photos, and more! Enjoy!

[Visit our Website](#)

TREE TRIVIA TIME!

- 1) What is the state tree of California?
 - a. Pinus longaeva (Bristlecone Pine)
 - b. Sequoiadendron giganteum (Giant Sequoia)
 - c. Cupressus macrocarpa (Monterrey Cypress)
 - d. Sequoia sempervirens (Coastal Redwood)

- 2) In Greek mythology, what tree has been a symbol of victory and honor?
 - a. Umbellularia californica (California Bay)
 - b. Olea europaea (Olive Tree)
 - c. Laurel nobilis (Bay Laurel)
 - d. Cinnamomum verum (Cinnammon tree)

- 3) True/False – Frond is the common name for a leaf on a pine tree.

- 4) When a street tree falls over or has a broken limb, who should you call first?
 - a. Arborist Now
 - b. Friends of the Urban Forest
 - c. Homescape Now
 - d. City Hall

- 5) True/False - Flooding reduces the amount of oxygen in the soil, suffocating the roots.

Congratulations to our January Newsletter winners!

Bob B.
Georgiana G.
Ralph S.

JANUARY'S QUIZ/ANSWERS

- 1) What time of day is best to water your plants and trees? **b. Early Morning**
- 2) **True** – Infrequent deep, long watering's are better for the growth and health of your trees.
- 3) The age of a tree can be determined by the number of: d. **Growth Rings**
- 4) **False** – Roots of trees do not form a symbiotic relationship with fungi that assist the tree in the uptake of nutrients and water.
- 5) Identify this tree: **Flaxleaf Paperbark, Melaleuca linarifolia**

The **first 3** people to email the correct answers to each of these questions wins! The first person will win a **Victorinox Swiss Army Knife and a \$200 voucher**. The next 2 people will win a **\$100 voucher for any tree service**.

*Past FIRST place winners may play for fun; however, only one FIRST place win per person in a 12 month period.

Please email your answers to news@arboristnow.com with "**Quiz Answers**" in the subject line.

Good luck!

FROM OUR BLOG

Top 5 Tree Safety Tips for Thunderstorms

While the trees in your landscaping may seem like strong, unbreakable parts of nature, thunderstorms can really do some damage if the proper safety procedures aren't considered beforehand.

Here are some ways you can ensure your trees will remain alive and healthy, even after really heavy storms.



JOKE OF THE MONTH

A man crashed his new expensive car into a tree.

He now knows how the Mercedes bends.



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT

MEET Zack Borg

Certified Arborist-Lead Climber

Zack grew up on the East Coast in a small town called Clinton, Connecticut. He moved to Burlington, Vermont to study at [UVM](#) where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in

Molecular Biology and a minor in Philosophy. During his college days he worked in an immunology lab doing regenerative medicine research for end stage lung disease using stem cell therapy. After 5 years of working in a windowless space and being inundated by an endless stream of plastic waste he decided to seek a change of career. He started looking for other options and found a year-long Veterinary Technician Internship at an animal rescue and sanctuary called Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation ([WRR](#)) in Texas.

At WRR, Zack worked closely with the Veterinary shadowing surgical procedures, doing blood work, and learning overall veterinary care for all species of animals. Once his internship was over, he set out to travel the United States with his fiancé and their dog, Stella.

They spent nine months on the road, visiting National Parks and discovering some of the wildest places in the United States. Though Zack has always loved being surrounded by nature, while traveling, Zack gained an enormous amount of appreciation for trees and realized that he someday would like to work in the field of Arboriculture. As money began to run low, he used both his background in science and his ability as a rock climber to apply to several tree climber positions, one of which was for Arborist Now in San Francisco. He was accepted to join the Tree Climbing Internship with Arborist Now and quickly worked his way to becoming lead climber.

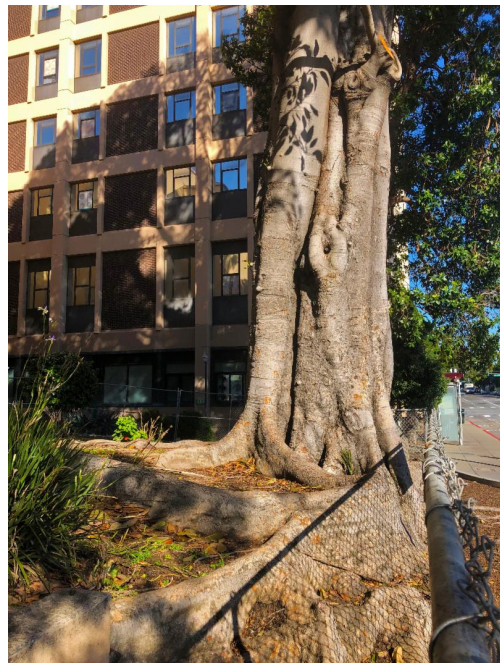
With his background in the sciences, his newly acquired [Certified Arborist](#) designation, and his love and passion for all things in the natural world, Zack has truly found his dream career as a tree climber and at Arborist Now, we couldn't be more pleased.

LANDMARK TREES OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ficus macrophylla

A.K.A. *Moreton Bay Fig*, *Australian Banyan*

Location: **3555 Cesar Chavez**



Ficus macrophylla belongs to the *Moraceae* family and it's described as a banyan evergreen tree, meaning its life begins as an epiphyte, growing on the crevice of a plant or on its own species (like a Bromeliad). It is native to Eastern Australia where its name derived from [Moreton Bay](#) in Queensland. The tree can reach heights up to 200 ft and about 8 ft. in diameter and the leaves are large leathery dark green. Its bark is grey-brown in color and its roots are exposed projecting above ground like a buttress. Since *F. macrophylla* generally grows in areas with poor soil conditions, it's also capable of growing aerial roots that eventually hit the ground and establish themselves to provide structural support. Its flowers are monoecious, meaning it has both male and female flowers on the same tree, maturing at different stages in time.

The flowers are small and inconspicuous bearing fruit that is round and greenish in color, ripening into a beautiful color purple. A very interesting characteristic of the fig fruit is that it is known as a syconium, which means the fleshy part of the fruit in reality are inverted flowers forming a lining of the internal cavity. The reason for this, is that figs have an obligate mutualistic relationship with [fig wasps](#). They can only be pollinated by fig wasps and therefore fig wasps can only reproduce inside its flowers. In turn, each species of fig has a unique relationship with a specific species of wasps. The way this cycle happens is, the female wasp will enter the syconium of the fruit to lay its eggs, then they hatch ready to fly carrying pollen from the female flower to visit the male flowers and repeat the same process.

This species of tree is a rare sight around Northern California. It is more commonly found in Southern California with the biggest specimen located in [Balboa Park](#) in San Diego. This specific landmark tree in San Francisco was planted by a man named [Hubert Howe Bancroft](#) sometime between 1881 and 1906. Bancroft is well known in the Bay Area for building the Bancroft Library of books which was later on moved to the Berkeley campus of the University of California.

Due to its rarity in Northern California I recommend paying a visit to this beautiful specimen - and next time you find yourself eating a fig, really pay attention to the inside of the fruit and perhaps lookout for dead wasps!

Here it is ... our **new logo!**
Let us know what you think!

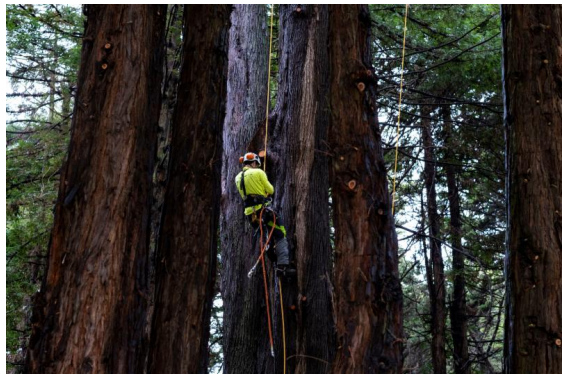


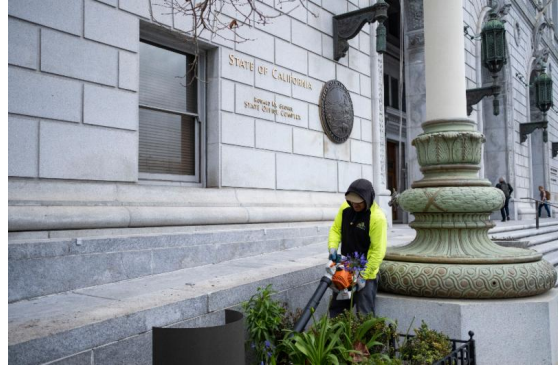
ARBORISTNOW

URBAN FORESTRY

FROM THE FIELD

Our crew in action!







We Appreciate *YOUR* Feedback!

Tell us how we're doing!

Thank you for choosing us **Arborist Now** for your [tree care](#) and landscape needs! We would love to know your thoughts about your experience with us so we can provide **you** with the best service possible!

Please leave us a review on the links below! We're very grateful to you and for your feedback!

[Yelp](#)

[Google Reviews](#)

**With the heart of an arborist,
we wish you a**

Happy Valentine's Day!



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work schedule by March 15,
2019!

This offer **must be** mentioned
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