



## **Certified Arborist Prep Course**

June 24-26, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cumberland County Extension Center  
301 E Mountain Dr, Fayetteville, NC 28306

### **Workshop Overview**

Participants of this two-day workshop will receive professional instruction that improves their technical competency as an arborist in the tree care industry. As sponsors of this preparatory course, the NC Urban Forest Council, NC Cooperative Extension, NC Forest Service, and Southern Chapter of ISA seek to accomplish the following objectives:

Create incentives for nascent arborists to continue their professional development.

Provide the public with a means to identify tree care professionals who have demonstrated trusted competency in tree care practices, through a professionally developed education program and exam.

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### **Educators**

#### **Dr. Barbara Fair**

Dr. Barbara Fair is an Associate Professor in the Department of Horticultural Science and the Landscape Specialist for North Carolina. In addition to teaching, she provides expertise to extension faculty and the green industry, focusing extensively on issues of landscape sustainability and arboriculture. She is also a certified arborist with an extensive arboriculture and urban forestry background.

Barbara earned her Bachelor's and Master's from Penn State University and obtained her PhD from Ohio State University.

#### **Mark Livingston**

Mark Livingston is the owner of Livingston Tree Care in Charlotte, BCMA, TRAQ, and CTSP. Mark has over 20 years of arboriculture experience. He is currently a board member of NC Urban Forest Council. He has his B.S. in Forestry Resource Management from Clemson University.

#### **Delaney Serpan**

Delaney Serpan is a graduate research and Extension assistant at NC State University. She is currently working on her PhD where her research focuses on the management of elm zigzag sawfly, a novel invasive insect. Delaney earned her BS in Natural Resources at NC State University.

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# **Workshop Agenda**

## **Wednesday, June 24**

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 – 9:05 a.m. Welcome, NCUFC

**9:05 – 10:20 a.m. Installation and Establishment, *Dr. Barbara Fair***

10:20 - 10:50 a.m. Break

**10:50 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. Tree Identification and Selection, *Dr. Barbara Fair***

12:05 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Tree Biology, *Dr. Barbara Fair***

2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Break

**3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Soil and Water Relations, *Dr. Barbara Fair***

**4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Tree Nutrients and Fertilizer, *Dr. Barbara Fair***

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## **Thursday, June 25**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Registration

**8:30 – 9:45 a.m. Tree Risk Assessment, *Mark Livingston***

9:45 - 10:15 a.m. Break

**10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Tree Safety, *Mark Livingston***

**11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Insects and Diseases, *Delaney Serpan***

12:15 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Pruning, *Mark Livingston***

2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Break

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tree Support and Lightning Protection, *Mark Livingston***

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## **Friday, June 26 - Exam (Optional)**

**8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration**

**9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Exam**

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