

2019 MW-ISA AWARD WINNERS



Gold Leaf Award – Outstanding Landscape Beautification Award

Ryan Russell & Dave Dittmer

Stephens Lake Park in Columbia, MO has been transformed from a former college golf course into a fully accredited arboretum in just 15 years. This will help achieve the mission of the Stephens Lake Park Arboretum, which is to provide citizens of Columbia and visitors a place of recreation, beauty, peace, education and conservation through its plantings and care of ornamental, native, rare and unusual trees and shrubs. Each year they hold classes for the public and host speaker events with staff and outside experts.

In the fall of 2019 Ryan began a collaboration with The Morton Arboretum and the National Arboretum to serve as an ex situ germ plasm repository for the endangered *Quercus acerifolia*. Existing in only four known locations in the world, this is a species of concern.



Award of Achievement

Ray Wallace

Ray serves as the City Forester of Jefferson City. As a member of the Midwest ISA, his dedication to community and efforts to educate as well as preserve has not gone unnoticed. Recent tornados have sparked a drive to be more prepared, prepared to preserve urban forests. In collaboration with the Missouri Department of Conservation and Forest ReLeaf Missouri, he has helped distribute hundreds of trees to replenish the urban landscape. His goal is to have 600 trees ready at all times. Ray promotes trees as an integral part of our community; he stresses the countless ways trees add to our quality of life.



MW Chapter Award Of Merit

Joshua Carron

Joshua saw great potential in the Jewel Box greenhouse property, built in 1936, already on the historical registry. It was just looking for a driven individual to take it to the level of Arboretum. In 2014 Joshua joined the city of St Louis Forestry and this idea became reality. Within 5 years, he has worked to achieve a level 2 Arboretum accreditation for the Jewel Box grounds. His efforts have netted an increase in individual species from 90 to 126. In the process he has involved and educated the public. Since 2015 approximately 50 John Burroughs High school students have provided over 3000 hours of additional labor and care. Joshua is not done; he has goals of interactive digital technology to allow self-guided walks through the property, and he has his eyes on a level 3 or 4 arboretum by 2036.

NOT PICTURED

MW Chapter Honorary Membership

Lisa Allen

Lisa Allen, Jefferson City, MO, recently retired from Missouri Department of Conservation as State Forester, completing a stellar 34 year career with the department.

Lisa is repentantly passionate about trees and community forestry, and as state forester she bolstered and protected the community forestry program that assisted communities enhance urban forestry throughout the state of Missouri. In 2018 She also elected to served as president of the National Association of State Foresters.



President's Award

Justine Gartner

As a MW-ISA member, Justine Gartner served as Chapter President (2005) and as award liaison (2013 -2015). Justine is employed by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) where she has been a champion for community forestry for many years. During her time with MDC she has held key leadership positions and written many informative articles. Most notable of this written work was a research paper she co-authored about Missouri residents willingness to pay for improved community tree care and maintenance.

Justine Gartner is currently the MDC Forestry Division Chief/State Forester, where her leadership and efforts continue to support best practices in Missouri for arboriculture, urban forestry and silviculture. For these worthy achievements it has been MW-ISA Chapter President, Brett O'Brien privilege to have selected Justine Gartner for the MW-ISA President's Award.



MW Chapter Honorary Life Membership

Ron Lumb

Ron graduated with a forestry degree from MU in 1968. He worked 18 years for the Missouri Department of Conservation. In 1988, he and his wife, Nancy, started Ron Lumb's TLC Tree Service in Saint Joseph Missouri. He is an advocate for proper pruning, and worked on Missouri's anti-tree topping campaign.

Ron is one of the original founders of the Missouri Community Forestry Council (MCFC) when it was formed 27 years ago and continues his service to the council today as northwest regional representative. Ron is also a strong supporter of MWISA, including serving as chapter president in 1995