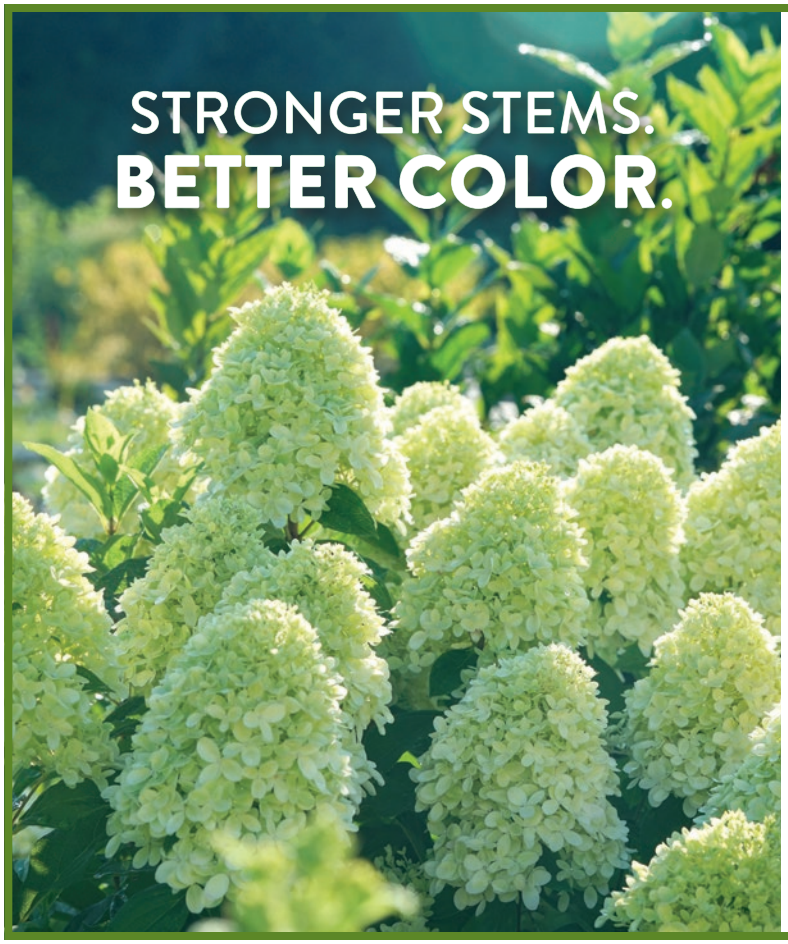
Issue 4, 2026

Trunkline

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Trunkline is published four times each year as a membership benefit to inform UNLA members of the opportunities and actions of the association and its members.

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Listening: A Message from Our Board President



Cameron Passey
UNLA President 2025/2026

While on a recent fishing trip, the guide steered the boat towards a gravel bar where he knew would be a good place to stop for a few minutes, fish from the bank and enjoy a break from the float we had been on all morning. Once the boat was secure, he directed us to fish from the side of the gravel bar and to be careful not to get too far out into the stream. Admittedly I and another gentleman questioned to ourselves, "why" and began to push a little too far into the river.

After a few moments, we found ourselves in a difficult situation due to the strong under-current and extremely slippery rocks. We both recognized our error but struggled as we tried to navigate towards solid ground, which became a much more difficult process than we had expected. We finally made it back to the boat where the guide simply welcomed us with the comment, if only you would have listened to someone who had been there before…

It has been said, "By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third, by experience, which is the bitterest." We learned that day the value of listening (or not listening) to those who have come before.

Over the past couple years while serving as the UNLA President I have had the opportunity to meet with so many from all different aspects of the Green Industry. I believe that is the greatest benefit of being part of the association, being able to listen and learn from each other. This year has brought many opportunities to learn from each other as we navigated another legislation season where water usage and the conversion from small gas engines continue to be topics. Discussions over licensing requirements that affect our industry, as well as Best-Practices, industry standards and ideas on how to boost flows into the Great Salt Lake, all have been happening across the state. It has been great to see UNLA members have opportunities to be part of those discussions and all of us being kept informed. As we prepare for the upcoming year, there is no greater time for our members to be informed and have a voice as we navigate these challenges together.

As we enter this time of year, which can bring reflection, I hope that you all look forward to and plan to attend our Annual Green Conference which is January 25-27, 2027. This event has always been a great opportunity to learn from each other. For many of us, the three days are filled with education, networking and simply seeing old friends. All of this wouldn't happen without the months of preparation done by our Executive Director Meeja Fortie, her staff and the many volunteers who work to put together such a great event.

As it was said, one of the best ways to gain wisdom is by experience. How grateful I am to be part of an association that enables all of us to learn from some of the best and most experienced people in our industry. Now I just need to learn to listen better…

-Cameron Passey-

UTAH GREEN CONFERENCE 2027

Mountain America Expo Center
9575 S State, Sandy, UT 84070

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Scan QR or click link

Monday–Wednesday, January 25,26,27, 2027

Highlighted Speakers

Matt Johnson

KSL Meteorologist



Tuesday, Jan. 26

Keynote Speaker
10:30 am

Matthew Johnson joined KSL in April of 2022 and has been forecasting Utah weather for 13 years. He is the morning meteorologist for the KSL Today & Noon shows. Matt was born and raised in Northern California. His love for weather came at the young age of 9 years old when he saw snow fall from the sky for the very first time in Spanish Fork, Utah, during a 1999 lake effect snow event.

Matt graduated from the University of Utah with a bachelor's degree in Atmospheric Science.

Weather, family and sports are his passions. Matt suffers from a mild addiction to Pickleball and considers himself a "professional leaf peeper". Matt currently resides in Utah County.

Watch Matt on KSL Today from 4:30 a.m. to 7 a.m. and at Noon on KSL 5 TV. Follow him on Facebook, X and Instagram to stay up to date on the latest forecasts and weather happenings.

Extreme Weather is the New Normal: Preparing Landscapes for a Changing Climate

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP

Eric Allred

Green Source



Wednesday, Jan. 27

Turf Track
9:30 am

Eric Allred's start in turf was mowing lawns in the summers through high school and on the maintenance crew at USU Eastern through college. Now, Eric has been with Green Source for the past 16 years. He works with parks superintendents, sports turf managers and golf course superintendents throughout Utah; he enjoys the opportunity to problem solve with customers and help them grow the best turf they can. Green Source provides all the essential products to maintain turf in both liquid and granular options. From grass seed to fertilizer to herbicides and insecticides, they carry it all.

Chemical Application 101

1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-USE, 1 UCNP

This class is the basics of fertilizers and pesticides in an easy to understand format. This will bring people up to speed on how and why fertilizer and pesticides work, including the best time to make applications and some tips and tricks to help turf managers grow high quality fields.

Cale Berg

Davey Resource Group



Tuesday, January 26
Arboriculture Track
9:30 am

Cale Berg is a Project Manager with Davey Resource Group and an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist® with over two decades of experience in tree care,

utility vegetation management and arboricultural consulting. Throughout his career, he has worked with utilities, municipalities, businesses and property owners to promote safe, sustainable vegetation management practices. Passionate about education and professional development, Cale enjoys helping others better understand trees, risk management and long-term plant health. When he is not working, he can often be found hiking, fishing, woodworking or enjoying Utah's outdoors with his two kids.

Proactive Tree Management: Identifying and Managing Problem Species Before They Become Problems

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP

Many of the tree management challenges we face today are both predictable and preventable. Through the lens of utility vegetation management, this presentation examines how early identification of incompatible and invasive tree species can reduce long-term maintenance costs, improve safety and protect urban and natural landscapes.

Drawing from real-world examples involving species such as Siberian elm, tree-of-heaven, Russian olive, tamarisk and boxelder, attendees will learn why certain trees repeatedly create management challenges, how trees respond to pruning and removal and why understanding tree biology is critical to developing effective treatment strategies. The session will explore practical approaches to managing undesirable species, including treatment timing, long-term planning considerations and techniques that promote lasting results rather than repeated maintenance cycles.

The presentation concludes with a discussion of opportunities for landscape professionals, arborists, growers and utility vegetation managers to work together to create more sustainable and resilient urban forests through proactive tree selection, management and stewardship.

Roslynn Brain, Ph.D.

Utah State University, Moab



Monday, Jan. 25
Design Track
12:30 pm

Dr. Roslynn Brain is a Sustainable Communities Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Environment and Society at Utah State University (USU) in Moab, Utah. She applies conservation theory, communication techniques and social marketing tools to foster environmental action.

Beyond Xeriscape: Permaculture Design for Multifunctional Desert Landscapes

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP

Permaculture is an ethics-based design framework increasingly used worldwide to create functional, resilient landscapes. In arid regions, where water scarcity, extreme heat and soil degradation persist, permaculture offers practical, systems-based solutions. For over a decade, the Utah State University Extension Permaculture Initiative has worked to design and implement perennial edible and medicinal gardens adapted to Utah's desert climate. These landscapes retain soil moisture through heavy wood mulch and manage water by storing, slowing, spreading and sinking rainfall using rain tanks, curb cuts and swales.

This presentation will introduce the permaculture design framework, showcase Utah-based garden examples, highlight community engagement strategies that support long-term stewardship and cultivate ideas for tracking impacts. Participants will gain practical tools for integrating resilient, multifunctional design into professional landscape practice.

(continued next page)

Utah Green Conference Speakers
(continued)

Dr. Landon Bunderson

Nano-Yield



Monday, January 25

Turk Track 8:30 am

Landon Bunderson is a startup executive, scientific leader and inventor who has spent the last twelve years scaling agricultural and biotechnology companies. As Chief Science Officer at Nano-Yield, he played a pivotal role in formulating products, patenting technologies and growing the business. Previously, as Founder and CEO of Pollen Sense, Landon drove the company's go-to-market strategy, raised seed capital, built a worldwide sensor network and secured strategic data contracts with Microsoft and AccuWeather. Landon holds a Ph.D. in Aerobiology from the University of Tulsa and a Master's degree in Plant Science from Utah State University.

Managing Turf Under Drought Conditions

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UNCP

Landon will discuss turf management strategies for drought: save, survive, thrive.

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Karen Chapman

Le Jardinet



Wednesday, Jan. 27

Greenhouse/Garden Center Track 8:30 am

Born in England, Karen grew up with a trowel in her hand.

After moving to the Pacific Northwest, Karen joined a local nursery as a garden plant specialist before establishing her design company Le jardinet in 2006. Whilst initially specializing in custom container gardens, Karen now applies that same attention to detail by designing functional and artistic landscapes. Her designs have been featured in many prestigious publications, including *Fine Gardening* and *Better Homes & Gardens*.

She is co-author of two popular books on foliage-driven design: *Gardening with Foliage First* and *Fine Foliage*, and her latest book is *Deer-Resistant Design*.

When not designing gardens or writing about them, Karen is usually teaching in workshops across the country, as well as through a number of online courses. She has also leads both domestic and international garden tours.

Whether on the stage or the page, Karen's aim is always to inspire, educate and share the fun of gardening with her audience.

Website: *https://lejardinetdesigns.com/*

The Business of Container Gardens

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP

Learn strategies for solving design challenges, tips for effective client communication and insights into marketing and advertising.

Mitch Hendricks

Village Lighting



Monday, January 25

Landscape Track
2:30 pm

Mitch Hendricks has nearly 20 years of experience in the holiday lighting industry, working with distributors and professional installers across the country. Throughout his career, he has helped businesses grow by sharing industry knowledge and practical experience. He has witnessed firsthand the evolution of holiday lighting, from traditional incandescent lights to LEDs and now permanent lighting systems. Mitch enjoys sharing his experience and helping professionals navigate the industry's changing landscape.

Profitable Holiday Lighting

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP

The holiday lighting industry is evolving, creating new opportunities and challenges for businesses. From the growth of traditional holiday lighting services to the rise of permanent lighting systems, the way customers decorate their properties is changing. Join us as we explore industry trends, compare seasonal and permanent lighting, and discuss what these changes mean for your business.

Dr. Heidi Kratsch

University of Nevada Reno



Monday, January 25

Design Track 2:30 pm

Dr. Heidi Kratsch is a sustainable horticulture extension specialist at the University of Nevada, Reno. She earned her Ph.D. at Iowa State University, where she specialized in woody plant stress and plant-soil interactions. She also spent six years at the Utah State University Center for Water Efficient Landscaping.

Evolving Waterwise Landscapes

1DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP

The concept of what makes a landscape "waterwise" is undergoing transformation based on the realities of our Intermountain West climate and a desire to maintain a regional aesthetic. Challenges in our region include poor soils, that are often alkaline and sometimes salty, and high evaporative demand on landscape plants while freshwater resources are dwindling. What's more, western cities can become urban heat islands, which contribute to and are intensified by loss of urban tree canopies. During this presentation, we will discuss considerations for how to balance ecological, soil, and water challenges during waterwise plant selection and landscape design decisions.

(continued next page)

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Utah Green Conference Speakers
(continued)

Madison Martini and Heidi King

Utah Division of Water Resources



Monday, January 25

Irrigation Track
8:30 am

Madison Martini is a Conservation Coordinator at the Utah Division of Water Resources. She specializes in managing the Landscape Incentive Program amongst rural areas of the state. She holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Environmental Science from BYU focused on water conservation in both urban and agricultural sectors. Madison previously worked for the Central Utah Water Conservancy District and in a soil testing lab on BYU's campus.



Heidi King is a Conservation Coordinator at the Utah Division of Water Resources. She is a horticulturist specializing in water conservation and efficient landscaping. She holds a Bachelor's in Plant Science from USU and a Master's in Public Administration from the U of U. Heidi has worked for various organizations in Utah, including USU, Thanksgiving Point, and Temple Square.

Statewide Landscape Rebates

1 DOPL-Core, 1IA, 1 QWEL, 1UCNP

This breakout session, presented by the Division of Water Resources, covers the statewide landscape rebate program and reviews why outdoor water conservation matters. You'll get clear information on who can apply, what design standards to follow, and how to meet the requirements, like swapping out non-functional turf for waterwise plants and drip irrigation, to earn rebates of up to $3 per square foot. The session will also offer practical tools for landscape professionals, including how to submit projects, use contractor checklists and find local plant resources.

George McGinness

Monrovia



Wednesday, Jan. 27

Greenhouse/Garden Center Track
9:30 am

George McGinness has been with Monrovia for 38 years, with a start training in the fields, gaining a greater appreciation for every department and craftsman at the nursery. In 1993, George received his first outside sales territory in upstate NY and Ontario Canada. After 14 years, the company had him relocate to the North Carolina Territory. In 2010, he received his current assignment covering parts of MT, ID, all of UT and Las Vegas. He sells plants all the way from Zones 8-9 in Vegas to Zones 2-3 in MT. Over the years he has had the wonderful privilege to partner with garden centers in an ever-changing industry and develop some cherished friendships along the way. In his spare time, George loves spending time with his wife of 33 years, serving others and gardening. A fun fact about George is he is also an auctioneer!

Fresh from the Greenhouse: Exciting New Nursery Plant Varieties

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP

Let's talk about new plants and the importance and impact they have on Monrovia, independent garden centers and the consumer.

Lindsey Purcell

Lp Consulting Group



Wednesday, Jan. 27

Arboriculture Track
8:30 am, 9:30 am,
10:30 am

Lindsey Purcell, principal of Lp Consulting Group, has more than 40 years of experience in arboriculture and urban forestry across the public and private sectors. An ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, he retired after 21 years of teaching at Purdue University and Vincennes University and authored Arboricultural Practices: A Science-Based Approach to Tree Care. He serves as Executive Director of the Indiana chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and provides education and training resources to arborists and urban foresters internationally. His credentials also include American Society of Consulting Arborists Registered Consulting Arborist, Florida ISA Prescription Pruning Qualification instructor and ISA-certified instructor for the Tree Risk Assessment Qualification.

Diagnosing Abiotic Tree Disorders and Decline

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP

Abiotic disorders in plants are very common accounting for almost half of the tree samples that arrive in the plant diagnostic lab. It is critical for any plant professional to recognize and understand abiotic disorders to understand tree health more fully. This presentation will explore the cause-and-effect process of various stressors which impact tree health, sustainability, and stability.

Prescription Pruning Qualification Overview

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP

The PPQ provides the knowledge, research, and tools (prescriptions) necessary to remove less living tissue, create a common language and establish protocol resulting in consistency between the Prescriber and Producer. This presentation is an overview of the practical, applied pruning program which guides arborists through the process of strategically planning, specifying and implementing an objective-based pruning approach demonstrating how to incorporate industry standards and ISA BMPs with current research and practice.

Tree Planting: What Matters and What Doesn't

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP

How we can get trees to stand up better and live longer? What really makes a difference with sustainable tree installations? Current research indicates more clearly that nursery production methods and specialized planting protocols provide some simple solutions to these questions and more. Learn what really matters in the tree planting process and what really doesn't according to current arboricultural research and best practices.

(continued next page)



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Utah Green Conference Speakers
(continued)

Michael Wagner

SIMA (Snow & Ice Management Association) Designscapes Colorado

Monday, January 25

Landscape Track
3:30 pm



Michael Wagner has worked in the snow and ice management industry for 15 years, with a focus on safety and asset management. With a background in both public works and private contracting, he is well versed in the many aspects and challenges of snow and ice management across a variety of situations, partnerships and contracts. Michael also serves as an expert witness for industry-related topics which assists in his continued work in the field.

Snow Removal Processes, Equipment, Time Savers

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP

This learning session will focus on creating and standardizing snow and ice management practices and evaluating effective behaviors to create operational efficiencies. Also, we will discuss various equipment and fleet management processes and apply them to real life scenarios with a practical approach. Through applying standard operation procedures (SOPs), industry standards, understanding organizational capabilities and utilizing common tools, equipment and materials used in snow and ice management, you can assess your current operations and determine ways to increase your success and competitive advantage in the industry!centers and the consumer.

UNLA WOMEN IN THE GREEN INDUSTRY



2027 Women in the Green Industry **Luncheon**

Make plans to attend the 2027 Women in the Green Industry (WIGI) Luncheon, held during the Utah Green Conference on **Monday, January 27, 2027**. The luncheon will take place from **11:20 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** in Room 400 at the Mountain America Expo Center. **Tickets are $30 for UNLA members and $40 for non-members.**

This year's keynote speaker, **Tish Buroker, Mayor of Riverton City**, will present *The Unlikely Journey to Becoming a Woman in the Green*. Through personal stories and insights, Mayor Buroker will share her experiences navigating self-doubt, embracing opportunities and finding her voice in traditionally underrepresented spaces.

Whether you're an established industry professional or just beginning your career, this luncheon offers an inspiring opportunity to connect with others, gain valuable perspective and celebrate the growing impact of women in the green industry.

You won't want to miss this engaging and empowering event.

2027 Utah Green Industry Conference Schedule

Monday–Wednesday, January 25, 26, 27, 2027

Mountain America Expo Center 9575 S State, Sandy, UT

You are responsible for obtaining proof of attendance for CEUs at all sessions!
Schedule as of 11/11/26, subject to change without notice.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

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Monday, January 25, 2027

TIME	ROOM	CLASS TITLE	PRESENTER	CEUs
7:00 am — REGISTRATION				
8:30 - 9:20 am	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Managing Turf Under Drought Restrictions	Landon Bunderson Nano-Yield	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	ISA Certification Exam Prep. What You Need to Know	Mike Bunnel Treewise	1 DOPL-Core, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Statewide Landscape Rebates	Madison Martini & Heidi King DNR Division of Water Resources	1 DOPL-Core, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	Employment Law Updates	Ryan Frazier Kirton McConkie	1 DOPL-Core, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Restoration of Utah's Native Landscapes	Neal Dombrowski Red Butte Garden	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Empowering Green Businesses: Rocky Mountain Power Grants for Nurseries	Dan Bridenstine Rocky Mountain Power	1 DOPL-Core, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
9:30 - 10:20 am	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Sprayer Drift & Calibration Safety Part 1	Corey Ransom USU	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-SAFETY, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Rescuing & Saving Trees: Options for Saving Trees	Daniel English Wasatch Evergreens	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Smart Controller Commercial	Kevin Evans Mountainland Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	Equipment Maintenance Life Hacks	Leatham Hendrix Wheeler CAT	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Designing a Winter Landscape	Tony McCammon PKJ Design Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	How to Identify & Manage Common Pests in the Retail Garden Center (Bio Control)	Alison Kutz Sound Horticulture	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
10:30 - 11:20 am	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Sprayer Drift & Calibration Safety Part 2	Corey Ransom USU	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-SAFETY, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Common Citations in Tree Care (and How to Avoid Them)	Aleisha Baker UDAF	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-LAW, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Smart Controller Residential	Duane Richards Ewing Outdoor Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	Ecosystem of a Landscape	Dr. Shital Poudyal USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Costs & Maintenance of Various Landscapes	Kelly Kopp USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Panel Discussion: The Native Plant Supply Problem-Challenges and Opportunities	Janet Simonvich - Progressive Plants, Dr. Sarah Hinners - Red Butte Garden, Katie Owens - Cache Valley Native Plants, Cynthia Bee - Utah Water Ways	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP

Monday, January 25, 2027 *(continued)*

TIME	ROOM	CLASS TITLE	PRESENTER	CEUs
11:20 am -12:30 pm — LUNCH				
11:20 am - 12:30 pm	**WIGI Lunch** Room 400 (Ticketed Event)	**Tish Buroker, Riverton City Mayor** "The Unlikely Journey to Becoming a Woman in the Green" Optional Q&A from 12:30 – 1:00 pm. Sponsored by: Proven Winners ColorChoice		
12:30 -1:20 pm	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Athletic Field Renovations	Shane Richards USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Why Large Trees Fail: The 10 Most Common Installation Mistakes	Andy Amort Big Trees of Idaho	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Flip the Strip	Sophie Byde & Christina Bennion JVWCD	1 DOPL-Core, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	BMP: Weed Control Maintenance for New Sites	Corey Ransom USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Beyond Xeriscape: Permaculture Design for Multifunctional Desert Landscapes	Roslynn Brain USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Japanese Beetle Updates	Kristopher Watson UDAF	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 PEST-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
1:30 - 2:20 pm	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Pesticide Legislation: Recent Updates & Impacts	Henry Nahalewski UDAF	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-LAW, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	What Trees Are Telling Us: Body Language, Physics, and Biomechanics	William Pruitt Treemendus Arbor Care	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Tree Watering Applications	Andy Belingheri Husqvarna	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	A Blueprint to Plug Profit Leaks: Stop Accepting "Good Enough" in Your Business	Ryan Noel Grass Plus	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Permaculture in Practice: Designing Functional, Practical & Beautiful Landscapes	Stephanie Hancey USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Plants Designed for Utah: Helping Garden Centers Grow Success	Kevin and Ramona Borkman Bloom Gardens	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
2:30 - 3:20 pm	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Outdoor Soil Health	Melanie Stock USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Designing with Trees	Stephanie Colton Sunline Landscapes	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Water Efficiency for Turf Grass Part 1	Jeffrey Knight JK Consulting and Design	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	Profitable Holiday Lighting	Mitch Henricks Village Lighting	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Evolving Waterwise Landscapes	Heidi Kratsch University of Nevada Reno	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Under Appreciated Plants	Lee Larsen Ball Horticulture	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
3:30 - 4:20 pm	**Turf Track** Eagle Room 300 AB	Managing Turf Before, During, & After a Large Event	Shane Richards USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Evolution of Best Management Practices & IPM	Trent Bristol Herriman City	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 A	Water Efficiency for Turf Grass Part 2	Jeffrey Knight JK Consulting and Design	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 B	Snow Removal Processes, Equipment, Time Savers	Michael Wagner, SIMA (Snow & Ice Management Association)	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Eagle Room 200 C	Deciduous Trees for Northern Utah	Kristina Veenker Thrive Nursery	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Pesticide Safety in the Greenhouse: Training, Documentation, & Compliance	Henry Nahalewski UDAF	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-SAFETY, 1 UCNP
4:30 - 5:30 pm	**UNLA AWARDS RECEPTION** Ticketed Event, Room 400			

Tuesday, January 26, 2027

TIME	ROOM	CLASS TITLE	PRESENTER	CEUs
8:00 am — REGISTRATION				
8:30 - 9:20 am	**Turf Track** Room 300 AB	Turfgrass Types & Anatomy	Dr. Shaun Bushman USDA	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 QWEL, 1 UNCP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Maintaining Tree Health with Less Water	Miles Becker USU	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 ISA, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 AB	Basic Drip	Dan Candland Netafim	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 C	Drought Tolerant Turf Solutions	Orson Boyce Utah Seed	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Hydrangeas & How They Fit in the Utah Landscape	Paul Mulder Glover Nursery	1 DOPL-Pro, .25 IA, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Room 400	Temple Square Renovation Completion	Jay Warnick, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
9:30 - 10:20 am	**Turf Track** Room 300 AB	Importance of Seed Varieties in Turf	Dr. Shaun Bushman USDA	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Proactive Tree Management: Identifying and Managing Problem Species Before They Become Problems	Cale Berg Davey Resource Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 AB	Advanced Drip	Dan Candland Netafim	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 C	Salt and Soil: How it Affects Trees, and Other Plants in the Landscape	Dr. Bryan Hopkins BYU	1 DOPL- Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Is Your Garden Center Compliant With State Regulations	Mark Hillier UDAF	1 DOPL-Core, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Room 400	Small Evergreens for the Garden	Jonathan Hansen Frederico Outdoor Living	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
10:30 am - 12:00 pm Eagle Room 300 ABCD, Room 400 Overflow Seating		**UNLA Business and Keynote Speaker** "Extreme Weather Is the New Normal: Preparing Landscapes for a Changing Climate" **Matt Johnson, KSL Meteorologist**		1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
Spanish Education classes are presented in Spanish ONLY				
12:00 - 12:50 pm	**Spanish Education** Room 400	Reparación y solución de problemas de válvulas/ Valve Repair & Troubleshooting	Daniel Martinez Husqvarna Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
1:00 - 1:50 pm	**Spanish Education** Room 400	Hidráulica para profesionales del riego/Hydraulics for Irrigation Professionals	Daniel Martinez Husqvarna Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
2:00 - 2:50 pm	**Spanish Education** Room 400	Dos hilos/Two Wire	Jonathan Hummer Sprinkler Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
Noon to 4:30 pm — TRADE SHOW OPENS (Exhibit Hall 3 & 1/2 Hall 2)				

Important information regarding CEUs and certificates of attendance:

Certificates of attendance will be emailed to attendees within two weeks after the conference. The UNLA will post DOPL, ISA and UCNP CEUs and attendees are responsible for reporting IA, QWEL and Pesticide CEUs. If you need DOPL and ISA CEUs, you should have selected those CEUs when you registered for the conference and included your DOPL license number (ending in 5501) and your ISA license number, MUST also include Pesticide License number if you need Pest CEUs.

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Wednesday, January 27, 2027

TIME	ROOM	CLASS TITLE	PRESENTER	CEUs
8:00 am — REGISTRATION				
8:30 - 9:20 am	**Turf Track** Room 300 AB	Common Turf Weeds: Identification & Treatment	Kelly Kopp USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Diagnosing Abiotic Tree Disorders Within a Pest Management Program	Lindsey Purcell LP Consulting Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 AB	Introduction to Two Wire Pros & Cons	Brady Pitcher Sprinkler Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 C	Panel Discussion: Design, Installation, Maintenance	David Wright - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Bruce Reed - Samara Company, Brandon Ruiz - MGB+A	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, .5 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	The Business of Container Gardens	Karen Chapman Le Jardinet	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Room 400	Annual Bed Design	Zac Roberts - WBWCD, Jessica Berrett - Sunline Landscapes	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
9:30 - 10:20 am	**Turf Track** Room 300 AB	Chemical Application 101	Eric Allred Green Source	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-USE, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Prescription Pruning Qualification Overview	Lindsey Purcell LP Consulting Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 AB	Two Wire Installation Best Practices	Brady Pitcher Sprinkler Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 C	Shrub Pruning and Maintenance	JayDee Gunnell USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Fresh from the Greenhouse: Exciting New Nursery Plant Varieties	George McGinness Monrovia	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Room 400	Modular Plantings	Jessica Clements JC Designs	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
10:30 - 11:20 am	**Turf Track** Room 300 AB	Creating an Annual Turf Maintenance Program	Kelly Kopp USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 Pest-USE, 1 UCNP
	Arboriculture Track Eagle Room 300 CD	Tree Planting: What Matters and What Doesn't	Lindsey Purcell LP Consulting Group Sponsored by UCFC	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Irrigation Track Eagle Room 200 AB	Advanced Two Wire Troubleshooting & Tools	Brady Pitcher Sprinkler Supply	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Landscape Track Eagle Room 200 C	Design for Irrigation or Irrigate for a Design	Sandy Vernon & Kristina Ainsworth PKJ Design Group	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
	Greenhouse/Garden Center Track Eagle Room 200 D	Worker's Protection Standard for Greenhouses	Drew Matthews UDAF	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
	Design Track Room 400	AI Integration in Landscape Design	Phillip Fernberg USU	1 DOPL-Pro, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
Trade Show Classes				
11:40 am - 12:30 pm	**Arboriculture Track** Trade Show Class Room	Pesticide Application Demonstration	Dan Bridenstine Rocky Mountain Power	1 DOPL-Core, 1 Pest-SAFETY, 1 ISA, 1 UCNP
11:40 am - 12:30 pm	**Landscape Track** Trade Show Class Room	Panel Discussion: Rebate and Incentive Programs for Landscape Contractors	Moderator: Zac Roberts Rod Vega - Utah Wildflower Company, Eric Wermel - JVWCD, Justin Boyer - Sod Ripper	1 DOPL-Core, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP
10:00 am to 2:00 pm — TRADE SHOW OPENS (Exhibit Hall 3 & 1/2 Hall 2)				

CEU Code – DOPL (CORE, EC & Pro) -Department of Occupational and Professional Licensure, UCNP-Utah Certified Nursery Professional, Pesticide (USE, LAW, & SAFETY)-Utah Department of Food & Ag, ISA-International Society of Arboriculture, IA-Irrigation Association, QWEL-Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper

2027

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DANIEL MARTINEZ
HUSQVARNA

12-12:50 pm

"Reparación y solución de problemas de válvulas"

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP



DANIEL MARTINEZ
HUSQVARNA

1-1:50 pm

"Hidráulica para profesionales del riego"

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP



JONATHAN HUMMER
SPRINKLER SUPPLY

2-2:50 pm

"Dos hilos"

1 DOPL-Pro, 1 IA, 1 QWEL, 1 UCNP

MOUNTAIN AMERICA EXPO CENTER, SANDY UTAH



Thank You to the 2027 UGC Conference Committee

The success of the Utah Green Conference would not be possible without the dedication and expertise of the UGC Conference Committee. We extend our sincere gratitude to these industry leaders who generously volunteer their time, knowledge and energy to help shape the conference experience.

Throughout the year, committee members meet to identify emerging trends and critical issues within their areas of expertise, determine timely and relevant educational topics and recruit engaging, knowledgeable speakers. Their commitment ensures that conference attendees receive high-quality education, valuable industry insights and meaningful professional development opportunities.

The Utah Green Conference is stronger because of the collaboration, vision and leadership of these committed professionals. Thank you for your service and for helping make the conference an outstanding experience for our industry.

We are grateful for your dedication and the lasting impact you have on the success of the Utah Green Conference.

COMMITTEE:	NAME:	ORGANIZATION:
2027 UGC Conference Chair	**Zac Roberts**	Weber Basin Water Conservancy District
Arboriculture Committee	**Jeremiah Elder**	Certified Arborist Solutions
Arboriculture Committee	**Daniel Bridenstine**	Tree and Line LLC
Arboriculture Committee	**Blaine Nelson**	Riverton City
Design Track Chair	**Sandy Vernon**	PKJ Design Group
Design Track Committee	**Logan Hall**	Frederico Outdoor Living
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Greenhouse Garden Center Cmte	**Erin Glover**	Glover Nursery
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Irrigation Track Co-Chair	**Bridget McMullin**	Sprinkler World
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Irrigation Committee	**Mike Lorenc**	JVWCD
Landscape Track Committee	**Brandon Kidd**	Four Square Landscaping
Landscape Track Committee	**Blake Buhrley**	Grass Plus Inc.
Landscape Track Committee	**Andy Stringfellow**	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Turf Track Committee	**Jeremy Steadman**	Tooele County
Turf Track Committee	**John Walker**	University of Utah
Turf Track Committee	**Hayden Duffin**	Biograss
Turf Track Committee	**John Barrett**	Chopper Landscaping



Pro Tip Corner

From Garden Center to Landscaper

Erin Glover, Glover Nursery

Understanding seasonal plant availability helps landscapers establish realistic expectations with clients. For example, the digging season for large caliper trees relies heavily on the weather and time of year. Freshly dug large caliper trees (e.g., 2" caliper) are generally only available in early spring or late fall, with limited fall selection for certain species. While existing stock may be available, fresh stock or special orders during peak summer months like July and August are rarely feasible for non-grower garden centers. Understanding this timeline helps landscapers set accurate expectations with clients when bidding on projects.

We highly encourage landscapers to consult garden center staff or local nursery websites rather than AI tools for plant selection, plant information and yard planning. Garden Centers frequently encounter requests based on inaccurate AI recommendations, such as planting Italian Cypress in unsuitable climates or placing Salvia nemorosa in full shade. While AI can be useful, its plant information for specific local environments is often incorrect.



Southern Utah Green Conference Delivers Another Successful Year

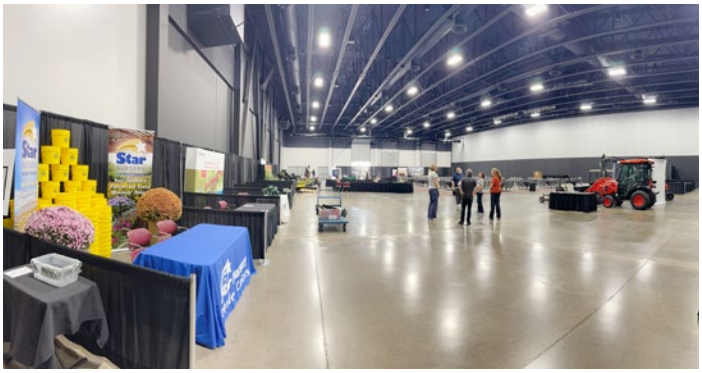
The Southern Utah Green Conference (SUGC) once again brought together green industry professionals from across the region on October 27 in St. George for a day of education, networking and industry connections. Attendees earned CEUs, explored the trade show and learned from engaging speakers who delivered timely and practical information.

Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive:

"The keynote speaker was off the hook excited about what she did. Very good speech."

"It was great this year, thank you!"

"Having actual breaks between sessions was an incredible plan."





The Utah Nursery & Landscape Association (UNLA) is proud to host SUGC as a gathering place for landscape professionals, garden centers, irrigation specialists, contractors and suppliers throughout Southern Utah. Hearing that attendees found value in both the educational sessions and networking opportunities confirms the importance of this event and the strength of our industry community.

A special thank you goes to our exhibitors, whose outstanding displays, demonstrations and give-aways helped keep the exhibit hall buzzing throughout the day. Their participation plays a vital role in making SUGC a valuable experience for attendees.

We also extend our appreciation to *Star Nursery* and *Rain Bird* for their continued sponsorship and support. Their commitment helped make this year's conference another great success.

We are already looking forward to next year's event and continuing to grow opportunities for education, networking, and industry engagement in Southern Utah.







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Calendar

JANUARY 2027

25-27 **Utah Green Conference**

25 **Women in the Green Industry** Luncheon

25 **UNLA Awards** Reception

For more information go to *www.utahgreen.org/events*