

OTCC Site Requirements

Thank you for your interest in hosting the OTCC!

The OTCC is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your municipality and park.

Please see details below on the event and site requirements that we need to make the OTCC a success:

About the OTCC

The Ontario Tree Climbing Championship (OTCC) is an annual two-day event held by the Ontario Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) where men and women from across the province compete for their chance to become the provincial champions. It is typically held the second weekend in September but is flexible depending on location availability.

The competition features five preliminary events including a Work Climb, Aerial Rescue, Throwline, Belayed Speed Climb and Ascent Event. Each event is designed to test the safety, knowledge, skills, speed, and agility of our competitors. The top male and female competitors from the preliminary events compete in the Masters' Challenge where the winners move on to represent Ontario in the North American and the International competitions.

During the OTCC event weekend, volunteers, competitors, businesses, families and friends come together to cheer our climbers on while enjoying your showcase park. It is free for the public to attend and get a first-hand view of the arboriculture industry's top professionals showcasing their skills. There are interactive opportunities for families to enjoy such as a "Climb for All Ages," a Professor Pricklethorn presentation teaching the public about the value of trees, and a tradeshow with some of our favourite vendors featuring giveaways and activities.

The OTCC Committee encourages community involvement by reaching out to local media sources for event coverage and to notify the members of the community about this free event. At each location, the committee holds a tree planting ceremony to commemorate the event and invites the local mayor or members of council to attend for a photo opportunity. Other promotional opportunities include advertisements online and in the Ontario Arborist magazine promoting the location of the competition.

The OTCC is fully insured by ISA Ontario and safety is the number one priority. ISA Ontario goes to great lengths to ensure this is a safe event, including: completing tree risk assessments on each tree, inspecting volunteer and competitor gear, creating rescue plans for each event, obtaining on-site emergency services, strictly adhering to rules that disqualify un-safe practices, and engaging a team of qualified individuals to monitor the safety of participants.

Hosting an OTCC event is a great way to engage your community, attract visitors and tourism, as well as showcase our industry and safe work practices. We can't wait to work with you to bring the OTCC to your community!

OTCC Site Amenities and In-kind Support Considerations List

Here's what we'll need to make the event a success:

- Site availability for four days during the second or third weekend in September
 - Set-up day - Thursday 9:00am to 5:00pm (approximate), involving volunteers working with your municipal forestry crew to prune trees
 - First Event Day - Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (approximate)
 - Second Event Day - Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (approximate)
 - Rain Day - Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (only if required)
- Trees: Six Competition trees and one or two Climb For All Ages trees within proximity of each other (see details below)
- Trade Show Area: Large area for vendors, lunch, book store and silent auction
 - The area should be accessible and allow access for heavy equipment vehicles and trailers
- Large Parking area close by for volunteers, competitors and spectators
- Covered building, pavilion, bandshell, large tent or portable stage if possible
- Hydro connection
- Securing underground utility locates
- Washroom facilities (either permanent or portable units)
- Hotels and/or Campsite near by
- Garbage and recycling on site
 - Staff available during the event for garbage and washroom maintenance

Tree Requirements

The following is a list of event trees we'll need during the competition. The event stations are secured with caution tape at the drip line of the trees to keep the public out of the area.

| <i>Event</i> | <i>Tree Requirements</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Work Climb</i> | Large wide spreading tree in good health. |
| <i>Aerial Rescue</i> | A healthy tree that can accommodate a "victim" being placed, preferably no higher than 7.5 m (25 ft) above the ground (actual climbing anchor much higher). A climbing line is installed no closer than 4.5 m (15 ft) from the injured climber. |
| <i>Throwline</i> | Large growing tree or multiple trees growing close together, with 8 substantial branch unions of various heights. |
| <i>Belayed Speed Climb</i> | Large growing healthy tree with numerous scaffolding branches starting close to the ground. The final bell for this event will be at 60ft therefore an adequate tie-in above this must be available. |
| <i>Ascent</i> | Tree with an adequate anchor 12m to 25 m (40 ft to 82 ft). Open canopy to allow a climber to ascend uninterrupted to a bell installed at a distance of 38 cm (15 in) horizontally from the competitor's line. |
| <i>Masters</i> | Large wide spreading tree(s) in good health |
| <i>Climb for All Ages</i> | Cluster of trees with low scaffold branches. Optional to lay logs down at the base of the tree for kids to balance on while tied in from above. |

Contact Us

If you would like to recommend a potential site for the OTCC please contact ISA Ontario:
 Phone: 888-463-2316 Email: info@isaontario.com Website: www.isaontario.com/otcc