



Utility Arborist Association (UAA) Safety Guidelines

Providing UAA Members and other attendees of our events a safe environment in which to work is the Utility Arborist Association's (UAA) top priority. The UAA is committed to the safety of its members, and others that attend any of our events.

To ensure this commitment is met, the UAA has guidelines about participating and working in a safe and safety conscious manner. It is the responsibility of every person in attendance to follow these guidelines to allow everyone the opportunity to enjoy themselves in a safe environment.

Following and observing the procedures and responsibilities in these guidelines will reduce the number of injuries and unsafe conditions we can be exposed to.

Everyone is responsible to:

- Report on unsafe conditions.
- Prevent and report all incidents.
- Use personal protective clothing and equipment when required.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Safety awareness, risk assessment, and planning needs to be both proactive and ongoing in the environment and changing conditions often encountered by UAA members and attendees.

As such, it is expected that before all meetings or field events of any kind begins, a safety brief will be conducted on site which will include emergency evacuation process, AED locations and if in a hotel the 911 protocol.

This will also include:

- Assigning key people on site at the meeting/event who are the leads for muster groups
- Assign one person who is responsible for calling 911
- Assign one or two person(s) who will meet emergency vehicles if needed
- Recognize any person(s) that are a first responder & can use an AED machine

When an alarm is sounded in the event of a fire, all occupants of a building shall evacuate. Elevators in facilities will not be used for evacuation. Each person assigned as stated above, is responsible for assisting disabled individuals from a building.

Once out of a building, go to your assigned muster area to be accounted for and one able person will stay with the disabled person(s) until the emergency is over. Each facility should have a muster area located at least 100 feet away from the building used to account for the attendees. Do not re-enter buildings until the building has been cleared for re-entry by emergency officers only and nobody else.



Because of the wide variety of facility layouts, it is important that when the UAA representative arrives at a new location, they familiarize themselves with the procedures for that work site. UAA will supply in their meeting kits a layout of the hotel and a hotel contact to whom can be connected with once on site.

The key elements of this planning effort need to include awareness, risk assessment, and communication for the given situation at hand. This will include reviewing the following protocols based on location:

- How to properly dial 911 (Emergency assistance may be reached by calling 911. In some facilities, dialing 9-911 is required.)
- Review location address and name of site or building
- AED location
- Emergency Exit locations
- Muster spots for inclement weather and fire
- Active shooter awareness
- High altitude adjustment and what to do

It is not limited to, but includes the following UAA events:

1. Conferences, Summits, Regional or Safety Summit meeting attendance
2. Riding on a UAA supplied Charter Bus
3. UAA Supplied offsite field tours

Any one person/company attending a Utility Arborist Association (UAA) is responsible for providing the appropriate insurance coverage for any damages or injuries that may or can result at a meeting site such as injury from equipment, motor vehicle accident, assault by a motorist or active shooter, animal/insect bites/stings, physical/mental injury, tornadoes, hurricanes, fire or other natural disasters.

This encompasses and includes but is not limited to all UAA events which can be offsite field events, live equipment demonstrations, hotel conferences, meetings, or summits.

By purchasing an event ticket for the UAA, you the attendee agrees to follow all safety protocols and procedures reviewed and put in place to keep yourself, and others safe. You take full responsibility for your actions and the Utility Arborist Association is not responsible in any way, physically or finically for any injuries, be them physical or mental, that may occur while attending one of the Utility Arborist Associations events.