

WINTER SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE THURSDAY, JANUARY 25TH

8:00-8:30am	Registration/Continental Breakfast/Exhibits	Kay's Pier North
8:30-9:30am	Employee Retention Credit Christine DiMenna, CliftonLarsonAllen This session will address the definition of an eligible employer and options to explore if you no longer believe you are eligible for the employee retention credit.	Glass Room
8:30-9:30am	Drive Sales of Native Plants Through Understanding Consumer Perceptions Ariana P Torres, Ph.D., Purdue University, Agricultural Economics, Horticulture This presentations will cover the consumers' perceptions towards native plants. She will also provide the most important factors influencing purchasing of natives, including pollinators' preferences and perceptions regarding sustainability.	Kay's Pier South 3A, 3D
9:30-10:30am	Safeguarding Lives: Empowering Individuals with Fundamental Personal Safety Knowledge and Enhanced Situational Awareness Chris Marciano, Prepare to Act	Kay's Pier South
9:30-10:30am	Emerging Ornamental Plant Pests for Nursery Plants/Landscapes Tim Abbey, Penn State Extension This presentation will discuss key insect and disease problems that are growing concerns for ornamental plant pests. Some are not new, such as needle cast diseases of needled evergreens, while others are increasing their distribution in the United States, such as crape myrtle bark scale. Identification, biology, damage symptoms and management options will be discussed.	Glass Room PA, 1A, 3A, 3D
10:30-11:15am	Exhibitor Break	Kay's Pier North
11:15-12:15pm	Empowering Change: The Electrification of Tools and Technologies Jay Trottier, Madison Earth Care Services, Bill Palmer, CANP, Sam Bridge Nursery & Greenhouses, Steve Bousquet, American Landscape Services This panel discussion will cover changes and challenges associated with electric tools.	Kay's Pier South
11:15-12:15pm	The Hidden Invaders: Unveiling Box Tree Moth and Other Wood-Damaging Pests Victoria Lynn Smith, Ph.D., CT Agricultural Experiment Station Spotted lanternfly (SLF) has been present in CT since 2020, and is rapidly becoming a nuisance for both homeowners and agricultural producers. Box tree moth (BTM) is a serious threat to the production of boxwood, a vital component of the CT nursery industry. Learn how to recognize, manage, and control these pests.	Glass Room PA, 1A, 3A, 3D
12:15-1:30pm	Lunch	Kay's Pier North
1:30-2:30pm	Cool Tools, Apps, and Other Neat Things Bob Islieb, RLI Electric, Dustyn Nelson, CANP, Frank's Landscape Construction, LLC, Chris Valley, CANP, Prides Corner Farms, Inc. Sit in on this panel discussion where Bob, Dustyn, and Chris discuss their favorite apps and technology that help make their jobs easier.	Kay's Pier South
2:30-3:30pm	Plants I Would Plant Chris Valley CANP, Prides Corner Farms, Inc. Chris talks about what plants he would use if he was making selections for his own garden or landscape.	Kay's Pier South
:30pm-3:30pm	Pesticide Safety Srikanth Kodati, UCONN Extension The pesticide label is the main method of communication between a pesticide manufacturer and pesticide users. Pesticide labels provide critical information about how to handle and use pesticide products safely and legally. Unlike most other types of product labels, pesticide labels are legally enforceable. This presentation on how to read pesticide product label explains what information is on a pesticide product label including how to use pesticide products, how much to use, and where to use them. Following these instructions promotes the product's effectiveness and safe use.	Glass Room