

Knoxville Tree Board Monthly Article

Hello from the treetops!

My name is Lee Rumble, your local Knox County Extension Agent and ISA Certified Arborist. I am a broadly trained biologist with a background in plant science and public education. For the past 23-years I am proud to say that I have focused on the care and management of woody ornamentals and trees in urban environments. My role specifically here in Knox County is to serve our Commercial Horticulture segment (i.e., commercial landscapers, arborists, and nursery growers), but I also work regularly with residential clientele as well—primarily in topics pertaining to arboriculture.

I joined the City of Knoxville Tree Board in 2020 (as an ex-officio member) and have attended regular monthly meetings since then. I am proud to work with such a collaborative group of tree stewards here in Knoxville. I know we all have a common goal to better our urban canopy and to provide education and outreach. As an Extension Agent, I help to disseminate research-based information that is useful to the public. Through the numerous partnerships within the City of Knoxville Tree Board itself, we are better able to leverage our collective efforts, not only for the benefit of Knoxville's trees, but also its residents!

With our recent freeze event on December 22-23, 2023, I thought I might share a new publication to help you best determine how to handle this holiday freeze event. In just a matter of hours, our temperatures plummeted by nearly 40* here in Knoxville, and surprisingly, these frigid temperatures remained below 15* for another 32 hours! This certainly caught many of our landscape plants by surprise...

Read more about this freeze event here!

<https://westtn.tennessee.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2023/01/Handling-the-Holiday-Freeze-in-Your-Lawn-Landscape.pdf>

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