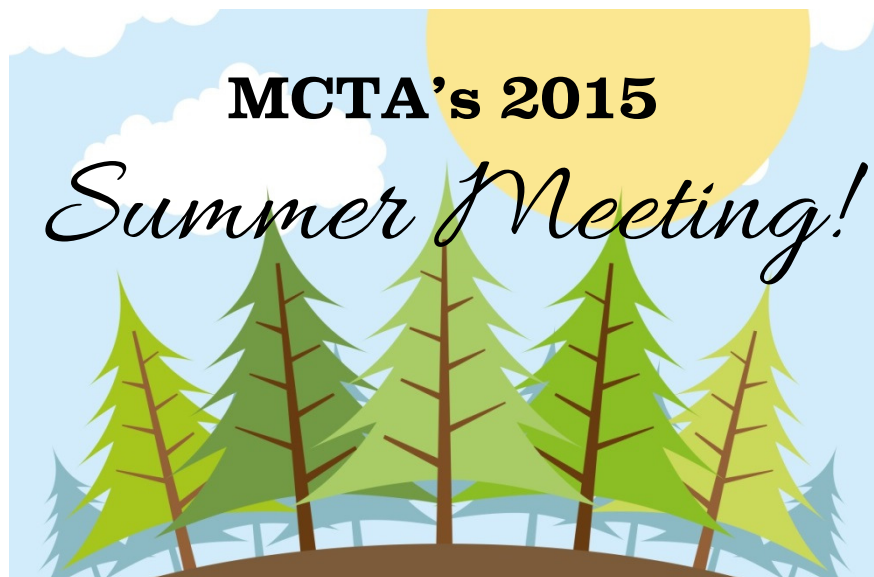




Thursday, Aug 6- Friday, Aug 7

## Getty Tree Farm

4585 N Blodgett Rd., Manton, MI 49663

### Schedule

#### Thursday, Aug 6

7:30 am – Registration and Exhibits Open,

Continental Breakfast

7:30 – 9 am – Christmas Tree Contest Check-In\*

9:15 am – Welcome

9:30 am - **Minimizing Bird Damage to Leaders** –

Catherine, Lindell, Associate Professor, MSU Department of Zoology

Each year broken treetops caused by birds perching on newly developed shoots can either add additional cost to retrain the tops, delaying harvest or reduce the quality of the tree. Dr. Lindell through a USDA grant has been working on the development of techniques to deter birds from orchards and vineyards. She will highlight her research and ways you can attract kestrels and other birds of prey.

**Assessing Soil Health** – Christina Curell and Paul Gross, MSU Extension

*Soil health* or *soil quality* are terms that we hear or read about lately. Christina and Paul will discuss what it means to have a healthy soil, ways to assess the soils on your farm and management strategies to make improvements.

**Understanding Mycorrhizae** – Bert Cregg, Associate Professor, MSU Department of Horticulture and Forestry

Mycorrhiza are a beneficial association between a fungi and plant roots. Dr. Cregg will review the role and benefits that mycorrhiza play in conifer growth.

12:00 noon – Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 pm Field Tours:

#### **Getty Tree Farm- Home Farm**

On the home farm participants will view Fraser fir, Douglas-fir and Scotch pine. Tour stops will include an irrigation study on coning, potential new herbicide option, and a “hands- on” stop with tools to evaluate soil health.

#### **Getty Tree Farm- Bridson Farm**

On this tour participants will see Douglas -fir, Concolor fir and Scotch pine along with several species of spruce. There will also be a discussion of current pest problems and a growth regulator trial on spruce. (Attendees will select one tour – these tours will be repeated on Friday morning)

3:45 – 4:30 pm Quick Tours:

**Hops** – Join David Judah and Erin Lizotte for a tour of a hop yard and brief overview of the re-emerging hop industry in Michigan.

**Pesticide Storage** – View a new pesticide storage facility at Dutchman Tree Farm that is designed to improve storage, handling and disposal practices that enhance worker safety and minimize the risks of contamination. Learn about possible cost-sharing opportunities.

**Coning Trial** – Brent Crain and Bert Cregg will lead a tour and discussion of a four-year study that evaluated the effects of plant growth regulators (PGR) and fertilizer (gypsum) treatments on coning and height control in Fraser fir.

4:30 pm – Reception with Vendors

6:00 pm – Dinner and Hall of Fame Award

## Friday, Aug 7

7:30 am – Registration and Exhibits Open,

Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – Presentation: **Christmas Tree**

**Promotion Board** – Rex Korson and Chris Maciborski

9:30 am – Field Tours:

**Getty Tree Farm- Home Farm**

**Getty Tree Farm- Bridson Farm**

(Attendees will select one tour – repeated from Thursday)

12:15 pm – Lunch

1:30 pm – Program Concludes, Depart for Golf

### Join Us for the 2015 Golf Outing

### Missaukee Golf Club

Nine Holes of Golf with Cart,  
Refreshments, Prizes

**Tee Times Starting  
at 2:30 pm  
\$25 per golfer**

Preview the course at:  
[www.missaukeegolfclub.com](http://www.missaukeegolfclub.com)



## Special Sessions

### Social Media Training

Thursday, 8- 11:30 am

At Baker College in Cadillac.

Adrienne Wallace of 834 Design will lead this hands-on session where participants will learn tips for success using a variety of social media platforms, including Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter and more! Learn how to increase business for your farm using these tools and by tying into MCTA's 2015 Social Media Campaign. *Please bring your laptop or tablet. A limited number of computers will be available.*

### Design Demonstrations

Friday, 10:00 am – Robert Jeske of Santa's Wholesale Supply will share design ideas in the vendor tent.

11:00 am – Garland and Wreath design demo with Northwoods Evergreen in the vendor tent.

## Hotel Accommodations

### The Hampton Inn

1650 S. Mitchell St., Cadillac, MI

231.779.2900

\$109 – Standard Room

*Please mention MCTA to receive this  
discounted rate.*

***Early reservations are recommended!***  
*This is a busy weekend in the  
Cadillac area!*

### \*2015 Christmas Tree Contest

Due to the change to a biennial contest by the National Christmas Tree Association, the MCTA board has moved the contest to select NCTA qualifiers to 2016. This year's MCTA Christmas tree & wreath contest winners will be eligible to provide the Governor's residence tree and wreath in 2015. There will be no change in categories or qualifications (ie: size, species, etc.) however there will be no professional judging this year and winner will be selected by popular vote of attendees. For more details, please visit the MCTA website.