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December 16, 2008

Richard A. Johnstone, President  
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Dear Rick,

Thank you for agreeing to partner with the Utility Arborist Association (UAA) on regional meetings. As you know, the UAA believes that our regional meetings have been an excellent way to educate utility arborists who do not have the means or the time to attend larger and more costly meetings.

The regional meetings have provided a cost effective means to get the appropriate education and training in front of the people in the field including actual foreman and field supervisors. Our goal is to provide 1 to 2 day meetings with the latest information on utility arboriculture and integrated vegetation management (IVM) techniques to the professionals who actually utilize them in the field in a cost effective and convenient manner.

The meetings where we can provide classroom sessions with experts and then provide hands on application and observations on the right way have been especially successful. The UAA firmly support the IVM standards and best management practices. We also believe that our role is to provide educational and training opportunities to help implement these practices.

We appreciate any opportunity that we have to align with other organizations to expand our reach and help us achieve our goals for utilization of the IVM standard and best management practices. We look forward to working with you on an ongoing basis.

Best Regards,

Derek Vannice  
UAA Executive Director

CC: UAA Executive Committee