



**CHICAGO
REGION
TREES
INITIATIVE**

Our Trees.
Our Communities.
Our Future.

Green Infrastructure Maintenance Training

Emily Okallau

Training & Maintenance Workgroup



Why This Training?

GI needs to be maintained / managed

The green industry has a lot of job openings and not enough people.

GI requires a unique type of knowledge



Target Attendee

- Not familiar with green infrastructure / native landscaping
- Likely not familiar with any type of landscaping / outdoor work
- Not ready for green infrastructure certification
- May be returning to the workforce / have some barriers



Workshop Format

- Free & a free lunch
- At South Suburban College
- 9am – 5pm on Tuesday, 3/10
- Not just GI skills



Workshop Format: Instructors

- Jeff Edstrom, IDNR
- Bob Newport, OAI
- Alexia Paul, Re-Ecology LTD
- John Watson, MWRD
- Mike Glester, Cardno
- Heidi Leuszler, Parkland College
- Emily / Trinity, CRTI
- Kara, OAI
- Shelley Williams, OAI

Workshop Format: Topics Include



- Intro to Stormwater and GI
- Soil
- Planning GI Systems
- A Day on the Job
- Trees
- GI Plants
- Green Infrastructure Maintenance
- Safety Overview
- Resource / Career Fair

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Workshop Format: Further Components

- Case studies
- Hands-on learning
- Quizzes / assessments
- Networking
- Potential connection to ILCA



Current Status

- 10 people registered
- Challenge: our networks don't reflect the target attendees



Conclusion

Trees are people too.

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