

Arboguard Tree Specialists complete tree preservation work for Atlanta Botanical Garden's Canopy Walk

Arboguard Tree Specialists has completed its work as lead Arborist during the construction phase of the Canopy Walk at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. The walk opened to the public May 1st.

Spence Rosenfeld, Arboguard President, commented, "This is the most extraordinary and innovative tree protection and preservation project we've undertaken in our 30 year history. We worked with Garden Management, architects, and contractors for over two years to protect these trees, some of which are native southern specimens over 100 years old."



Arboguard's tree preservation work in progress

"Like Arboguard, we know an important part of the experience at the Garden is the beauty of the native trees that were here long before we were", added Mary Pat Matheson, the Garden's Executive Director.

www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org.

On the Canopy Walk, visitors to the Atlanta Botanical Garden can now tour one of the city's last remaining urban forests--From 40 feet in the Air! The Result: A bird's-eye view of the beauty of the woodland below.

Extending 600 feet from a bluff into the branches of oaks, hickories and poplars, the unique reverse suspension bridge is considered the only tree canopy-level walkway of its kind in the United States.

Said Rosenfeld, "It's important to remember that in our busy urban world, we live among trees. This Walk helps serve as a reminder of why we need to live responsibly and keep them safe, healthy, and beautiful. The Canopy Walk is an example of environmentally sensitive construction. As you can imagine, it's incredibly difficult to build something like this in the middle of the woods."

Examples of steps that were taken to avoid damage to the trees:

- ▶ All impact to trees, roots, and the soil ecosystem was controlled and minimized to avoid damage or disturbance.
- ▶ Critical root zones were mapped, and access and installations were designed to protect roots and soil.
- ▶ Equipment was contained to temporary access roads built from suspended timbers and protective weight dispersion mats.
- ▶ Walkways are suspended over root zones using piers and anchors, or a technique called "root bridging" that uses expanded slate and geo-textile fabric to prevent soil compaction.
- ▶ Trenching for utilities was replaced by "Air Spade excavation" to blow soil away from roots and thread lines beneath them without damage.
- ▶ Hundreds of tons of steel and concrete were required. Through careful planning, design, and construction, this structure shows how we can build while working to protect nature and trees. It all starts with a simple commitment and understanding that much of what we don't see, the roots, must be protected from activities that cut, fill, or compact delicate soils.
- ▶ Rosenfeld stated, "If we take care of trees, they will take care of us, and make the world a better place for ourselves and for future generations."

About Arboguard Tree Specialists: Headquartered in Avondale Estates (Atlanta) Georgia, Arboguard Tree Specialists is the largest independently owned and operated tree Care Company in the southeast US.

Since 1981, Arboguard has been the consistent leader and innovator in natural tree care, preservation, and beautification. They have done so through knowledge, technology, commitment, consistent service excellence and understanding the critical role of trees in improving the quality of where we live, where we work, and where we play.



Arboguard Tree Specialists, Inc.

P.O. Box 477

Avondale Estates, GA 30002

Phone: 404-299-5555

Fax: 404-294-0090

Contact: Spence Rosenfeld, President

www.arboguard.com