

ARBNET ARBORETUM ACCREDITATION APPLICATION FORM

The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program provides standards and guidelines for the establishment and development of an arboretum. The goals of the accreditation program are to:

- 1) foster the establishment and professionalism of arboreta;
- 2) identify arboreta capable of participating or collaborating in certain scientific, collections, or conservation activities; and
- 3) advance the planting, study, and conservation of trees to improve the world.

Arboreta that are accredited are encouraged to become leaders and serve as models to promote professional development and engagement with other arboreta.

Different levels of accreditation have been established to recognize arboreta at varying degrees of development, capacity, and professionalism. Accredited arboreta are encouraged to continue their growth and development to achieve higher professional standards.

Arboreta and public gardens are eligible to apply for accreditation by submitting this form along with supporting documentation to demonstrate their level of achievement according to the specified standards. Once the application is completed, a decision will usually be made within four weeks. A site visit by an ArbNet representative may be required as part of the accreditation process.

The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program is sponsored and supported by The Morton Arboretum, Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), and the American Public Gardens Association (APGA).

Arboreta and public gardens completing an application for ArbNet Accreditation Level III or Level IV are able to provide additional information to be considered for BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation: https://www.bgci.org/our-work/services-for-botanic-garden-accreditation/.

For more information regarding specific accreditation requirements:

Visit: arbnet.org/accreditation

Call: 630-310-7013

Email: arbnet@mortonarb.org

Please submit your completed application via email:

Email: arbnet@mortonarb.org



ARBORETUM:

Myrick Park Arboretum Name of Arboretum: Address or PO Box: 2000 La Crosse St Mailing Address: 400 la Crosse St City: La Crosse State/Province: Wisconsin Country: U.S.A. 54601 ZIP/Postal Code: (43.82, -90.23)Latitude and Longitude: Acres: Roughly 2 URL: N/A

ARBORETUM CONTACT (FOR ARBNET PURPOSES):

Name:
Leah Miller

Title:
Parks, Forestry, and Natural Resource Manager

Email:
millerle@cityoflacrosse.org

Phone:
608-789-8672

INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING APPLICATION (IF NOT ARBORETUM CONTACT):

Name: Same As Above

Title: Email: Phone:

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

Please check all that apply:

Arboretum X	Historical Site		Nonprofit
Garden	Museum		City Park X
College	Cemetery		Town
University	Business		City X
Z00	Golf Course		Community
Other:		•	

AUTHORIZATION AND VERIFICATION

The chairperson or leader of the applicant arboretum's governing board, organizational group, or authority (corresponding to Section I. below) must approve this application, specifically verifying the accuracy and authenticity of the information it contains. <u>Approval is indicated by placement below of this individual's name</u>, title or role at arboretum, and contact information.

Authorizing/Verifying Governance Leader (other than individual submitting application):

Name:
Title: President of Common Council and Board of Park Commissioners
Email:
Phone:

ARBORETUM ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Accreditation standards are outlined on the website, **arbnet.org/accreditation**, and described in each of the following application sections. Please indicate which of the following standards have been met by the applicant and provide the information requested. Fulfillment of these standards is self-determined by the applicant.

Arboretum accreditation level sought (check one): _X_LEVEL ILEVEL IILEVEL IIILEVEL IV	
BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation sought (if Level III or Level IV checked above) : Yes No	
	••

FOUR LEVELS OF ACCREDITATION

Please use this chart as a reference. The levels of accreditation recognize arboreta with different degrees of development, capacity, and professionalism.

	JEWEL'	JEYEL II	IEVEL III	EVELTY
Arboretum plan	•	•	•	•
Organizational or governance group	•	•	•	-
Labeled tree and woody plant taxa				
25+	•			
100+		•		
500+			•	•
Staff or volunteer support				
Volunteer or paid	•			
Paid management		•	•	•
Curator			•	•
Scientific or conservation staff				•
Public dimension				
Public access and at least one event per year	•	•		•
Enhanced public and educational programs		•	•	•
Substantial educational programming			•	•
Collections policy		•	•	•
Collaboration with other arboreta			•	•
Collections data sharing with networked collections			٠	•
Agenda for tree science, planting, and conservation			•	•
Collections conservation				•
Conservation role in Global Trees Campaign				•

1. GENERAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS (ALL LEVELS)

a. Arboretum Plan

Documentation such as an organizational plan, strategic plan, master plan, or other, that defines the purpose of the arboretum, its audience(s), the types of plants that are to be grown to achieve that purpose and serve those audiences, provisions for the maintenance and care of the plants, and provisions for the continuing operation of the organization through time with a clear succession plan. Sample organizational plans can be found here on ArbNet.

Provide a brief description or outline of the type and scope of the plan for your arboretum. Attach the Master Plan document if possible.

Please see attached.

b. Organizational or Governance Group

A governing board, group of people, or authority that is dedicated to the arboretum plan and its continuation beyond the efforts of a single individual. Such an organizational/governance group will affirm fulfillment of standards and authorize participation as an accredited arboretum.

Describe the nature of your governance board or authority and the number and type of individuals involved. Attach any relevant documents or policies relating to the Governance Group.

The creation of the Arboretum will be overseen and governed by the City of La Crosse Parks Board. This board is made up of two council members, and seven community members. Maintenace, planting, and upkeep of the arboretum will be delegated to the City's Forestry Division. The department has three full-time arborists (two certified) on staff. The arborist's perform tree pruning in accordance to ISA and ANSI 300 standards.

c. Arboretum Collection

The number of tree and woody plant species being grown in accordance with the arboretum plan. Plants in the arboretum's collection must be labeled in some way to identify them taxonomically, including scientific name and cultivar if applicable, and documented in some way so that information on their acquisition (source or origin, date of acquisition, etc.) is available for access. Minimum numbers are:

25+ Species (Level I) 100+ Species (Level II) 500+ Species (Levels III and IV)

Indicate the number of trees/woody plant species in the collection and describe the method for labeling and documenting the plants. Provide the link to your collections database and indicate if it is shared in a searchable, open-access database, such as BGCI PlantSearch (http://www.bgci.org/plant_search.php). If your collection species list is not shared or accessible online, please attach the list with your application.

Trees are labelled by their common and scientific names by a plaque/marker (refer to photos for example). The trees in the collection are recorded in our tree inventory; these data points can be viewed by following this link: <u>La Crosse, WI (pg-cloud.com)</u>. Attached is a spreadsheet showing the specific trees in the collection. <u>Is this available to the public?</u>

List any special taxonomic, geographic, ecological, or conservation collections of note (e.g. oaks; Acer; dwarf conifers; halophytes; woody plants of Madagascar; etc.):

Botanical Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is an international organization with a mission to ensure the conservation of threatened plants worldwide. Its global database provides information on the plants kept in living collections around the world. Your data will help conservationists, policy makers and planners, educators, and others working to save plant diversity—and can help measure the threatened plants safely in cultivation somewhere in the world. The location of your plants is kept hidden from Plant Search users so you will not face any security issues regarding rare or valuable plants.



SHARE YOUR DATA

To share your collections database with BGCI, visit: https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/plantsearch-upload-instructions/.

Detailed instructions are provided.

d. Arboretum Staff or Volunteer Support

i. Level I

Employees or volunteers who ensure fulfillment of the arboretum plan and provide for the basic needs of the arboretum collection and functions of the arboretum.

Describe the scope of staff or volunteers engaged in or supporting the work of the arboretum.

The City employs a team of three full-time arborists that will maintain the arboretum. Annual structural, raising, and deadwood pruning will be conducted during the dormant season. The arborist's perform tree pruning in accordance to ISA and ANSI 300 standards. Any volunteer-based activities will be overseen by the Parks/Forestry department.

ii. <u>Levels II, III, & IV</u>

One or more paid arboretum employees who have job responsibilities that specifically include management or operation of the arboretum in fulfillment of the arboretum plan.

Describe the staff responsible for management or operations of the arboretum, including staff dedicated to educational programming for Levels III & IV.

iii. Levels III & IV

A dedicated curator, or curator-equivalent employee, who is focused on the care and development of the arboretum collection, in accordance with the arboretum plan and collections policy.

Provide the name and job title of the curator or curator-equivalent employee.

e. Arboretum Public Dimension

A public dimension that includes some level of public access, and at least one public event or educational program each year focused on trees, forest ecology, or arboretum purposes (for example, an Arbor Day observance).

Describe how the arboretum is open or accessible to the public, and name and describe the public events or programs offered.

The Arboretum is housed in a public park, that is completely accessible to the public. The department hosts an annual Arbor Day event at this park. the arboretum is near a major University, elementary school and a nature center non-profit; both of these entities could use the arboretum for educational purposes.

2. COLLECTIONS AND EDUCATION (REQUIRED FOR LEVELS II, III, AND IV)

a. Arboretum Collections Policy

A collections policy describes the purpose, development, and professional management of the plants in the arboretum collection, in accordance with standards developed in the public garden and museum fields. Such a policy and related practices includes a rationale for holding the particular collections of the arboretum, collections inventory, and record-keeping practices. Examples are available on the <u>ArbNet website</u>.

Describe and outline the elements of the collections policy and attach the document if possible.

b. Enhanced Educational and Public Programming

Enhanced or substantial educational and public programming beyond the basic level required for Level I accreditation. Programs must be related to trees (e.g. tree identification, forest ecology, conservation, collections, or some other tree-focused aspect of the arboretum mission or master plan).

i. Level II Enhanced Education Program

Describe the educational and public programs offered by the arboretum. Include evidence of at least two outcome-based education programs (e.g. provide program description, syllabus, hand-outs, worksheets, tour script, tour map, etc.).

ii. Levels III and IV Substantial Education Program

A substantial program of education related to trees, woody plants, forest ecology, conservation, and other related topics. Provide a description of your overarching program plan including your education program strategy, number of outcome-based education programs, and explain how they are evaluated.

3. REQUIRED FOR LEVEL III ONLY

Please complete if you are interested in acquiring a Level III accreditation. If you are interested in a Level IV accreditation, please skip this section and complete only the Level IV section below.

a. Collaboration

A professional capability to collaborate in some way with other arboreta or relevant organizations (e.g. public gardens, universities, local government, NGOs, student groups, etc.), preferably with evidence of existing collaboration. Examples of collaborations may include plant evaluations, research projects, *in situ* or *ex situ* conservation projects, educational programs, exhibits, public events, interpretation, collecting expeditions, plant exchanges, professional meetings, and co-authoring scientific research papers.

Provide examples of existing collaborations with other arboreta and related organizations. Please describe your capacity to collaborate.

Please indicate whether you are a member of the following professional organizations or indicate other professional socie	eties
in which you participate.	
BGCI Botanic Gardens Conservation International (bgci.org)	
APGA American Public Gardens Association (publicgardens.org/why-join-association)	
Plant Collections Network (publicgardens.org/programs/about-plant-collections-network)	
Other:	

b. Collections Data Sharing

Sharing of plant collections data with networked collections databases, such as BGCI's PlantSearch Database (https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/plantsearch-upload-instructions/).

Describe how the arboretum shares its plant collections data with one or more networked collections databases.

c. Tree Science, Planting, and Conservation

An active agenda related to tree science, forest ecology, strategic planting, or conservation. This agenda should include direct research or the facilitation of scientific activities beyond public educational activities, in which data are acquired to solve problems in tree science or tree conservation. Examples include conducting plant trials; habitat monitoring; detecting pests and diseases; hosting collections-based research projects; and conducting research in forest ecology, physiology, systematics, seed and tissue banking, horticulture and tree care. You may refer to the Global Trees Campaign addendum at the end of this application for examples of important tree conservation activities. The Global Trees Campaign (www.globaltrees.org) is the only international conservation program dedicated to saving the world's threatened tree species.

Describe the arboretum's activities related to tree science, planting, and/or conservation. Include a list of relevant references, reports, or peer-reviewed journal articles.

4. REQUIRED FOR LEVEL IV

a. Collaboration

A professional capability to collaborate in some way with other arboreta or relevant organizations (e.g. public gardens, universities, local government, NGOs, student groups, etc.), preferably with evidence of existing collaboration. Examples of collaborations may include plant evaluations, research projects, *in situ* or *ex situ* conservation projects, educational programs, exhibits, public events, interpretation, collecting expeditions, plant exchanges, professional meetings, and co-authoring scientific research papers.

Provide examples of existing collaborations with other arboreta and related organizations. Please describe your capacity to collaborate.	
F7.	
Please indicate whether you participate in the following professional organizations or indicate other professional societic in which you are a member. BGCI Botanic Gardens Conservation International (bgci.org) APGA American Public Gardens Association (publicgardens.org/why-join-association) Plant Collections Network (publicgardens.org/programs/about-plant-collections-network) Other:	?S
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b. Collections Data Sharing

Sharing of plant collections data with networked collections databases, such as BGCI's PlantSearch Database (www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/plantsearch-upload-instructions/).

Describe how the arboretum shares its plant collections data with one or more networked collections databases.

c. Collections Conservation

Institutional capacity, stability, and commitment to hold and safeguard plants of collections or conservation value on behalf of the collective interests of the profession.

Confirm and describe the arboretum's capacity and readiness to hold and safeguard plants of collections or conservation value. Describe specific collections of value and interest (i.e. endangered species) and include the percentage of wild-collected accessions in your collections as applicable.

d. Scientific or Conservation Staff and Capability for Collaboration

A scientific and/or conservation staff and capability to collaborate on scientific or conservation activities with other arboreta or organizations related to trees. An active agenda related to tree science, forest ecology, strategic planting, or conservation. This agenda should include direct research or the facilitation of scientific activities beyond public educational activities, in which data are acquired to solve problems in tree science or tree conservation. Examples include conducting plant trials; habitat monitoring; detecting pests and diseases; hosting collections-based research projects; and conducting scientific research in forest ecology, physiology, systematics, seed and tissue banking, horticulture or tree care.

Describe the scientific and/or conservation staff, and the arboretum's capability to collaborate on sophisticated scientific or conservation activities. Include areas of research and a list of relevant publications.

e. Conservation Role in Global Trees Campaign

Specific consideration of a conservation role linked to supporting the mission of the Global Trees Campaign (GTC, globaltrees.org). Administered by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) and Fauna & Flora International (FFI), The Global Trees Campaign (www.globaltrees.org) is the only international conservation program dedicated to saving the world's threatened tree species. Visit the GTC website to see learn more about their mission and the types of projects they support.

To satisfy Level IV accreditation requirements, please complete the attached **Global Trees Campaign Addendum** at the end of this application in addition to filling out the written narrative here.

Describe how the arboretum is or intends to engage in conservation efforts related to the Global Trees Campaign and highlight your key programs or initiatives that aim to support in situ conservation of globally threatened tree species. Please list the species you are working with and explicitly state how your efforts contribute to the in situ conservation outcome for that species.

f. Other Scientific or Conservation Collaboration

Please provide other information related to science and conservation activities that you would like to share.

Provide additional examples of the arboretum's existing collaborative scientific or conservation activities related to trees (i.e. habitat management) and identify any opportunities for future collaboration.

Optional Accreditation Comments or Explanations:

GLOBAL TREES CAMPAIGN ADDENDUM (REQUIRED FOR LEVEL IV ACCREDITATION):

The following list includes activities that support the mission of the Global Trees Campaign (www.globaltrees.org). Please check all activities that your arboretum participates in and then provide a brief description of those checked activities in section 4 e:

Formal participation in a conservation project affiliated with the Global Trees Campaign (GTC)
Project Title:
Member or supporter of the Ecological Restoration Alliance of Botanic Gardens (www.erabg.org)
Host a GTC exhibition or provide GTC educational content (e.g. Vanishing Acts, Care for the Rare tree interpretation, etc.)
Carry out education/awareness raising among your visitors for threatened trees
Promote GTC through your networks, conferences, presentations, social media, and arboretum website
Provide training workshops at your institution on threatened tree conservation (not direct GTC involvement)
Host GTC conference, training workshop or related meeting (e.g. IUCN Global Tree Specialist Group meeting)
Contribute content, expertise, or other support to a GTC training workshop, brief, manual, or report
Support an employee to work for the GTC (part time or full time)
Support an employee who is a member of the IUCN Global Tree Specialist Group
Develop protocols for propagation of threatened tree germplasm
Share threatened tree germplasm/material with other institutions
Host a native or threatened tree nursery
Undertake planting trials for threatened trees
Conduct conservation genetics research on in situ populations and/or ex situ collections of threatened tree species
Threatened trees included in your collection
Threatened trees included in your collection with interpretation aimed at conservation awareness
Engage in or support <i>in situ</i> habitat restoration or habitat protection in support of priority threatened tree species (e.g. invasive species removal, land protection, reforestation, facilitating sustainable management planning)
Engage in or support <i>in situ</i> conservation of threatened tree species in the wild (e.g. population monitoring/surveys, reintroduction of seeds/seedlings, assisted migration)
Provide support to other arboreta to improve their capacity to participate in threatened tree conservation activities (e.g. provide training, financial support, mentorship, threatened tree germplasm/seeds, etc.)
Lead red listing initiative for trees within a taxonomic group or region
Contribute to BGCI led red listing for trees
Provide direct support to GTC (financial support, publishing/design support or expertise, other operational expertise, etc.)
OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT LISTED THAT SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE GTC:

BGCI BOTANIC GARDEN ACCREDITATION CONSERVATION ADDENDUM

(Required for **Level III** and **Level IV** applicants wishing to be considered for BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation):

In order to achieve BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation, your institute must have a minimum of three of the following activities focused on plant conservation.

Please check all activities that your arboretum participates in and then provide a brief description of those checked activities and evidence for these activities below.

Examples of plant conservation activities can be found at: https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/accreditation-examples-ex-situ-conservation-activities/

Engagement with local or national policy makers on the development of National Biodiversity Strategies & Action Plans, or equivalents
Contribute to international plant conservation policy (e.g. the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, CBD etc.)
Public displays with a conservation or environmental message
Public events designed to raise awareness of plant conservation and environment
Training courses on plant conservation attended by staff
Training courses on plant conservation policy, practice or communication offered, including at school student, undergraduate and postgraduate levels; fellowships
School programmes with plant conservation/environmental education component
Conservation volunteer programme in place
IUCN red listing or conservation assessments compiled at local, national or global levels
Publication of plant conservation, environmental, traditional knowledge research for policymakers, researchers, or the general public
Support staff with formal affiliation with BGCI, IUCN SSC specialist groups, or other conservation organisation
Horticultural trials carried out on native or threatened taxa
Propagation and germination studies carried out on native or threatened taxa
Publications on wild (non-domesticated) plant diversity
Wild species seed conservation
Wild species propagation
Exchange or supply of wild species material with other conservation practitioners or gardens
Field gene banks or ex situ collections managed for conservation purposes
Native species areas or gardens part of the living collection display
Restored and managed natural areas within garden
Conservation collections policy implemented
Plant health collections policy implemented
Invasive species policy implemented
Collections sourced and exchanged in full compliance with the Nagoya Protocol, the Cartagena Protocol and CITES
Gardens registered as national CITES rescue centres / refuges / training centres
Other conservation activities not listed above
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Provide a brief description of each activity checked above below and provide evidence that these activities are ongoing or completed within the last year.

BGCI BOTANIC GARDEN ACCREDITATION SUSTAINABILITY ADDENDUM (Required for **Level III** and **Level IV** applicants wishing to be considered for BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation):

In order to achieve BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation, your institute must have a minimum of two of the following activities focused on sustainability or ethical activities.

Please check all activities that your arboretum participates in and then provide a brief description of those checked activities and evidence for these activities below.

Examples of sustainability or ethical activities can be found at: https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-tools-and-resources/accreditation-examples-sustainability-and-ethical-activities/

Sustainability plan/documentation
Waste reduction, recycling schemes, or composting in place and on display to the public with appropriate interpretation
Renewable energy constitutes a proportion of the garden's energy portfolio and energy conservation measures being implemented
Water saving or recycling schemes in place
ISO14001 or other recognised sustainability accreditation gained
Responsible sourcing of commodities and products sold in retail outlets
Responsible sourcing of materials and plants used by the organisation
Ethical funding policy in place
Leadership commitment to staff and visitor diversity and inclusion
Ecological sustainability in landscape management (e.g. fertiliser use, pesticide application, etc)
Other sustainability or ethical activities not listed above

Provide a brief description of each activity checked above below and provide evidence that these activities are ongoing or completed within the last year.

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SUBMIT APPLICATION

Please attach at least two photos of your arboretum (high resolution JPEG format in landscape orientation) with your application for use in the accreditation press release and on the ArbNet website.

For more information regarding specific accreditation requirements:

Visit: arbnet.org/accreditation

Call: 630-310-7013

Email: arbnet@mortonarb.org

Please submit your completed application via email:

Email: arbnet@mortonarb.org

Data Information:

In compliance with the 2018 EU "General Data Protection Regulations", ArbNet has to ensure that EU residents agree to ArbNet using your information provided for processing and evaluating your accreditation application. By instructing us to process your application, your data will be transferred outside of the European Economic Area to the United States, kept secure, and will not be shared with a third party. You have the right to revoke your consent at any time by contacting us at arbnet@mortonarb.org. If you chose to be reviewed for our reciprocal accreditation program with BGCI (BGCI Botanic Garden Accreditation), ArbNet will share your information with BGCI.

The uses of your information, dependent on the success of your accreditation application, are as follows:

If you are a successful applicant, any personal and institutional data you have provided will be kept by ArbNet for five years, the length of the accreditation period, so that we can contact you in relation to the set up and administration of your accreditation, to provide information useful to maintain and/or upgrade your accreditation (e.g., new resources, opportunities, etc.), and to provide information on the accreditation renewal process as you approach the five year limit of your accreditation. ArbNet will use the institutional data provided in your application to create a website listing in the Morton Register, and potentially to promote your institution on our website, in our newsletter, and through our social media channels.

If you are an unsuccessful applicant, the personal and institutional information you have provided will be kept by ArbNet for five years, so that we can contact you to help you achieve accreditation at a future date.

Data Consent:

x I want to be added to ArbNet's mailing list for quarterly newsletters and occasional informational updates.
x ArbNet may use the institutional information (not personal data) I provide for populating external datasets for the purpose of research on institutional capacities, networking, and strengthening the garden and arboretum community (e.g., BGCI
Garden Search)