

## FOUR LEVELS OF ACCREDITATION

Join the professional arboretum network

Different levels of accreditation recognize arboreta of various degrees of development, capacity, and professionalism.

|   | LEVEL I | LEVEL II | LEVEL III | LEVEL IV |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Arboretum plan                                      | ■       | ■        | ■         | ■        |
| Organizational or governance group                  | ■       | ■        | ■         | ■        |
| Labeled trees/woody plant species                   |         |          |           |          |
| 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                 |         |          | ■         | ■        |
| Participation in ArbNet                             | ■       | ■        | ■         | ■        |
| Collections policy                                  |         | ■        | ■         | ■        |
| Collaboration with other arboreta                   |         |          | ■         | ■        |
| Collections data sharing with networked collections |         |          | ■         | ■        |
| Agenda for tree science, planting, and conservation |         |          | ■         | ■        |
| Collections conservation                            |         |          |           | ■        |
| Conservation role in Global Trees Campaign          |         |          |           | ■        |



VISIT [ARBNET.ORG/ACCREDITATION](http://ARBNET.ORG/ACCREDITATION)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIFIC  
ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.

## AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK of tree-focused professionals

In addition to offering the Arboretum Accreditation Program, ArbNet is also an interactive community that supports information exchange and collaboration. Through [arbnet.org](http://arbnet.org), individuals can:

- Access helpful resources.
- Participate in online forum discussions.
- Read about arboretum-focused news.
- Identify other arboreta to collaborate with in scientific, collections, and conservation activities.
- Work collectively as part of a broad network to help advance the planting, care, and conservation of trees.



The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL



BECOME ACCREDITED.  
GET CONNECTED.

Strengthening the  
arboretum community

## BE RECOGNIZED AND LEAD THE WAY

The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program is designed to:

- Recognize standards of excellence in tree-focused gardens.
- Foster professionalism of arboreta worldwide.
- Enable collaboration in scientific, collections, and conservation activities.
- Advance the planting, study, and conservation of trees.



## ACCREDITATION

Strengthening the arboretum community



Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, U.K.



West Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bala Cynwyd, PA



Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens, Naples, FL

## ACCREDITATION PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Be recognized for achievement of specified levels of professional practice.
- Work toward higher levels of professional standards once accredited.
- Identify other organizations at similar or higher levels of accreditation to provide comparative benchmarks and models for further achievement.
- Earn distinction in your community, university, college, or government agency.
- Exert leadership and influence by serving as a model to encourage professional development in other organizations.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration with other arboreta in scientific, collections, or conservation activities.

## HOW TO BECOME ACCREDITED

- Complete the online application.
- The ArbNet staff reviews your application and makes a decision within two to four weeks.
- The decision is based on your self-assessment and documentation of your arboretum's level of achievement against accreditation standards.
- ArbNet staff may schedule future site visits.



VISIT [ARBNET.ORG](http://ARBNET.ORG) FOR  
HELPFUL RESOURCES  
AND TO JOIN THE ONLINE  
DISCUSSION FORUM.

## ABOUT ARBNET

ArbNet is sponsored and coordinated by The Morton Arboretum in cooperation with the American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International. ArbNet facilitates the exchange of information and the sharing of knowledge, experience, and other resources to help arboreta achieve their goals.

## LEARN MORE

 [ONLINE ARBNET.ORG](http://ONLINE.ARBNET.ORG)

 EMAIL [ARBNET@MORTONARB.ORG](mailto:ARBNET@MORTONARB.ORG)

 PHONE 630-310-7013

## MORTON REGISTER *of Arboreta*

The Morton Arboretum has compiled a global database of tree-focused public gardens that is the basis for the ArbNet collaborative network. The Morton Register ([arbnet.org/morton-register](http://arbnet.org/morton-register)) is a constantly growing list, identifying organizations that collect and display trees, shrubs, and other woody plants for the benefit of the public, science, and conservation. Any tree-focused organization can be included in the Register, regardless of size. Organizations listed in the Morton Register are strongly encouraged to become accredited through the ArbNet Accreditation Program. ArbNet-accredited arboreta are highlighted on the Morton Register website with the official ArbNet accreditation badge and a link to their dedicated profile web pages.