



Belgium artist Thomas Dambo, with BRC's Joe Daddona and Troy Allen

etc., teaching people how to build various things from their everyday trash.

Dambo's "Forest Giants" at Bernheim consists of three sculptures made of recycled and repurposed materials. His goal in creating these sculptures is to show that our trash can be useful and valuable.

The three sculptures showcased at Bernheim are a mother, daughter, and son. **Lou Mari**, one of the "Forest Giants," was made using Kentucky distillery bourbon barrel wood staves and some of the

repurposed wood donated from Louisville Slugger. Dambo also incorporated wood pallets into these creations, although we challenge anyone



to determine where he placed these pieces.

Bob Ray Co. was on hand in mid-March with a crew and equipment to help retrieve a downed Sycamore tree that will be used as the entrance to the exhibit. Sporting two main stems, we set it in the ground upside down to create a natural gateway. BRC's crew was able to gently extract this tree from the surrounding forest and place it on the Chip Trucking's lowboy, where the root ball was washed off to remove any dirt (the giant's "hair"). BRC then moved and "planted" it to where it has been sculpted and now on display.

"Forest Giants" is expected to remain on exhibition for the next three years and can be visited during Bernheim's open hours. For more information on Bernheim and Dambo's "Forest Giants", you may go to: <https://bernheim.org/>.



NEWSLETTER

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Bob Ray launches new website!



bobrayco.com

Originally launched in 2013, Bob Ray Company's website was simple, to the point, and had its contact information listed. At the time of its inception, the Bob Ray Co.'s website was compact and did not go into much detail. Over the years, it expanded to include all the departments—Tree Care, Plant Health Care, Land Clearing, and Chip Trucking, LLC, and Natural Products, LLC. Bob Ray Co., Inc., has just launched its updated website: <https://bobrayco.com/>. It includes detailed and in-depth descriptions of all of our departments, Chip Trucking, and directions to Natural Products's website. The updated website now has articles that include the history of the company and, as

we move forward, it will include current events, jobs, and treatment

our best to accommodate you in these situations! We have also revamped



Bob Ray Co. crew with Thomas Dambo at Bernheim Forest

programs. There is a place to give reviews of work you have commissioned us to complete, and a link to contact us should you have an emergency. We are available by phone if you do have an emergency—we will do

our Facebook page. Please take a look and "Like" us! <https://www.facebook.com/BobRayCompany/>.

We will have available for our followers an ongoing blog that will highlight various jobs and unusual projects.



For example, you can scroll down on our Facebook page and read about Bob Ray Co.'s crew at the Greenwood Cemetery, where we helped clear hazardous trees. You can find out about Bob Ray Co. tree crews being at Bernheim Forest (see page 3), or you can see the crews work to remove storm-damaged trees from houses, from

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vehicles, or out of roads. In upcoming day, weeks, and months, please watch for more articles on our Website, and keep up with what's happening at Bob Ray Co.!

BRC Maintenance Facility, a.k.a. Shop

Tee Ray realized many years ago that his business, which relies on competent and dependable staff, also relies on dependable, reliable equipment. If your equipment isn't working properly, neither can your staff.

Initially, a mechanic came on board to maintain the equipment and keep it running in order to free up Tee and his crew, who were repairing and maintaining all the equipment in the early days. And, as Bob Ray Co., Inc., continued to grow and expand in staff and various types of equipment, the need for additional mechanics increased, also.

A larger area in which to work became a necessity and when plans for a new office building were being drawn, a state-of-the-art maintenance facility was included in the design. In operation since 2006, the Shop, as it is called now, includes: six main bays, an oil change pit that can also be used to access and work underneath low-riding equipment, an overhead crane that does the heavy lifting—up to 3,000 pounds—and can pivot 360 degrees. A scanner that “talks” to the computers on the newer equipment (post 1996),

an automated chainsaw sharpener, and a machine that sharpens the blades on the chippers. These are just some of the specialized types of equipment that are housed and used daily in the Shop.

Our facility also houses a fully stocked room for truck and equipment parts, Arborist



From left to right: Dylan, Joe, Kevin (Jones), Kevin (Jeffries), and Terry

equipment, and a climate-controlled chemical.

Keeping with BRC's policy of recycling by-products, the Shop has a 3,000-gallon capacity waste oil tank that heats the building in the winter.

Our full-time crew currently is made up of six men: Kevin Jeffries oversees production and scheduling for the mechanics and also does all BRC product ordering. He has been on staff since early 2018. Our experienced Shop crew includes Joe Gregory, a BRC mechanic since 2012; Kevin Jones, here

since 2016; Dylan Treece, since 2018; and Terry Corner, our old-timer and a mechanic for BRC since 2009. All are capable of working on all of BRC's equipment, be it changing the oil, welding a broken piece on a bucket truck, repairing one of the stump grinders, or completing maintenance on the feller buncher. Andrew Youart, who came on board in 2017, repairs any equipment in the field and operates mainly out of a specially equipped mechanics truck. This truck is like our Shop on wheels and has its own operating crane and computer scanner. Most days, Andrew is out with our Land Clearing team taking care of any issues that may arise. Some days, he transitions

over and assists Natural Products repairing their machinery that turns BRC's tree by-products into mulch, chips for fuel, or compost.

(Wondering why Andrew isn't in the picture above? He's out working on Land Clearing's skid loader!)

This group of mechanics are skilled on a wide variety of equipment, with each specializing in one area or more. They are a complete and cohesive team and one of the many reasons BRC remains a premier tree service company.

“Forest Giants in a Giant Forest”

IN MARCH, Bob Ray Co., Inc., and Bernheim Forest partnered to provide and set in a specific spot a tree for Belgium artist Thomas Dambo for his creation of the exhibit “Forest Giants in a Giant Forest.”

Bernheim Forest was named for the philanthropist and German immigrant, Isaac Bernheim, who purchased and endowed the land to Kentucky as a gift in 1929. At the time of purchase the property had been used primarily to mine iron ore and thus had very few trees. Over the next 20 years, trees were planted in accordance to the donor's specifications. And in 1935, adopting a landscape design by the Frederick Law Olmsted firm, workers broke ground for the Arboretum, which now takes up 600 acres. Encompassing more than 16,000 acres now, Bernheim is home to more than 8,000 varieties of trees, shrubs, and perennials, including the Hubbuch Holly Collection. Bernheim's Arboretum annually hosts public art and



educational programs for thousands of students. Bernheim's goal is to continue to connect people with nature and maintain focus on some of the plants the horticulture department maintains.

Leading off this year in Bernheim's celebration of its 90th anniversary, Thomas Dambo spoke on his “Forest Giants,” as well as other works of art he has constructed throughout the world. Dambo gives speeches about upcycling and arranges workshops for schools, companies,