## Patrick Franklin

Patrick has been working with trees most of his life. Growing up in the Sandhills region of eastern North Carolina, he has always enjoyed the piney woods and being in the forest. Learning at a young age to manage the woodlands with fire, Patrick came to appreciate the plants and wildlife that are uniquely adapted to live in the Longleaf pine ecosystem. After earning his BBA from Campbell University, he applied to work in Arboriculture at one of the offices for Bartlett Tree Experts. Patrick is the 4<sup>th</sup> generation to be involved in the family business caring for trees, and is proud to be part of a company with an impressive history dating back to 1907. After spending 10 years in Charleston, SC managing trees on client's properties, Patrick decided to focus on a MBA degree, which he earned with honors. He moved to Charlotte, NC in 2013 to work at the R.A. Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories and Arboretum where he is currently the Vice President of Special Operations. Within the organization some of his responsibilities include coordination and management of special projects, financial management of the Research Laboratories and Arboretum, instruction and training for Company Business and Leadership programs, and working with other industry organizations such as the International Society of Arboriculture, and the Tree Care Industry Association. One of the programs that Patrick initiated and manages for the company is the Bartlett Legacy Tree Program. The program focuses on our Arborists teaching people about the importance of trees while distributing over 50,000 tree seedlings each year to students, community groups, and local reforestation efforts across the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Ireland.