



The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2008 Issue Three

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TREES FLORIDA 2008 AWARDS PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

Trees Florida



2008

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL: CAROL J. KEIPER-BENNETT

The Outstanding Professional Award recognizes a professional individual for his or her contribution to urban forestry activities and arboricultural practices. This year's award recipient—CAROL KEIPER-BENNETT—became the Urban Forester for the City of Palm Coast in September of 2005, after spending most of her career as a horticultural extension agent. At first, she was a little apprehensive about her new duties as Urban Forester. However, that apprehension quickly turned into accomplishments and accolades. She began by learning her way through city government and networking with city residents, department heads and political figures to introduce herself and understand their vision for Palm Coast. She developed a “wish list” of goals and aspirations for the City and started pursuing it. The list consisted of expanding Arbor Day, becoming a Tree City USA, developing new educational outreach programs, and emphasizing collaboration with other city departments to save the



trees, plant more trees and have fun doing it! After only having about 60 participants at the City's first Arbor Day celebration in 2006, she expanded the program by adding a tree giveaway, an Arbor Day t-shirt contest and promotional banners over the City's main street. As a result, over 500 residents attended the second Arbor Day celebration in 2007. Building upon that success, she has initiated tree classes as part of the City's annual Citizen's Academy courses, developed education programs for children, initiated a Christmas tree recycling program, and worked with other City departments to save many specimen and historic trees.

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL: EMILY NELL LAGERQUIST

The Outstanding Individual Award recognizes an individual who is instrumental in organizing or motivating urban forestry activities within a community. This year's award recipient—EMILY NELL LAGERQUIST—joined the Kids Ecology Corps as Executive Director in December 2001. Since that time, the Kids Ecology Corps has educated over 45,000 young people in South Florida about the simple actions they can take to care for our environment. As part of one of the Kids Ecology Corps' first programs, students at four schools from Palm Beach County to the Keys planted trees on their campuses, and as a result a curriculum was developed which became the foundation of their Kids Care about Trees Program. After receiving a grant in 2004 to expand

the program, they were able to help fulfill the dreams of two teachers by creating two outdoor learning centers at Cypress Bay High School in Weston and the Broward Community College North Campus. With funding from Broward Beautiful, they were able to plant over 106 trees at Cypress Bay High School and 206 trees at the Broward Community College North Campus. Under her direction, the Kids Ecology Corps recently completed a video entitled “Plant Trees Sturdy for the Birdies” to educate young people about the right ways to plant trees and prune them to be more wind resistant during hurricanes. To date, over 1,700 young people have already viewed it. Over the past three years, the Corps has been instrumental in the planting of over 1,100 Red Mangrove trees by students along the north fork of the New River and in John U. Lloyd State Park. However,



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Emily is always quick to point out that they have received overwhelming support from various groups in the community to accomplish these projects. This year, the Kids Ecology Corps are celebrating a decade of inspiring young people to make environmental action part of their everyday lives!



OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCACY GROUP: TREE WATCH COMMITTEE OF THE COCONUT GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL

The Outstanding Tree Advocacy Group award recognizes an organization that has actively encouraged or implemented exceptional landscape beautification, tree planting and related educational programs within their community. This year's award recipient--TREE WATCH COMMITTEE OF THE COCONUT GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL--acts as a liaison with the City of Miami's Code Enforcement and Public Works Departments for reporting and monitoring incidents of illegal tree removal and files appeals to save trees, especially street trees, which have been permitted for removal by individuals or developers. Coconut Grove is a bayside community within the City of Miami long known for its lush green canopy. However, in recent years the rise in development coupled with the hurricanes of 2005, resulted in a drastic reduction on the area's tree canopy. In addition, the City's tree ordinance seemed to favor the developers and there was an epidemic of tree destruction in the wee hours of the weekend. This prompted a call to action and the idea of creating a Citizens Group to act on behalf of the tree canopy – similar to that of a neighborhood crime watch. The first order of business was to beef up the City's tree ordinance. The "wobble" room for developers was removed, fines were doubled and mitigation was increased. The Tree Watch Committee builds its success on four essential components: communication - is the foundation; action – by countless volunteers; encouraging responsible development; and education – to ensure the City's canopy's safety and growth.



OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM: CITY OF LARGO

The Outstanding Urban Forestry Program award recognizes a local government or organization that provides exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban forestry program. This year's award recipient--CITY OF LARGO--is passionate about the protection and expansion of the urban forest and their efforts to replace what canopy has been lost in the most densely populated county in the state. One of the four major initiatives of the City of Largo's strategic plan is focused on parks, greenways and development of the urban forest. This is seen as not just beautification, but as a key component in economic development. Every summer the City of Largo's mayor plants the first street tree of hundreds planted each year. The selection of those trees is guided by an Urban Forest Master Plan, which was adopted in 2005. The City's eight certified arborists, along with parks division staff, often go to great lengths to ensure that the City's most significant trees remain healthy. Bracing, cabling, lightning protection, and radial root treatments have been used on several large trees in Largo Center Park and Datsko Park. Largo Center Park is also home to over 300 memorial trees. The City spent over one million dollars in the past five years to remove over 180 acres of exotic trees at three parks and re-plant them with native trees.



OUTSTANDING PROJECT – TREE PRESERVATION: OAKLAND PARK

The Outstanding Project award recognizes a residential or commercial project that demonstrates tree preservation, tree planting, tree maintenance or environmentally-sound planning or design. One of this year's award recipients--OAKLAND PARK--was the first development

in Central Florida to be certified as a "green community" by the Florida Green Building coalition. As lead arborist Mary E. Edwards states, "It is a rare opportunity to work on a project where the development is created around the placement of the existing canopy and not as an afterthought." Several months prior to construction, the design team for Oakland Park was onsite identifying trees that would be impacted by the construction of infrastructure and roads and identifying which ones were good candidates for relocation. During the assessment process, a number of very large historic Live Oaks were discovered ranging in size from 60" DBH to one majestic specimen measuring 140" DBH. This meant that they went back to the drawing board to redesign roads and relocated utilities to work around the 145 trees that were preserved. The trees that had to be relocated were root pruned and held for several months prior to being moved. All of the relocated trees were strapped and lifted. A temporary bridge was constructed over the West Orange Trail and overhead utilities had to be moved. In all, 50 trees were relocated including a 24" Live Oak measuring 60' tall and weighing 50 tons and they are all doing well. Throughout the process, developers of Oakland Park, Castle & Cooke, demonstrated an unwavering commitment towards tree preservation and environmental excellence.

OUTSTANDING PROJECT – TREE PLANTING: NW 27TH AVENUE CORRIDOR BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Also receiving an Outstanding Project Award was the NW 27TH AVENUE CORRIDOR BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT, which was a unique partnership between the City of Miami Gardens, City of Opa-Locka and Miami-Dade County through its Community Image Advisory Board. They all worked together to transform a rather bleak stretch of six-lane divided highway into a beautiful green corridor with landscaped medians, enhanced frontage road swales and brick pavers. Starting at the Miami-Dade County line and stretching for nearly six miles, the project passes by Dolphins Stadium, Calder-Race Track, residential neighborhoods, commercial areas, and finally through the heart of Opa-Locka's business core. The total project cost was nearly 2.5 million dollars and came from



five different funding sources, including a Florida Highway Beautification Grant. The NW 27th Avenue corridor had been identified as one of the most important gateways into Miami-Dade County which needed to be spruced up before the Super Bowl game in early February 2007. Construction of the first phase of the project, near Dolphins Stadium, began in October 2006 and was completed in time for the Super Bowl. The entire project was completed by November 2007. A large ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in December with many city and county officials in attendance. The landscape architects from Calvin, Giordano & Associates met the challenge of designing a landscape that met both the requirements of FDOT and the aesthetics that all parties could agree on. Furthermore, in a first-of-its-kind program, the existing concrete separators were sawcut so the inside piece of concrete could be removed and new brick pavers installed. Besides the design, another challenge was the many overlapping agencies which had some jurisdiction over the project. The landscape architects and contractor had to get permits or approvals from nine different agencies and included 22 separate irrigation systems. However, with much perseverance, determination and the cooperation of many people, the job was completed and is now quite the success story.

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM: CITY OF CORAL SPRINGS STREET TREE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

The Outstanding Public Education Program Award recognizes a public outreach program or communication tool which informs, teaches and motivates the public on the importance of trees and the value of urban

forestry activities within communities and the state. This



year's award recipient is the CITY OF CORAL SPRINGS for its STREET TREE SUBSIDY PROGRAM. As a result of the hurricanes of 2004 and 2005, most notable Hurricane Wilma, the shade tree canopy coverage in the City of Coral Spring was reduced by 35%. In response to citizen and staff concerns about the loss of these trees, the City Commission requested staff to begin formulating a plan for restoring the shade tree canopy throughout the city, starting with the many street trees lost in residential neighborhoods. The goals of the program were to develop a cost-effective strategy for

getting the highest quality trees planted in the public rights-of-way adjacent to single family homes as quickly as possible and to provide comprehensive education material to help residents make informed decisions regarding tree selection, placement, quality, and care. The City Commission approved \$2,000,000 of funds towards this purpose. The program was deliberately designed as a subsidy, and not a reimbursement, because the City wanted homeowners to have a stake in the survival of the trees and not to treat them as "city trees" for which they have no responsibility. In addition to the information on the City of Coral Springs' website, in April, 2006, the City mailed out over 20,000 "Street Tree Subsidy Program" booklets along with their "Homeowner's Tree Ownership and Care Guide." By the time of its ending in December 2007, the City of Coral Springs had subsidized over 2,200 street trees, and now the program is being offered to commercial properties. The program has had great positive feedback from the residents and received national recognition at the 2007 Neighborhoods U.S.A. Conference.

EDWARD W. BOK AWARD: C. WAY HOYT

The Edward W. Bok award recognizes

career-long distinguished service and dedication to the advancement of arboriculture. This year's award

recipient—C. WAY HOYT—is

very deserving of

this honor. Way's company, Tree Trimmers & Associates, is one of the premiere arboriculture services in South Florida. He intentionally maintains a small crew limited to five workers in order to ensure that all of the work performed by his company maintains his very high standards. Way has been an active member of the prestigious American Society of Consulting Arborists for over 20 years and an ISA Certified Arborist for 25 years. But as hard as it is to believe, Way wasn't always an arborist. A long, long time ago Way worked with his father in the seawall business, ultimately becoming a divemaster as well as an F.M.T. Next, he worked for a furniture company. As he was purchasing a new vehicle, a truck, Way overheard the store manager discussing the removal of two dead palm trees in front of the store. After the tree trimmer left, Way figured he could do it cheaper, under bid the guy by \$100.00, ran to the hardware store and bought a chainsaw, took down the palms, loaded them into the new pickup truck and



proudly went home...and that was the beginning of Way's new profession. Since that day, Way's life has been an unending search for arboricultural knowledge. He has studied under and befriended some of the most prominent people in arboriculture. But more importantly, he has shared his love and knowledge of trees with thousands of others as an articulate teacher and inspiring mentor. Many of the more talented arborists in the area have, at one time or another, worked for Way or have been influenced by him. In addition, Way's love for trees extends beyond arboriculture. He is also a consummate wood turner, making beautiful objects out of wood that he salvages from his jobs. We are truly fortunate to have Way Hoyt as a member of the arboricultural industry not only in South Florida, but the entire state.

2007 FLORIDA TREE CITY OF THE YEAR: TOWN OF WINDERMERE

The 2007 Florida Tree City of the Year Award recipient is selected from all of the cities recognized as a Tree City USA and as a Tree City USA Growth Award recipient in the State of Florida. This year's award recipient—TOWN OF WINDERMERE--has been a Tree City USA for 15 consecutive years and has also received the Growth Award. In 2007, the Town of Windermere earned a total of 24 points in their Growth Award application. Some of their activities included participation in the publication of a book depicting the history of the town and the importance of its trees, distribution of 800+ brochures at their fall festival entitled "Know Where You Grow," presentation of Tim Womick's "Trail of Trees" program to over 80 students in two schools, and conducting workshops and tree giveaways with two homeowners associations. Of course, the Town of Windermere again held its signature "Treebute" event in celebration of Arbor Day, which is one of the best around. In addition, the town arborist, Janet Maland, participated in the filming of the "Trail of Trees" video which was distributed to elementary schools throughout the state.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Members:

Your council representatives have been diligently working to move forward with several new proposals from our Executive Committee and the Education and Membership subcommittees. One new project is the Tree Note Cards which consist of three lovely panoramic photographs donated by artist Steve Vaughn. Order your set today—they are great gifts for the holidays and Arbor Day!

We are in the middle of change and we have so many exciting events in the planning stages. In August, the Executive Committee participated in a workshop to review the Council's vision for Urban Forestry. Our facilitator, Terry Johnson from the University of South Florida, encouraged our board to open our minds and look forward into the future for our continued commitment to Urban Forestry. After nine years of partnering with the Florida Chapter ISA in hosting the annual Trees Florida conference, the Council will no longer be a partner beginning in 2009. It was a difficult decision to make, but the Executive Committee felt it was necessary in order to allocate our resources on other endeavors for our members. We encourage each FUFUC member to continue to attend the annual Trees Florida conference which will be held in Sarasota in 2009. Details about the conference can be found at www.treesflorida.com. In the coming months, we will continue to incorporate many new ideas and projects that the Executive Committee has been working on developing.

We are always seeking new memberships and new board members to join the Council from different cities and counties within the state of Florida. We look forward to meeting our members and listening to what you think is important. I look forward to serving as President of YOUR organization—the Florida Urban Forestry Council!

As we say in Gainesville... "Every path begins with passion."

Sincerely,

Earline K. Luhrman

Earline K. Luhrman
Acting President



"EXPLORING TREES INSIDE AND OUT" TRAVELING EXHIBIT OPENS IN ORLANDO!

Adapted from article at www.arborday.org

The Nature Explore Traveling Exhibit, "Exploring Trees Inside and Out," will be in Orlando from October 2008 through December 2008. It is a new interactive experience where fun and learning about trees connect. The Traveling Exhibit opened at Seattle's Pacific Science Center in February, traveled to St. Louis for the summer and opened in Orlando on September 27.

Thousands of children and families living in and visiting Florida will have the opportunity to become engaged in the world of trees. The Traveling Exhibit is on a three-year journey across the country, thanks to the generous support of Doubletree Hotels. This exhibit is designed to help children, educators and families discover trees and nature through multiple perspectives and inspire them to get outdoors and develop personal connections with the natural world.

Discover more about "Exploring Trees Inside and Out" and follow the Traveling Exhibit across the country by visiting www.arborday.org/explore/travelingexhibit/.

ARTICLES WANTED

The Florida Urban Forestry Council would like to share information on what is going on throughout the state in our newsletters. We would like to receive articles on any aspect of our field. Article ideas may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- New trends in the industry
- Volunteer projects
- Ideas on working with the public
- Solutions to common problems in your typical workday
- Children's poems, drawings, favorite quotes
- News about tree advocacy groups
- Favorite or new websites
- City tree programs

Please update us on urban forestry news in your corner of the state so that we can learn from each other. Our newsletter is not only a great way to share information, but also a way to show off our accomplishments and successes. Articles can be sent to Laura Sanagorski, FUFUC newsletter editor, at LSanagorski@gmail.com.

Thanks for contributing!

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Annual rates are as follows:

• • •

Business-card size advertisement . . .	\$75
Quarter page advertisement	\$115
Half-page advertisement	\$225
Full page advertisement	\$450

• • •

To place an advertisement in *The Council Quarterly*, please contact Sandy Temple, FUFUC Executive Director (407-872-1738).

FUFC FORMS NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH FL INSTITUTE OF PARK PERSONNEL

By Mike Insley, City of Altamonte Springs

As we all know and have experienced in recent times, things are getting tougher for all governmental and non-profit organizations. With tighter budgets, and in some cases smaller staff, it is imperative that all organizations explore new ways to get their message out. This must be achieved while still providing their members with valuable information through education and training.

Two great organizations, the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) and the Florida Institute of Parks Personnel (FIPP), both realize the issues at hand and are starting to work in part-

nership to meet their goals in these difficult times. The two organizations worked together at an FUFC regional meeting and an FIPP District VI & VII meeting held on June 26 in St. Petersburg.

Feedback from both groups indicates that the meeting and the partnership were a great success.

“...both realize the issues at hand and are starting to work in partnership to meet their goals...”

Both organizations supplied speakers on various topics which benefited members from each organization. The second part-

nership endeavor was the FIPP Fall Conference which was held October 26-28 in Stuart/Jensen Beach. Several speakers from both FUFC and FIPP

covered various topics with a common theme of saving money. It was an excellent educational opportunity for members of both organizations.

The new partnership between FUFC and FIPP will allow FUFC to continue to meet goals set in the Council's Strategic Plan and to further complete the mission statement which states: “The Florida Urban Forestry Council promotes sound urban forestry policies and practices by educating citizens and communities throughout the state.” This partnership should benefit both organizations by increasing membership as a large audience will be reached without the cost of putting on a conference or regional meeting as a single entity. Furthermore, the FUFC will have exposure to potential new sponsors.

Although both FIPP and FUFC have different mission statements and will always remain independent organizations, they both serve a similar audience and have goals that overlap. Through partnering with various functions, the two organizations will become both stronger and better able to serve their members by providing viable information and training in these difficult times.



TREES PLANTED...WITH ONE CLICK

By Laura Sanagorski, Adapted from communications with Martha Robinson, FL DEP Communication

Last year the Florida Department of Parks worked with Government Solutions Group on a series of new Welcome Kit brochures to distribute in state parks. The printing of these brochures were paid for completely by sponsors.

Odwalla, a popular healthy foods company, was one of these sponsors. To sweeten the deal and demonstrate their commitment to environmental issues, they set aside \$50,000 to purchase trees for planting in state parks around the country. Trees were planted in a state park chosen by the consumer. Web visitors were encouraged to visit a web site and vote for the state in which they wanted to

plant up to five trees. The states were California, Colorado, Florida, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Utah.

By visiting <http://www.parkvisitor.com/odwalla>, one could select the state of

Florida to plant up to five trees in Florida state parks. The FUFC received news that the program has been discontinued

because the goal of 50,000 trees was reached. Florida (11,673) came in second behind

Pennsylvania (19,476 trees). Closely tied for third place are California, Colorado and New York, with about 6,500 each. Longleaf Pines will be planted in the north-central part of this state. The program was intended to run for seven

“The program was intended to run for seven months, but reached full capacity in only 10 weeks.”

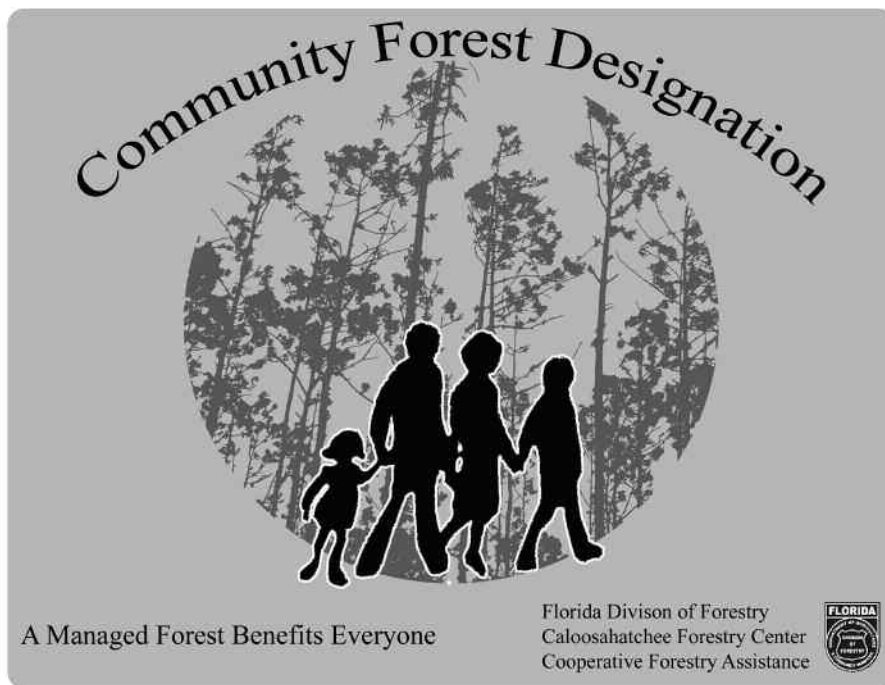
months, but reached full capacity in only 10 weeks. Odwalla is already proposing to support a similar promotion next year.

Nice work, Florida and Odwalla!



DIVISION OF FORESTRY INTRODUCES TWO NEW PROGRAMS

By Charlie Marcus, Urban Forestry Coordinator, Florida Division of Forestry



The Community Forest Designation Program (CFD) incorporates the principles of the existing Firewise, Tree City USA and Forest Stewardship Programs and tailors them to smaller residential communities containing forest land. Eligibility extends to individually-owned properties containing less than 20 acres. Homeowner associations of any size with an existing governing body are also eligible. These could be located in unincorporated areas of the county or within city limits. Golf courses and other private entities who have green space that includes (or could include) trees may also participate, as could school and college campuses. Although the program addresses management of individual parcels, the overall goal is to encourage a continuous forested landscape with linkages between forested parcels.

“Although the program addresses management of individual parcels, the overall goal is to encourage a continuous forested landscape with linkages between forested parcels.”

A certified Community Forest has five components:

- a volunteer community forest management group,
- a forest management plan and/or an

- urban forest master plan,
- a management program for controlling invasive exotic plants,
- a wildland fuel management program, and
- an annual Arbor Day Celebration.

Communities will have access to professionally-written management plans tailored to their community forest characteristics, needs and community goals. The community may call on the Division of Forestry (DOF) or knowledgeable

forestry consultants for assistance in achieving the five guidelines. Once the community or group of owners feels that they have satisfied the guidelines, they can request a DOF forester to visit the property to review the property for certification. Approved communities receive two Community Forest Designation signs, a plaque recognizing their efforts and a press release coordinated through the DOF to publicize the stewardship efforts of the community.

Currently, the CFD is being operated as a pilot program in south Florida. Interested

parties in the counties south of the Caloosahatchee River can contact Senior Forester Mike Weston at 239/690-3500, ext 118 for more information. Those on the east coast in Palm Beach County and south can contact Senior Forester Mark Torok at 954/475-4194. Program information will soon be posted on the DOF website at <http://www.fl-dof.com>.

The National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) has recently initiated the Tree Campus USA program to encourage students and faculties of colleges and universities to become actively engaged in the management of the trees on their campuses. This involves not only the planting and care of trees, but also a conscientious effort to educate both the student body and the surrounding community as to the benefits that trees provide.

Program standards for Tree Campus USA certification parallel those for Tree City USA. They include the following:

- a campus tree advisory committee,
- a campus tree care plan,
- a campus tree program with dedicated annual expenditures,
- an Arbor Day observance, and
- a service learning project.

The NADF is encouraging colleges to contact them and nominate themselves to become Tree Campuses. Interested campuses can also contact the Division of Forestry at 850/921-0300. More information can be found at <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampusUSA>. We would like to announce Florida's first certified Tree Campus sometime soon, and we are looking for a school that would enthusiastically embrace that honor and serve as an example for future Tree Campuses. Our foresters have worked with a number of college campuses in the recent past, so we know there are some worthy recipients out there.



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KIDS ECOLOGY CORPS PLANTS MANGROVES

by Emily Nell Lagerquist, Kids Ecology Corps

Although they are not planted as right-of-way or park trees, Mangrove trees are an essential part of the ecological restoration efforts that occur in natural areas in proximity to developed areas. Sixty students from North Fork Elementary Marine Science Magnet School in Fort Lauderdale participated once again in a Mangrove planting with Kids Ecology Corps (KEC) staff and volunteers. This is the third year that KEC and North Fork Elementary School have partnered to plant Red Mangroves along the New River's north fork that runs behind the school. Students planted 300 baby Red Mangrove trees along the banks of the New River's north fork, strengthening the banks' walls with the sturdy root system of the native trees and restoring this area as a natural habitat for local fish and wildlife.

Thanks go out to North Fork Elementary School's generous and supportive staff including Principal Gwendolyn Amaker, Magnet Coordinator Mary Lou Soucy and Science Teacher

Ross Minott. Additional thanks goes to Walker Dunn of the IBI Group who designed the project, coordinated the funds from South Florida Water Management District and joined KEC in helping students plant the Red Mangroves.

Kids Ecology Corps has received a generous donation of over 2,700 Red Mangroves from the Nurserymen's Exchange in Delray Beach. Any teachers interested in involving their students in planting Red Mangroves

and helping to restore local native habitats, please send an E-mail to Emily Lagerquist at kec@kidsecologycorps.org or telephone 954-524-0366.



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NEW FOREST SERVICE PUBLICATION: COASTAL PLAIN COMMUNITY TREE GUIDE: BENEFITS, COSTS, AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

This new publication quantifies benefits and costs for representative large, medium and small broadleaf trees, as well as coniferous trees in the Coastal Plain region. The species chosen as representative are the Southern Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), and Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*), respectively. The analysis describes "yard trees" (those planted in residential sites) and "public trees" (those planted on streets or in parks). Benefits are calculated using tree growth curves and numerical



models that consider regional climate, building characteristics, air pollutant concentrations, and prices. Tree care costs and mortality rates are based on results from a survey of municipal and commercial arborists. A 65% survival rate is assumed over a 40-year time frame.

Authors: McPherson, E. Gregory; Simpson, James R.; Peper, Paula J.; Gardner, Shelley L.; Vargas, Kelaine E.; Maco, Scott E.; Xiao, Qingfu

Date: 2006

Source: USDA Forest Service General Technical Report PSW-GTR-201, p. 1-105

Station ID: GTR-PSW-201

Descriptive web page:
http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr201/

PDF download:
http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr201/psw_gtr201.pdf



NEW OSHA DIRECTIVE

Adapted from a TCIA Press Release

On June 25, OSHA's Compliance Directorate released a Directive that would have affected commercial arboriculture by treating it similarly to the logging industry.

Effective August 21, and as a result of protests, the Directive has been rescinded. In its place, OSHA issued a new directive on August 21. The Florida Urban Forestry Council urges you to review this directive if it pertains to you professionally. The directive is available at: http://www.tcia.org/ebcasts/regulatory_blast/PDFs/Aug2008OSHADirective.pdf. Tree care companies should familiarize themselves with the contents so that they can comply with its requirements. (Be sure to note the information on hearing protection).



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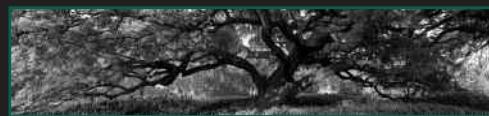
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Bald Cypress • *Taxodium distichum*



Cabbage Palm • *Sabal palmetto*



Live Oak • *Quercus virginiana*

Each set contains 12 cards with four each of three panoramic photographs donated by artist Steve Vaughn. Purchase and use of these unique and beautiful cards supports the Council's efforts and commitment to plant and save Florida's urban forests for future generations.

To order the Florida Urban Forestry Council's Note Cards, please complete the following order form and return with payment (check or credit card) to:

Florida Urban Forestry Council • www.fufc.org
 PO Box 547993, Orlando, FL 32854-7993
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FUSARIUM DECLINE OF QUEEN PALMS & MEXICAN FAN PALMS IN FLORIDA

by Monica L. Elliott, Ph.D. Extension Palm Pathologist



- Pruning tools should be sterilized after each palm is trimmed.
- Palms, especially queen palms and Mexican fan palms, should not be replanted into a site where a palm with this disease was removed.

SYMPTOMS ON QUEEN PALMS

The oldest leaves turn brown, but do not break or hang down. The next youngest

leaves in the canopy will turn varying shades of yellow. Eventually, the entire canopy turns brown. It looks as if the

canopy has been freeze-dried in place. The symptoms are different from a

potassium deficiency, where the leaflets will be brown but the petiole will be green. With the new disease, both the leaflets and the petiole are brown. There is a brownish-red stripe on the leaf petiole at the point where it is bending out of the canopy. The petiole is not soft and rotted, but simply discolored. Cross-sections through the petiole reveal internal discoloration. Leaves may exhibit one-sided death symptoms, where the leaflets on one side of the leaf are brown but the leaflets on the

other side are green, with the brownish-red stripe on the petiole corresponding to the side with the dead leaflets.

SYMPTOMS ON MEXICAN FAN PALM

Symptoms on Mexican fan palms will also have more brown lower leaves than normal and younger leaves that are partly green and partly yellow or brown. The petioles of these leaves will have a brown to reddish-brown stripe. Cross-sections through the striped petiole may have an internal discoloration. The individual leaf symptoms can look the same as petiole blight, another disease of Mexican fan palms, but Petiole blight is not normally a fatal disease, whereas Fusarium decline is fatal.

The new disease of Queen Palms (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) that appeared in Central Florida landscapes in 2004 has now been tentatively identified as *Fusarium oxysporum* and is now being called "Fusarium decline." A second host has been identified, Washington Fan Palm (*Washingtonia robusta*). While the disease is still primarily observed in landscapes, container and field nurseries are also now documented as disease sites.

The problem has always appeared to be a disease. No insects are observed in association with symptomatic palms, nor are nutritional deficiencies implicated in the problem.

SUMMARY

- This is a quick-killing disease of queen and Mexican fan palms.
- The disease has been observed in landscapes, a container nursery and a field nursery.
- The disease has been documented in the Orlando area.
- Infected palms die quickly, often within a few months of the initial symptoms.
- There is no cure once a palm is infected.
- No preventive fungicide treatments are recommended.
- The disease is probably spread by wind into new sites.
- Once established, it could also be spread by pruning tools.

"Eventually, the entire canopy turns brown. It looks as if the canopy has been freeze-dried in place."

[palm_diseases.shtml](http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/palm_prod/palm_diseases.shtml)

The full report and photographs of the symptoms are at http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/palm_prod/

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MULCH CAN DAMAGE TREES

Adapted from publication by Dr. Ed Gilman, University of Florida IFAS, located at <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/overmulching.html>



Too much mulch applied over the root ball or resting against the trunk can cause problems for trees. Roots often grow up and into the mulch causing girdling roots which can kill trees. In addition, mulch can also hide decay and dead spots on the lower trunk and major roots. Decay in this portion of the tree can cause stability problems. Keep mulch about 12 to 18 inches from the trunk.

Too much mulch over the root ball can intercept water that could have reached the roots. This can cause the roots to dry on newly planted trees causing stress and tree death. This is another reason that mulch should be pulled back from the trunk at least 12 inches. This allows water to freely enter the root ball.

If mulched too deep, remove all the mulch and soil on the tree until you find the root flare. Remove roots growing up into the mulch and soil, cut roots that deflect around and are growing close to

the trunk, and reset the mulch about 3 inches deep. Irrigate as appropriate if many roots were cut.

Girdling roots can cause health issues for the tree and tree death in certain cases. Look for roots that are circling close to the trunk, roots that are embedded in the trunk, or those that are crossed over main roots at the base of the trunk. Roots circling or touching the trunk are often referred to as stem girdling roots. These can reduce the flow of water, nutrients and sugars at this point on the trunk. On some species of trees, stem girdling roots

cause death to the bark above the root.

If girdling surface roots are less than

about one-third the trunk diameter and they can be removed without damaging the trunk, then carefully cut and remove them. This will allow roots and trunk under the girdling root to develop properly. Some arborists have removed larger



girdling roots with no adverse effects on the tree. Trees often respond to removing girdling roots with increased vigor.



Here is the base of the tree showing roots wrapping the trunk. This tree is in decline and may eventually die. The roots grew in the mulch that was maintained over the root ball and on the trunk for many years. Roots enjoy growing in mulch so keep it at least 12 inches from the trunk so this does not happen.

More information on mulch can be found at <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/overmulching.html>.



JOHN P. WHITE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by the Florida Chapter International Society of Arboriculture and Florida Urban Forestry Council

The John P. White Memorial Scholarship fund was established by the Florida Chapter ISA and the FUFUC to support education in the arboriculture industry through annual scholarships in the sum of \$500.00 for qualifying students. The aim of the scholarship is to provide deserving students the opportunity to develop into a new generation of dedicated individuals for the arboriculture industry of tomorrow.

John P. White is remembered for his generous giving spirit as both the Florida Chapter ISA's Tree Fund Liaison and a dedicated member of the Florida Urban Forestry Council's Executive Committee, as well as for his contributions to the annual Trees Florida Conference. He had a zeal for life and steadfast passion for arboriculture. It is our organizations' desire that the recipient of this scholarship will reflect John's passion and continue to carry the torch on behalf of arboriculture.

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