



The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2015 Issue Four

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FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY RESTORING THE BALANCE OF LIFE

Submitted by Lou Shepherd, Urban Forestry Coordinator - Florida Forest Service
Photographs by Florida Native Plant Society and Taylor Clark

The Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), founded in 1980, has grown to 3,500 members and 37 chapters across the state. The success of the FNPS over the years is due to the commitment of its volunteers.

In his book, *Bringing Nature Home*, Douglas Tallamy wrote: "Because life is fueled by the energy captured from the sun by plants, it will be the plants that we use in our gardens that determine what nature will be like 10, 20 and 50 years from now."

The mission of the FNPS is to promote the preservation, conservation and restoration of native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

The Society fulfills this mission through:

- Support for conservation land acquisition
- Land management enhancing habitat suitability for native plants
- Education
- Public policies to protect our native flora
- Landscaping practices and policies preserving Florida's native plant heritage

Most chapters meet monthly usually enjoying various guest speakers and coordinated field trips. One example was the Suncoast Chapter (Hillsborough County) September



meeting. Corey Walk, with the Florida Forest Service, discussed

the Florida Champion Tree program. A tour of Blackwater Creek Nature Preserve followed.

FNPS partners combine resources on specific projects. As a result, projects often take a on a collective form. The Cocoloba Chapter of FNPS (Lee County) recently worked together with Florida Forest Service volunteers Clark Ryals and Melinda Avni on a project at the Fort Myers Middle Academy.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings FUFUC Members,

Autumn is in the air throughout most of the nation. Kids are back at school and football fills our Saturdays and Sundays. At Toomer's Corner in Auburn, Alabama, some of the more famous replacement oak trees in the country will welcome Auburn fans to Jordan-Hare Stadium for the first time. Luckily, they will be given a one-year reprieve from the toilet paper that frequently adorned their predecessor.

Down here in South Florida, autumn means rain and increased flooding. During the fall, when the Earth, Moon and Sun are aligned, we see "king tides," which are the highest high tides of the year. Combine these high tides with increased rainfall and flooding occurs, particularly in our coastal communities. Add the effects of sea level rise and it is no wonder communities such as Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale are investing so heavily to improve drainage and protect coastal infrastructure.

Our trees are part of our infrastructure. As managers of our community forests we need to assess whether we have the right trees in the right places. Can live oaks (like the oaks at Toomer's Corner and throughout South Florida's streets) withstand increased coastal inundation? And while we have not had a major storm in over ten years, are our trees ready for the next Wilma? As we look to the future these are important questions to consider.

Partnerships are the cornerstone of the Florida Urban Forestry Council. This issue of The Council Quarterly focuses on the allied organizations that comprise our organization. These groups were identified to be represented on the Council's Executive Committee when we were formed in 1991 (almost 25 years ago!!). In addition, several of the other partner organizations that assist in playing a vital role in urban forestry are also highlighted. The eight allied organizations represented on the Council include the Cooperative Extension Service, Florida League of Cities, Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association, Florida Recreation and Park Association, Florida Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects, Florida Chapter International Society of Arboriculture, Florida Department of Transportation – Florida Highway Beautification Council, and Society of American Foresters.

Please visit our website www.fufc.org. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, don't hesitate to reach out. I can always be reached at jfreedman@esciencesinc.com.

All the best,

Justin Freedman

Justin Freedman
FUFUC 2015 President

continued from pg. 1

Under Cocoloba Chapter coordination and in alliance with others, this project brought the space to life. The plantings provided an added benefit of removing loud lawnmowers and leaf blower noise. Volunteers placed donated cardboard and newspapers over the ground then covered with mulch. Use of recycled materials helps prevent weeds for about a year. Volunteers even drove to Sweet Bay Nursery in Parrish to buy plants that were not locally available. Volunteers established project plantings designed to mimic nature with trees and groundcover at the end of July.

The area will serve as an outdoor classroom allowing students to study the native plants and pollinators, while learning more about environmental careers. The FNPS is excited to monitor this planting over several years.

The 2015 FNPS Annual Conference theme was "Born to Burn," with a focus on the importance of fire to Florida's native ecosystems. At each annual conference, FNPS awards Conservation Grants. One of this year's recipients was Oakland Nature Preserve for a control burn on one acre of



their property. The Oakland Nature Preserve (ONP) is near many homes, businesses and the Florida Turnpike. This urban setting made normal options for a control burn difficult. A specialist with proper training conducted this urban woodland management exercise. (Included are photos of the burn in progress and a gopher tortoise foraging on wiregrass five days after the burn.)

Looking ahead, Florida Native Plant Society and the Florida Urban Forestry Council are preparing for a closer connection to help meet their respective goals. Both groups held preliminary conversations about exchanging speakers at their 2016 conferences.

The annual conference is always an important event on the FNPS calendar featuring workshops, socials, field trips, and awards. Next year's annual conference will be in Daytona Beach from May 19-21, 2016. Please keep an eye on <http://www.fnps.org/conference> for more information.

By combining resources on programs or recognizing a partner organization for

promoting Florida native plants in the landscape, FNPS works to restore the balance of life in the ecosystem and improve the lives of those in the communities in which they serve.

FNPS Director of Development Andy Taylor, FNPS volunteer Marlene Rodak and ONP volunteer Taylor Clark (ONP burn photo credit) contributed to this report.





**Deadline for Submission:
October 30, 2015**

CATEGORIES

- OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL
- OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCATE OR TREE ADVOCACY GROUP
- OUTSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
- OUTSTANDING PROJECT
- OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM
Large and Small Communities
- LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To apply online or for more information about categories, please go to www.fufc.org/awards_information.php

Sponsored by:



NAME OF ENTRY, INDIVIDUAL OR PROJECT

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON FOR THE ENTRY

COMPANY/AGENCY

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE FAX

E-MAIL

NOMINATED BY (IF DIFFERENT)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE FAX

E-MAIL

AWARD CATEGORY (please check one):

- Outstanding Professional
- Outstanding Tree Advocate or Tree Advocacy Group
- Outstanding Public Educational Program
- Outstanding Project
- Outstanding Urban Forestry Program / Large Community
- Outstanding Urban Forestry Program / Small Community
- Lifetime Achievement Award

GUIDELINES

- Nominate your own work, the work of your organization or the work of another.
- Each application must be typed and presented in a standard three-ring binder (no larger than 1/2 inch capacity). The completed awards entry form must be the first page of the application. The second page of the application should be a 200-word overview of the nomination. (Note: For winning nominations, the overview of the nomination will be used for presentation purposes and to highlight the individual, project or program in *The Council Quarterly* newsletter.) Following the brief overview should be a summary of not more than three typewritten pages that describe the project's, program's or individual's

- contribution to urban and community forestry as outlined in the Award Categories.
- Support documentation such as photographs, press clippings, printed pieces, and letters of commendation are encouraged, but shall be limited to 12 additional pages. All supporting documents must be attached or secured inside the application. Please, no loose documentation such as videotapes. Each application must include at least three digital photos in order to be considered. Examples include photos of the individual recipient, project logo, etc.
- Deadline for entry is **October 30, 2015**. Submit the original, one full copy and the three digital photos to:

SEND ALL NOMINATIONS TO:

Friends of Our Urban Forest Awards Program
Florida Urban Forestry Council
Post Office Box 547993
Orlando, FL 32854-7993

All submitted materials become property of the Florida Urban Forestry Council. **Please note:** The Awards Committee reserves the right to reassign the entry to another category if deemed appropriate. For questions or additional entry forms, please contact Sandy Temple, Florida Urban Forestry Council Executive Director at (407) 872-1738.

STUMP THE FORESTER



QUESTION: There are companies trying to sell a palm injection that will prevent diseases like Fusarium wilt. They are not saying they can cure it, but they are saying that they can prevent it or prolong the life of a palm. Is this true?

ANSWER: There are observational reports that the injection of phosphite fungicides prevent Fusarium wilt diseases of palms. Phosphite fungicides are known to prevent Phytophthora bud rot in coconut palms, but to my knowledge there is no research that demonstrates phosphite prevents Fusarium wilt in palms. One reason for these positive observational reports may be due to misdiagnosis of the disease problem. Fusarium wilt and Petiole

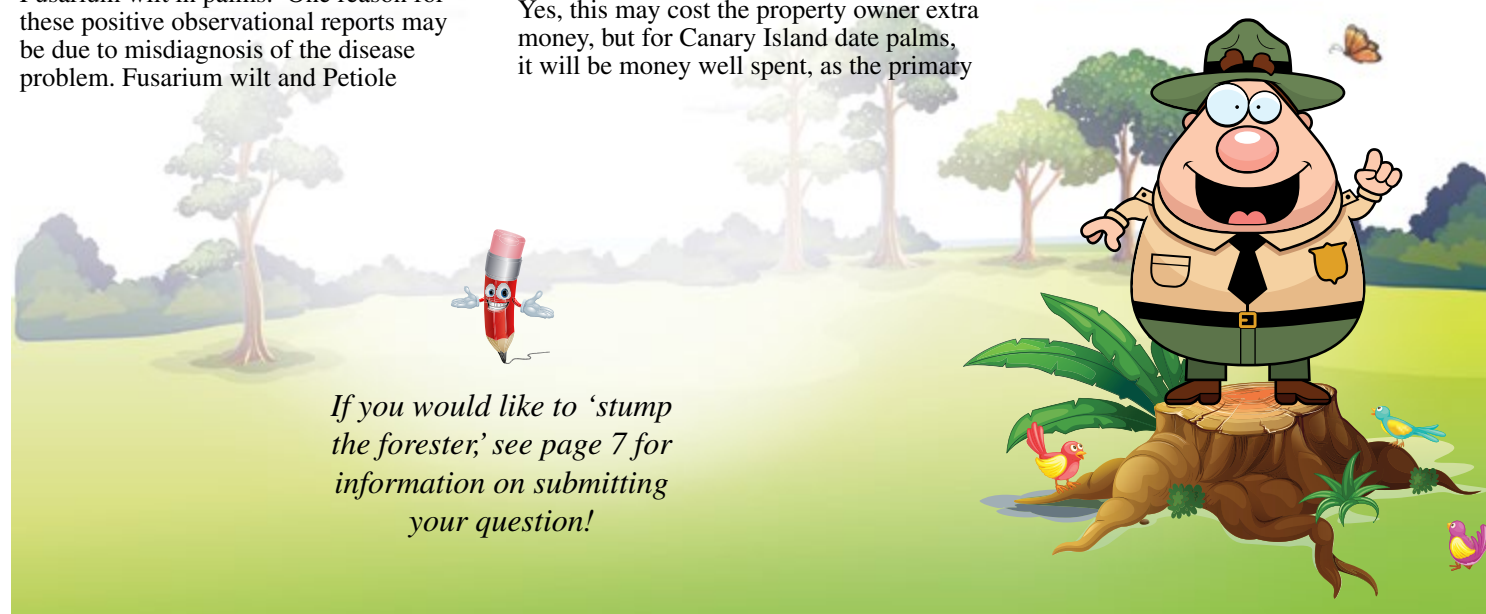
(Rachis) Blight symptoms look exactly the same--even I do not try to guess which disease is present, as I have proven myself wrong too many times. The only way to confirm which disease is present is to determine the pathogen causing the problem via the submission of a proper sample to a plant diagnostic laboratory. In general, Fusarium wilt is a lethal disease, but Petiole (Rachis) Blight is not, and the latter disease often disappears without any fungicide treatments. Thus, if the disease was Petiole (Rachis) Blight, it would appear that the phosphite injection had been successful. This is the reason we use controls (untreated plants) in our research studies--to determine if the response is a true positive response or just a chance recovery that had nothing to do with the treatment.

The question the savvy property owner should ask is whether their Canary Island date (*Phoenix canariensis*), Mexican fan (*Washingtonia robusta*) or queen (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) palm has been confirmed to be infected with *Fusarium oxysporum* (either f. sp. canariensis or f. sp. palmarum). Confirmation must be accomplished with a molecular identification (just isolating *Fusarium*-like fungus is not good enough!). And the only labs doing this molecular test in Florida are the UF diagnostic clinics--at least I am not aware of anyone else doing this test. If it has not been confirmed to be infected with a *Fusarium* wilt pathogen, then a phosphite injection treatment is probably not necessary. Remember, palm trunk wounds do not heal. So we want to be sure trunk injections of any product provides a benefit to the palm. However, **MAKE ABSOLUTELY** certain, especially with Canary Island date palms, that the arborist/landscaper is using a sterile tool or new tool each time the palm is pruned. Yes, this may cost the property owner extra money, but for Canary Island date palms, it will be money well spent, as the primary

method of pathogen transmission with this palm is with contaminated pruning tools.

A graduate student with Dr. Tim Broschat has completed a study to determine exactly where phosphite accumulates in a coconut palm canopy after injection with phosphite. Phosphite moved quickly into leaflet tissue, but concentrations dropped off sharply between 1 and 5 weeks following injection. This drop in leaflet concentrations was balanced by a concomitant increase in spear leaf concentrations, which explains why this product prevents *Phytophthora* bud rot. Phosphite persisted at high concentrations in basal rachis tissue of both old and new leaves throughout the experiment, which lasted 60 weeks. Now that we know the phosphite does move into the palm canopy and persists, we are doing a research project using phosphite injections to prevent *Fusarium* wilt in queen palms (pathogen is *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. palmarum) in a community of 100 zero-lot line homes. This community originally had 300 queen palms in the front yards, but had lost half of them by the time the research project was initiated. Approximately 45 palms have been injected with phosphite (highest labeled rate), and there are 45 control palms. After 15 months, just as many queen palms have died in the phosphite treatment from either *Fusarium* wilt or *Ganoderma* butt rot as in the controls when injected once per year with phosphite (which is the normal recommendation). Because we have not obtained a positive result thus far, we are increasing the phosphite injections to twice per year (every 6 months). Stay tuned for results.

Response provided by Dr. Monica Elliott, UF/IFAS Extension Pathologist



If you would like to 'stump the forester,' see page 7 for information on submitting your question!

Tree of the Quarter

LONGLEAF PINE (*Pinus palustris*)



Before European settlement, longleaf pine forest dominated as much as 90,000,000 acres stretching from Virginia south to Florida and west to eastern Texas. Its range was defined by the frequent widespread fires that occurred throughout the southeast. 200 years of logging and land clearing have greatly reduced its range and this rich ecosystem now has been relegated to less than 5% of its previous range.

Longleaf pine takes 100 to 150 years to become full size and can live to 300 years old. Modern methods of reforestation are helping to restore longleaf pine to previously cleared land. In the future, we may expect to see more of these majestic trees in the Florida landscape.



Habitat: Longleaf pine is common in flatwoods, sandhill, and upland hardwood ecosystems. Stands of the longleaf pine-turkey oak ecological communities are found throughout Florida; they are most common in the central portion of the state and in the interior area of the panhandle. This pine grows best in full sun or partial shade in well-drained, acidic soil.

Growth Rate: Rapid growing and long-lived, the Longleaf pine is a medium to large tree that reaches a height of around 80 to 125 feet and a width of 30 to 40 feet.

Leaves: The leaves are dark green and needle-like and occur in bundles of three. They often are twisted from 8-18 inches in length. It is one of the two southeastern U.S. pines with long needles, the other being slash pine.



Bark: The bark is thick, reddish-brown and scaly. The scales are thin and papery. The bark is plated on the largest trees.

Roots: During the grass stage, seedlings develop a deep taproot system. Once the root system is thoroughly established, the tree begins normal stem elongation and its sprouting ability sharply increases. The taproot is usually 8 to 12 feet long upon maturity. **The roots of Longleaf Pine are sensitive to disturbance so be sure to protect the area beneath the dripline from heavy equipment during construction.*



Flower: The inconspicuous spring flowers are followed by a large, spiny cone, 6 to 10 inches long, which persists on the tree for a couple of years.

Environment: Longleaf pine forests are rich in biodiversity. They are well-documented for their high levels of plant diversity in groups including sedges, grasses, carnivorous plants, and orchids. These forests provide habitat for gopher tortoises, which in turn provide habitat for hundreds of other species of animals. The red-cockaded woodpecker is dependent on mature pine forests and is now endangered as a result of this

decline. Longleaf pine seeds are large and nutritious, forming a significant food source for birds, reptiles and other wildlife.

Usage: The yellow, resinous wood is used for lumber and pulp. Boards cut years ago from virgin timber and a thriving salvage business obtains these boards from demolition projects to be reused as flooring in upscale homes. The extremely long needles are popular for use in the ancient craft of coiled basket making.

Little known facts: Farmers sometimes find old buried stumps in fields, even in some that were cleared a century ago, and these usually are dug up and sold as Fatwood, "fat lighter" or "lighter wood" which is in demand as kindling for fireplaces, wood stoves and barbecue pits. In old growth pine the heartwood is often saturated in the same way. When boards are cut from the fat lighter wood, they are very heavy and will not rot, but buildings constructed of them are quite flammable and make extremely hot fires.



NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING ANNUAL RATES:

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, *FUFC Executive Director* (407-872-1738).

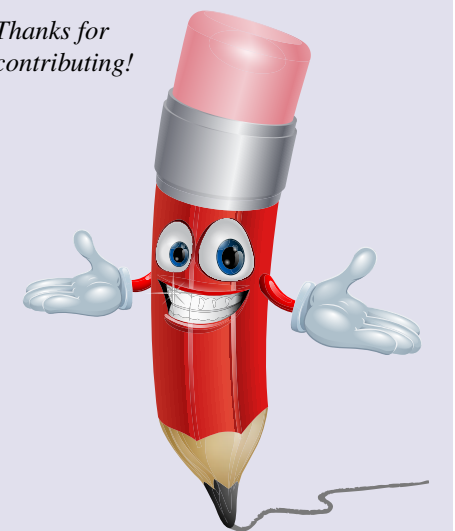
REQUEST FOR ARTICLES

Please let us know what urban forestry projects you have going on in your neck of the woods. The Florida Urban Forestry Council would greatly appreciate the opportunity to share your information in our newsletter. These articles can include:

- New trends in the industry
- News about tree advocacy groups
- Volunteer projects
- City tree programs
- Letters to the Editor
- Questions for "Stump the Forester"

We look forward to hearing from you on this or any other interesting topic related to the urban forestry industry and profession. Please send any articles or ideas to Jerry Renick, FUFC newsletter editor, at Jerry.Renick@wantmangroup.com.

Thanks for contributing!



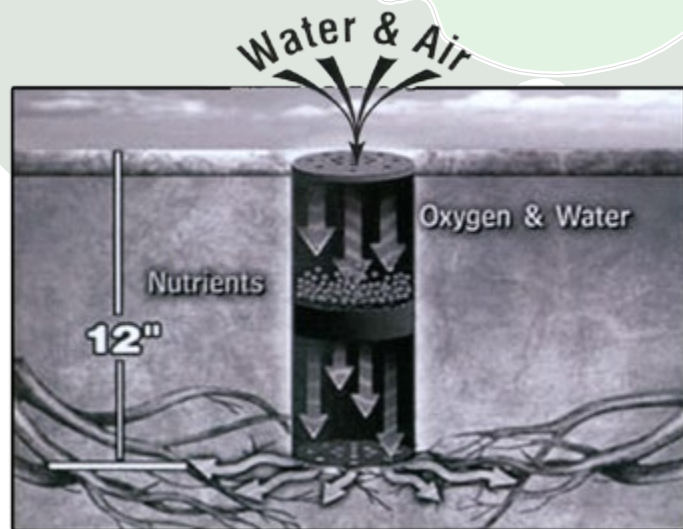
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Submitted by Jeff Caster, State Transportation Landscape Architect – Florida Department of Transportation



Since 1868 when the *Great Seal of the State of Florida* was established by the Legislature, the state's economy has relied on the state's natural resources and scenic beauty to attract families and businesses here to spend and invest their time and money. A modern transportation system (also prominently displayed) amongst a paradise of friendly people in a lush landscape continues to be the emphasis of the Department of Transportation, intending to have the nation's most beautiful highways that attract and grow business.

Nearly 200,000 acres, or 1/2 of 1% of the entire state, is managed by the Department of Transportation. About half of this is unpaved; *alive*. It is Florida's most visited and visible landscape, experienced this year by 100 million visitors and 19.5 million residents. Each year, at the direction of the Florida Legislature, tens of millions of dollars are invested in highway beautification. During the past few years, processes used to plan, design, construct and maintain roadways have been improved to consistently integrate landscape conservation and highway beautification. The returns on investment in highway beautification are growing. This favorable trend is gaining momentum, and support from business and government leaders. Secretary Jim Boxold has made it clear that *highway beautification will continue to be one of his office's highest priorities along with innovation and efficiency.*

Lead by the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA), a landscape industry liaison committee has been established to provide expert advice to the Department. Building on its twenty plus years relationship with FDOT, the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) is now one of several statewide organizations represented on the liaison committee. The committee has already presented its first recommendations intended to strengthen the Department's landscape program by

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improving contracting methods, contractor experience, and performance requirements.

Most communities, and the leaders responsible for their urban forests, enjoy the economic and ecosystem services that are available with quality roadside landscape design construction and maintenance. Each of the Department's District Landscape Architects is eager to provide

information about sources of funding and technical information necessary for a successful roadway landscape project. Visit MyFloridaBeautiful.com for more information.

Guy Murtonen serves as the representative for the FDOT on the Council's Executive Committee.



SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

Submitted by Steve Edgar, Forester – Long Leaf Forest Service, Inc.



Urban Forestry came with us on the Mayflower. It was found in the community wood lot, tended by the early New England Tree Wardens and developed into live oak parks by General Oglethorpe in Savannah. The Society of American Foresters has similar roots in 1889 when George Vanderbilt hired Gifford Pinchot to manage the forest at the Biltmore Estate. This was the nation's first professionally-managed forest.

In 1891, Congress passed the Forest Reserves Act, which created a reserve of 40 million acres of forestland in the United States and six years later in 1897, Congress passed the Organic Act, which served as the basis for management of the newly created forest reserves.

At this time, there were fewer than 10 individuals in the nation with any formal forest-management training, and all of them studied in Europe. That changed in 1898, when the Biltmore Forest School and the New York State College of Forestry at Cornell started forestry education programs. Two years later, the Yale School of Forestry began training professionals to manage our forest resources.

Pinchot believed that high standards were essential to bring a level of dignity to this new profession that equaled that of other professions. On November 30, 1900, Pinchot asked seven professional foresters to join him in his office at the Department of Agriculture. The result of that gathering was the formation of the Society of American Foresters (SAF).

The Society's objective was "to further the cause of forestry in America by fostering a spirit of comradeship among foresters; by creating opportunities for a free interchange of views upon forestry and allied subjects; and by disseminating knowledge of the purpose and achievements of forestry."

As the Society grew, so did its programs. A national meeting, held outside Washington, DC took place on 1914 in Ithaca, New York. The *Journal of Forestry* was published in January 1917 to bring the latest scientific information about forest management to its members. In 1935, SAF began the accreditation of forestry programs, which has expanded to four standards. In 1994, SAF created the Certified Forester program—the national certification program for foresters and other natural

"Today, SAF is a 10,000-member community that has held true to its original objective to bring forestry and natural resources professionals together and keep them informed about the latest advances in forest science and management."

resources professionals, with more credentials planned for the future. In 1995, SAF launched *The Forestry Source* newspaper to bring the latest news about forestry and the Society's activities directly to members. Today, SAF is a 10,000-member community that has held true to its original objective to bring forestry and natural resources professionals together and keep them informed about the latest advances in forest science and management.

Today the *Journal of Forestry* is an important source of information on all facets of forest management and research. Much of the funding for urban forest promotion and research originates from the US Forest Service and the land grant



agricultural universities making the science and practice of Forestry an important supporting factor in the practice of Urban Forest Management. This makes the Society an excellent source of information and professional networking for urban forest professionals.

SAF has an urban forestry working group, which focuses on issues, programs, policy, and regulatory laws in urban forest management. Among the Urban and Community Forestry working group's activities is filling the urban forestry portion of our annual meeting, which, this year, is taking place in Baton Rouge, LA from November 3 – 7, 2015.

For more information, or to join with us to further the cause of forestry in America visit the SAF website (www.safnet.org).

Steve Edgar serves as the representative for the SAF on the Council's Executive Committee.

Article prepared by Steve Edgar with assistance and material provided by Joseph M. Smith, Director of Communications, Society of American Foresters. History excerpts were also taken from "Urban Forestry IF Trees Could Talk."

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES



The Florida League of Cities (FLOC) is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to serve the needs of Florida's cities and promote local self-government. The League was founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy.

Florida's city officials formed as a group of municipal governments for the first time in 1922. They wanted to shape legislation, share the advantages of cooperative action and exchange ideas and experiences. Growing from a small number of cities and

towns, their membership now represents more than 400 cities, towns and villages in the Sunshine State. The League is governed by a Board of Directors composed of elected municipal officials.

The League has several policy committees—one of which is the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee. This committee addresses policies specific to municipal concerns with coastal management, energy, environmental and wetlands permitting, hazardous and toxic wastes, recycling, solid waste collection and disposal, stormwater, wastewater treatment and reuse, water management, water quality and quantity.

FLOC's headquarters is in Tallahassee and their Insurance Services and Technology Services Department are located in Orlando. The League is the premier provider of many products and services developed especially for Florida's cities.

The current president of FLOC, Matt Surrency, Mayor of the Town of Hawthorne, also serves as the representative for the FLOC on the Council's Executive Committee.



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Sumter Electric Cooperative:

- was named a *Tree Line USA* utility for the fourth consecutive year by *The National Arbor Day Foundation*. Employee arboriculture training, public education, and maintaining abundant, healthy trees in SECO's service area are common practices.
- installs osprey nesting dishes atop of the utility pole cross arms as needed for these magnificent birds.
- places squirrel guards atop the transformers to protect a variety of animals from danger, particularly squirrels.
- offers net metering to members interested in renewable generation such as photovoltaic systems.
- recycles retired power equipment, scrap steel, aluminum, copper, porcelain, fluorescent lights, ink printer and copier cartridges, plus much more.
- researches and writes *Nature's Reflections*, a special column in the members' newsletter developed to educate the community on the flora and fauna of Florida with eco-friendly topics like xeriscaping and conservation.



FLORIDA RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Leah Hoffman, Administrative Manager – Marion County Parks and Recreation Department



The Florida Recreation and Park Association (FRPA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, preservation, and advocacy of the Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Services profession. Originally organized in 1942 and incorporated in 1983, the Association is directed by a volunteer Board of Directors and an Executive Office based in Tallahassee.

FRPA members are professionals working for federal, state and local parks, recreation and leisure service agencies; local recreation and park advisory board members serving in local communities; faculty and students at colleges and universities; therapeutic recreation specialists and activity coordinators working in recreation settings; and suppliers of recreation and park products and services.

The FRPA mission statement states: "To establish parks and recreation as a cornerstone of health, economic development, environmental sustainability, and community throughout the State of Florida." The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUF) "promotes the value, enhancement and sound management of urban forests through leadership and

education." The mission statements of both the FRPA and the FUF are similar in their direction. While FRPA's statement is broader due to the diversity of the parks and recreation profession, it aligns well with FUF.

Educating our members in the communities we serve is essential in ensuring sustainability of both our urban forests and environments to provide future generations a quality of life which helps them grow life-long healthy environmental habits and activities.

Leah Hoffman, Administrative Manager with Marion County Parks and Recreation, serves as the representative for FRPA on the Council's Executive Committee.



FLORIDA NURSERY, GROWERS AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION



The Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA) is Florida's oldest and largest association targeting the needs of the Florida's environmental horticulture industry, which has an estimated \$15.2 billion in industry-wide sales annually. Through FNGLA's efforts, the entirety of Florida's nursery and landscape industry benefits! In 2012,

FNGLA celebrated 60 years of industry representation.

FNGLA is a vibrant network of professionals who work in unison to shape the future of Florida's nursery and landscape industry. Through the association's activities, FNGLA strives to advance members' business interests and enhance their success. It is also a member-driven association that recognizes the need for individual industry members to unify. FNGLA works to better the industry, raising the bar on professionalism by spearheading marketing programs, providing promotional and educational venues for members, taking a leadership role in protecting and promoting their members' business

interests, communicating the latest industry issues and providing professional accreditations to interested individuals.

FNGLA is managed by a 27-member Board of Directors comprised of member-elected representatives from their 16 active Chapters, 7 Divisions, and 4 statewide officers -- namely a President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past President. Included in FNGLA's seven divisions is the "Woody Division" that provides a representative to the Council.

Dion Collado serves as representative for FNGLA on the Council's Executive Committee.



FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA



The Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (FLASLA) proudly represents the landscape architecture

profession throughout the State of Florida. Members of the National ASLA residing in Florida are automatically assigned as members to the Florida Section.

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the association that represents the landscape architecture profession in the United States. ASLA has grown from 11 original members to more than 13,500 members, 80 corporate members, and 48 chapters to date. The Florida Chapter was founded in 1959 and their first meeting was held in Winter Park.

The Society's mission is to lead, educate, and participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our

cultural and natural environments. The American Society of Landscape Architects seeks to improve public understanding of the profession and to advance the practice of landscape architecture through education, communication, publications, online services, professional interaction, and development.

Mike Schulte, RLA with AECOM, serves as the representative for FLASLA on the Council's Executive Committee.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES EXTENSION



Extension is a partnership between state, federal, and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. The University of Florida (UF), together with Florida A&M University (FAMU), administers the Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

At the University of Florida, Extension is located in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), along

with the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) and the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and is called "UF/IFAS Extension."

The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is a federal, state, and county partnership dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences and to making that

knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life.

The UF/IFAS Extension encompasses thousands of Extension faculty members, scientists, educators, administrative staff, and volunteers, all working to provide solutions for your life. Nick T. Place, Ph.D., is the Dean and Director of UF/IFAS Extension.

Karen Stauderman, Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent at UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County, serves as the representative for UF/IFAS Extension on the Council's Executive Committee.



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FLORIDA CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE



The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is a professional organization dedicated to continuing education for arborists, to tree care research, and to serving tree care consumers around the world. The Florida Chapter of the ISA (FCISA) shares the same dedication, with a further commitment to serving the needs particular to Florida professional arborists and tree care consumers.

FCISA and the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) have a long history of partnerships on various activities and programs. Together the groups created and sponsored the Trees Florida Conference from 2000 to 2008. The two organizations also collaborated to develop the Trees4Florida public service announcements. Through an Urban and Community Forestry grant provided to FUFC and FCISA by the Florida Forest Service, \$96,250.00 was received for development of the radio, television and print advertisements and to purchase air-time. The two organizations also jointly chair the John P. White Memorial

Scholarship Committee that provides scholarships to provide support for education in the arboriculture/urban forestry industry. With similar missions, but different specific goals and objectives, the synergy between professionals managing the urban forest and the professionals maintaining individual trees, our organizations are closely linked.

Julie Iooss serves as the Florida Chapter ISA representative on the Council's Executive Committee.



KEEP FLORIDA BEAUTIFUL, INC.

Submitted by Jody Buyas, Coordinator – Keep Orlando Beautiful, Inc.

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

Keep America Beautiful (KAB) is the nation's leading nonprofit that brings people together to build and sustain vibrant communities. With a powerful network of community-based affiliates, the program works with millions of volunteers who take action in their communities to transform public spaces into beautiful places. At the State level of this organization, Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. (KFB) thrives on having a state network of over 40 affiliates and participating organizations at a city, county or local level. KFB combines education with hands-on stewardship to address the needs of communities as well as train and empower Certified Florida KAB Affiliates. Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. believes that every individual holds

an obligation to preserve and protect the environment.

KFB follows a practical approach that unites citizens, businesses, government and other nonprofit organizations to find solutions that advance its core issues of preventing litter, increasing recycling, reducing waste, and beautifying communities. Since one of the largest efforts of affiliate beautification projects is planting trees, it makes sense for the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) and KFB to form a partnership.

Jody Buyas, Coordinator for Keep Orlando Beautiful, Inc. and KFB representative and Member-at-Large on the FUFC Executive Committee, hopes to increase FUFC

membership through Florida affiliates and tree advocates that are part of the affiliate organizations. Through the strong network of KFB and their close ties within each of their communities, they will be able to assist FUFC's goals of increasing tree canopies and tree education across the state. FUFC is an excellent resource for Keep Florida Beautiful and the Florida affiliates for tree education, planting guidance and up-to-date information on the state of Florida's urban and rural forests. FUFC is the knowledge and KFB is the moving force to educate and utilize thousands of volunteers to properly plant trees across Florida. During the 2015 KAB Great American Cleanup, Florida affiliates planted 2,200 trees while educating thousands of volunteers.





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PARTNERING TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE URBAN FORESTS OF FLORIDA

Submitted by John A. Harris, MS, MBA, BS, AAS, President – Earth Advisors, Inc.



One organization working with the Florida Urban Forestry Council is the Landscape Inspectors Association of Florida. The mission of the Landscape Inspectors Association of Florida (LIAF) is to train, certify and provide peer networking for landscape professionals in order to promote Best Management Practices within Florida's Green Industry. This organization was formed in 1983 to help set standards for Landscape Inspections done for municipalities (and counties) for landscape codes, and be a place for municipal Landscape Inspectors to regularly meet and share their experiences.

Landscape Inspectors perform inspections and educate the public about minimum

landscape standards, tree protection and preservation, landscape installation standards, and other topics related to urban landscapes and trees. The LIAF has a diverse membership including Municipal Landscape Inspectors, Code Enforcement Officers, Planners, Landscape Architects, Arborists, landscape contractors, tree services, educators, and other professionals who are interested in preserving and protecting the green spaces in our communities. The membership meets monthly with invited speakers providing education at each meeting. LIAF also produces a one-day annual industry seminar to provide updates and new information to the Green Industry.

This organization is unique in Florida, and the United States, because it has produced a Landscape Inspectors Certification Program qualifying Landscape Inspectors based on knowledge and field practices needed to do landscape inspections. Certified Landscape Inspectors must pass the certification exam and then obtain minimum CEUs to maintain their certifications. There are municipalities that require their Landscape Inspectors to obtain and maintain this certification as a job requirement, so this certification program has achieved respect in the Green Industry and with municipal decision makers. There are also private Certified Landscape Inspectors who work

with property owners, businesses, and developers, to assist them with meeting the code requirements for their properties before the municipal inspections are required.

Members of the LIAF benefit from the education and information that is provided by FUFC, using these resources to educate both the public and industry in municipalities where they work. Many of the Landscape Inspectors are also members of FUFC supporting the growth and spread of urban forests between the organizations. Having an organization that brings together the professionals who daily do the work of protecting and preserving trees and green spaces in municipalities also gives the FUFC a ready voice when there are new threats to urban forests and new opportunities. When there are outbreaks of new pests like Spirling Whitefly or Citrus Greening, the LIAF is a fast mover of the research and recommendations for treating these new threats to the urban forest, and has members who are trained to inspect and monitor what is happening in their communities. When there are updates to industry references, like the 2015 revision to the Florida Grades & Standards for Nursery Plants, the LIAF is a key player in providing experience for reviewing

continues on pg. 19



LIAF Vice President, Dr. Michael Orfanedes, talks about tree pruning practices at LIAF's Annual Pruning Field Day

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Ken Lacasse.....(2014)

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President Bill Byrnes teaching GI-BMPs

the new publications and for disseminating the changes to active professionals and businesses in the Green Industry.

The FUFC has been active in helping expand the reach of LIAF through including presentations about the organization and the Landscape Inspectors Certification Program in regional workshops and annual conferences. LIAF has received Urban & Community Forestry Grants in the past (which are provided by the United States Forest Service through the Florida Forest Service and FUFC) to help with producing education programs in various locations throughout Florida, and continues to work with FUFC to further the goals of both organizations.

There are trained and qualified Certified Landscape Inspectors protecting and preserving the trees and landscapes in Florida, and FUFC commends the Landscape Inspectors Association of Florida for continuing to advance the knowledge and abilities of these professionals, and other professionals, in the Green Industry. Find out more about LIAF at www.landscapeinspectors.org.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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- Government/Non-Profit Agency @ \$100.00
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