



# The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2019 Issue One

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## URBAN FORESTS AND STORMWATER STUDIES

Submitted by Karen Firehock, Executive Director - Green Infrastructure Center Inc.

There are many threats affecting the health, stamina, and expansion of Florida’s urban forests. The most severe threats come from storms and land clearing. When these two threats come together, the consequences can be doubly devastating. Converting treed landscapes to paved surfaces – rooftops, roads, sidewalks and parking areas – will generate extremely high runoff volumes and velocities during storm events. Excessive stormwater will carry pollutants, erode soils, fill in canals, streams and bays, and stress a city’s infrastructure. Keeping trees in place and strategic tree plantings will

help Florida reduce the detrimental effects of stormwater runoff.

What do trees have to do with stormwater? Plenty! One large canopy tree can soak up thousands of gallons of rainfall every year! And if the tree is growing within a forest, the understory shrubs and plants soak up even more water. Increasingly severe storms and hurricanes such as Matthew, Irma, and Michael removed thousands of trees. Unfortunately, the fear of tree damage during storms tends to reduce replacement plantings. While less dramatic than a hurricane, development can bring about

greater loss of canopy as entire properties are cleared, or remaining trees are damaged during construction.

To determine how forests can best be used to combat stormwater, the nonprofit Green Infrastructure Center Inc. (GIC) received funding from the Southern Region of the U.S. Forest Service to study trees and stormwater in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. The Florida Forest Service administered the state grant for comparison studies for Orange County, the City of Miami Beach, and the City of Jacksonville.



The GIC mapped tree canopy and modeled stormwater interception and uptake of tree canopies. The GIC also reviewed the quality and scope of existing urban forest management programs and policies. Landcover and tree canopy maps revealed potential planting areas, estimated planting

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Trees have VALUES and are valuable for communities of any size. That is our theme for this issue of The Council Quarterly and is a message I speak almost daily as a Landscape Economist. The measurement of values that trees provide, and which are most important, can vary depending on who is asking for tree values to be calculated and reported.*

*Reductions for stormwater volumes and intensity of rainfall onto soils are tree values engineers and planners need to know more about. Improvements for physical and mental health from viewing and visiting urban-forested parks and properties are tree values that doctors, health insurers and sociologists need to know more about. Increased real estate values--and replacement costs for losses of trees--are tree values that real estate agents, appraisers, and lawyers need to know more about. We know trees are diverse for the many species and sizes that grow in Florida, so it is logical that the values of trees are also diverse. With more research we'll continue to learn more about trees and tree values.*

*Our recent 2019 Urban Forestry Institute communicated many tree values to attendees through the educational presentations. Success stories were shared in the presentations. Networking opportunities gave all of us new ideas and precedent projects to support our plans to improve urban forests in each of our communities. I like to say that we are improving our shared environment one tree at a time (or property at a time) with the work we do.*

*Your Florida Urban Forestry Council promotes the tree values we know about, supports needed research to expand our knowledge about trees and their values, and educates us about the influence these values can have on THE DECISIONS FOR URBAN PLANNING, DESIGN, AND MAINTENANCE TO PRESERVE AND EXPAND OUR URBAN FORESTS IN FLORIDA.*

*Thanks for your continued interest and support for the urban forests of Florida. Spend some time enjoying an urban forest near you today--it can be valuable time for your life.*

*In Support,*

*John Harris*  
FUFC President

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costs, and optimal places for planting trees, or retaining existing canopy, for combatting stormwater. A **Trees and Stormwater Calculator Tool** was developed to estimate how much water trees could soak up during different storm events. One could also calculate the reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment runoff. Each city received a case booklet summarizing the findings.

The project is timely because storms are increasing and urban forests are declining. The construction of stormwater ponds is an attempt to manage the ill effects of stormwater and runoff. Though retention ponds can detain runoff and allow sediment and other pollutants to settle and break down, they are very expensive to build and maintain. Alternative land use and intrinsic value is limited. If not maintained, underground piping and drains are subject to overflows. In coastal communities where sea level is rising and high tides cause reverse flooding, salt water can backflow through the city's stormwater infrastructure and cause 'sunny day' or tidal flooding.



There is abundant research showing that urban flooding, and its inherent problems, are increasing. For example, research conducted in Miami Beach, by the University of Miami and Florida State University, found that "significant changes in flooding frequency occurred after 2006. Rain-induced events increased by 33% and tide-induced events increased by more than 400%" (Wdowinski et al 2016). The tide-induced floods have affected mostly low-lying neighborhoods in the western part of the city, where development replaced mangrove wetlands (Wdowinski et al 2016). Reducing impervious surfaces and increasing vegetation are ways to ease the frequency and intensity of flooding. Vegetation--trees in particular--will intercept, disperse, and draw water from saturated soils through their natural transpiration process. The relationship between rainfall volumes and types of land cover (pavement, lawn, tree canopy, forests) can be measured and determined.





Tree canopy reduces the proportion of precipitation that becomes stream and surface flow, also known as water yield. A study by Hynicka and Divers (2016) accounts for the role tree canopy plays in capturing stormwater in a water yield equation:

$$R = \frac{(P - C_i - I_a)^2}{(P - C_i - I_a) + S}$$

Where R is runoff, P is precipitation,  $I_a$  is the initial abstraction for captured water (the fraction of the storm depth after which runoff begins), and S is the potential maximum retention after runoff begins for the subject land cover ( $S = 1000/CN - 10$ ). Canopy interception ( $C_i$ ) is subtracted from precipitation (P) to account for the water that trees take up.

#### Major factors determining soil retention are:

- The hydrologic soil group (defined by surface infiltration rates and transmission rates of water through the soil profile, when thoroughly wetted)
- Land cover types
- Hydrologic condition – density of vegetative cover, surface texture, seasonal variations
- Treatment – design or management practices that affect runoff

The GIC study produced a highly detailed land cover analysis useful when identifying potential planting sites in the future. The land cover analyses can be used for many other applications, to include the cooling potential of heat islands, walkability, trails, wildlife habitats, parks, and when developing comprehensive master plans.

The trees and stormwater models and calculator tools can be used to estimate the impact of the current canopy, possible losses to that canopy, and potential for

increasing that canopy. For example, during a 24-hour rain event, the trees of Miami Beach can take up an average of 8.5 million gallons of water. That’s about 13 Olympic swimming pools of water! For the same event, a loss of 10 percent of the urban tree canopy would increase runoff by 2.23 million gallons. Increasing canopy coverage from the current 17 to 20 percent would decrease runoff by 1.3 million gallons. For a larger city such as Jacksonville, calculations reveal that during a 24-hour rain event, trees absorb 1.377 billion gallons!

The key finding from the GIC study was that retaining, or allowing for mature trees and forest canopy, will have the greatest impacts when decreasing runoff from stormwater. Retaining or planting trees will bring added benefits to the community too--fostering clean air, walkability, and attractive residential and commercial land use. The recent Million Trees Miami Assessment found that a higher tree canopy percentage is associated with lower overall hospitalization numbers from illnesses and for chronic conditions such as asthma.

As a city develops, its policies, codes and management practices steer the future of its urban forest and the future rates of runoff. The project’s *Codes, Policies and Practices Audit Tool* shows how each city can improve its regulations and practices to maximize stormwater infiltration and support a healthful urban forest. The tool scored each community and showed where improvement was needed. Series questions come into play challenging the role that existing practices and policies play when expanding or decreasing the creation of future pervious or impervious surfaces.

Unwittingly a city’s policies could be undermining local efforts to conserve trees. For example, allowing trees to be planted in

insufficient tree wells is useless if trees do not survive or reach a long-life expectancy. Similarly, if communities are planting hundreds of trees, while thousands are being lost to excessive land clearing, the net result is a declining urban forest. Addressing local standards and requirements for parking lots, tree plantings, landscape, and conservation practices may be the most effective way to protect urban trees.

Overall, the 12-community study found insufficient soil volume standards; extreme land clearing; lack of consultation with municipal arborists; excessive pavement requirements; lack of emergency plans and risk assessment; inadequate utilization of the private sector and tree advocacy groups to achieve planting goals; lack of urban forest management plans; and unenforced fines for code violations were key elements threatening the advancement and enhancement of urban forests.

Linking trees with stormwater management--recognizing trees as a functional part stormwater infrastructure--is a recommended best practice. Other best practices include involving urban foresters in predevelopment reviews; strict tree removal permits; use of structures and surfaces to support urban trees; strong relationships with tree advocate groups and urban forest councils; high tree canopy retention requirements; tree risk assessment mapping; and education of elected and appointed officials.

Final reports are completed including steps to replicate the stormwater calculator tool and maps, links to the Codes, Policies and Practices Audit Tool and best recommended practices. Community case studies and the final reports are available at [http://www.gicinc.org/trees\\_stormwater.htm](http://www.gicinc.org/trees_stormwater.htm)





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# STUMP THE FORESTER



**QUESTION:** When there is a conflict between tree canopy and streetlights, which takes priority--light or limbs? And, who is responsible for trimming trees around streetlights?

**ANSWER:** This can be a shady subject. There is no hard and fast rule. There are a number of things to consider that might help shed some light on an answer. Some trees are shadier than others, and not every streetlight, lamppost, or light pole has the same function or design. Every scenario involving a tree and an adjacent streetlight is different--each having its own impact, consequences, benefactors, and possible solutions. Streetlights and trees are a necessary part of a city's infrastructure. They both compliment and complete the basic design and function of streets, sidewalks, and right-of-ways. Both provide inherent benefits that can enhance the physical environment. In most cases, conflicts between trees and streetlights can

be resolved by properly pruning branches and directing growth away from the intended path of light.

As a general rule, the entity that has jurisdiction over the space in question has the responsibility of trimming. Often the conflicts between streetlight illumination and tree branches occur inside the boundary of the city, or municipal, right-of-way. A city forester, or municipal arborist, can effectively improve illumination with proper pruning techniques. Pruning below the streetlight may provide the added benefit of improving safe clearance for travel along streets and/or sidewalks under the streetlight.

If there is an existing electrical hazard, the jurisdiction and responsibility over the space would likely transfer to the utility provider. To avoid an electrical hazard from an existing overhead wire, pole transformer or other electrical device, a utility forester or arborist may provide assistance if pruning would require a specialized scope of work, electrical safety clearance, or use of insulated trimming equipment. The utility may also accept responsibility where pruning will enhance safe access for maintenance and repairs to the streetlight and its parts.

A private entity, to include gated communities, managed subdivisions, common areas, business complexes, and private land owners, would have jurisdiction over private property. In this case, the owner of the tree may have the authority and assume the responsibility of trimming a tree to improve the illumination of a streetlight to a satisfactory level.

At best, trees and trimming standards, within the right-of-way, will fall under the legal protection of a tree ordinance. Tree ordinances exist because trees are recognized as valuable assets. Streetlights

may have design standards and guidelines, but there is no legal right to light. This is not to suggest that nighttime illumination is less important than daytime shade. There are situations where tree trimming, and/or a tree removal is justified. Still, tree trimming should not be done irresponsibly. Reckless trimming and loose techniques shall not compromise the health of the tree, or the well-being of the benefits they provide.

Thus far, we've addressed the downward, ambient light below the streetlight. Light/limb conflicts would involve the understory, lower canopy branches, and perhaps younger trees that have not yet reached their mature height. The upper canopy of mature trees above a streetlight may help alleviate the adverse effects of urban sky glow, glare, and light pollution from excessive artificial lighting--to include the disruptions to the life cycles of insects, nocturnal animal populations and inclusion of nesting sea turtles along our coast.

Streetlights have their purpose, and trees have their place. Trees and streetlights can co-exist, but they can't each dominate the same space. Excessive blockage, or excessive trimming, should be avoided. What are the mitigating circumstances? When should a tree be removed? When should a streetlight be relocated? Local municipal foresters, utility arborists, and private tree-care specialists, can be a guiding light to the answers and solutions to tree and streetlight conflicts.

*Answer provided by Joe Anderson, JEA Utility Forester and John Harris, President, Earth Advisors, Inc.*



*If you would like to 'stump the forester,' see page 15 for information on submitting your question!*



# THE UTILITY OF TREES

Submitted by Joe Anderson, JEA Utility Forester



Utility is the state of being useful, profitable, or beneficial. By definition, we would be correct to identify trees as a valued utility built into the framework of a city's infrastructure. Natural systems are important components of city's working infrastructure. The term "Green Infrastructure" is often applied to landscape designs and natural systems that coincide with development and built environments. The term has its roots in Florida and can be traced back to a 1994 report to Governor Lawton Chiles by the Florida Greenways Commission. Understanding the environmental contributions that trees provide, such as air and water filtration, heat island abatement, storm water control, soil stabilization, aesthetics, and enhanced recreational experiences, will

enable communities, neighborhoods, and urban centers to find value in the benefits of the urban forest.

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*"We know that lightning strikes trees. What is often overlooked is the electrical current (lightning), that is contained and traveling, unseen, through overhead electrical lines."*

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Utility foresters and arborist are tasked with providing safe and reliable utility services--to include the electrical, water, wastewater, and trees. Most notably, they provide solutions to conflicts between trees and overhead electrical lines. Though vegetation can pose a significant threat to safe and reliable electrical service, in the mind of the utility arborist, the power of the community can be found in the canopy of trees. One must consider, regarding the laws of physics, electricity will do what it is supposed to do -- always.

Wood may not be a good conductor of electricity, but the living vascular system of a tree, and/or the burnt carbon path etched into a tree trunk, can be a great conductor. We know that lightning strikes trees. What is often overlooked is the electrical current (lightning), that is contained and traveling, unseen, through overhead electrical lines. It will strike trees if given a chance. With regards to electricity, DISTANCE is our friend. Though trees and utility lines share space in our communities, each has its own personal space – a distance and threshold that must be respected.

Have you ever considered that the electrical distribution system that serves the city is very much like the chemical distribution system flowing throughout a tree? Both distribution systems have trunk lines, branches, laterals, switches, transformers, and both are grounded. Both are utilities-- being useful, profitable, and beneficial.



If a city is to incorporate the benefits of trees into its goods and services, it will need more than trees. It will need a sustainable and resilient forest canopy. A sustainable and resilient forest canopy will require a strong, responsive tree industry. An industry of private, municipal, non-profit, and civic organizations, can provide the solutions needed to enhance the benefits of trees and mitigate the risks and hazards. At a deeper level, a sustainable and resilient forest canopy does not need the support of just the public – it needs the support of an **informed public**.

We need informed, tree-minded communities, that can look at a tree and see themselves. A city's humble beginnings are not unlike an acorn. With a little Florida sun, water, and space to grow, they will, by nature, grow – and grow big. The potential for growth is engineered into the infant city and the acorn. Through the passing of time the internal infrastructure of a tree and a

developing community will grow, age, and crumble from time to time. Both will need attention, repairs, dedicated budgets, and personnel assigned to the task.

Infrastructure and utilities are the roots of a city. Just like a tree, the topside of your city is busy, in constant motion, and anchored by a foundation of pipes and fibers underground. No roots, no branches. Without proper and adequate roots, the tree, nor the city, can branch out.

A tree will tap into the energy of the sun, convert it to chemical energy, and distribute the energy throughout its trunk, branches, twigs, buds, and leaves. The xylem and phloem are the open pathways for distribution. In a similar fashion, a city will tap into a source of electricity, and distribute the energy throughout its businesses, essential services, public spaces and residents – the twigs, leaves, and fruits and flowers of the city. Established right-of-ways are the

xylem and phloem, the open pathways for distribution.

Our cities, communities, and neighborhoods need to recognize that they need to breathe. A sustainable and resilient tree canopy will provide oxygen, shade, soil stabilization, color, structure, pollution control, carbon sinks, inspiration, recreation, fruits and flowers, and diversity. Trees are natural pumps that can effectively pull and recycle water from saturated soils. They are sight buffers, sound barriers, natural areas and trees provide tree-related jobs.

We need trees and the valuable benefits they provide. The individual tree is not alone. It stands as part of a larger narrative of an urban tree canopy; a canopy that is useful, profitable and beneficial. Therefore, our urban tree canopies are indeed valuable utilities to be built as part of the framework of a city's infrastructure.





# Tree of the Quarter

**RIVER BIRCH**  
*(Betula nigra)*

Birch trees are attractive, graceful, and luminous trees. Slender, wispy shapes; bright, reflective bark; and thin, dainty leaves can create a rather radiant tree canopy. The river birch (*Betula nigra*) is no exception. The river birch is Florida's only native birch. It's the only birch that is able to shrug off Florida's hot summer days. In best conditions, the river birch has a medium to fast rate of growth. Cultivated trees have a shorter lifespan (30-40 years) than those grown in the natural, native habitat (40-120 years). Though often found in nurseries as a multi-stemmed tree, the river birch is, and will thrive as, a single-stemmed tree.

**Size and Form:** Medium-sized tree 40-70 feet tall. Oval-shaped crown with spreading, slightly-weeping branches. Not a predominant multi-stemmed tree. Will grow as a single-stem or a multi-stemmed tree.

**Habitat:** Flood plains and swamps. In the wild, the birch is a pioneering species--one of the first to colonize open spaces within forests, moist fields, newly exposed mud flats, and silty shore lines. Associated species include red maple, sycamore, and elms. The tree is common to wet sites, but it will grow fine in well-drained sites, yards and landscapes.



**Range:** Wide range. Hardiness zones 4-9. New Hampshire west to southern Minnesota, south to northern Florida, and west to Texas.

**Leaves:** Similar to other birches, leaves are alternate, ovate to triangular, with a wide wedge-shaped base; 2-3 inches long; deeply, doubly serrate. Yellow color in fall.

**Twigs and Branch:** Reddish brown, slender, and lacking terminal buds. Relatively weak branches.

**Bark:** The thin, pinkish-tan, cinnamon-colored, exfoliating, papery bark is an outstanding aesthetic characteristic. It can

remain a dominant feature in the landscape even in the leafless, dormant winter months. Peeling subsides with age.

**Flowers:** Male catkins are pendulous and elongate; the female catkins are shorter and erect.

**Fruit and Seed:** Seeds grow in pubescent, clusters (strobiles) that are dispersed by wind.

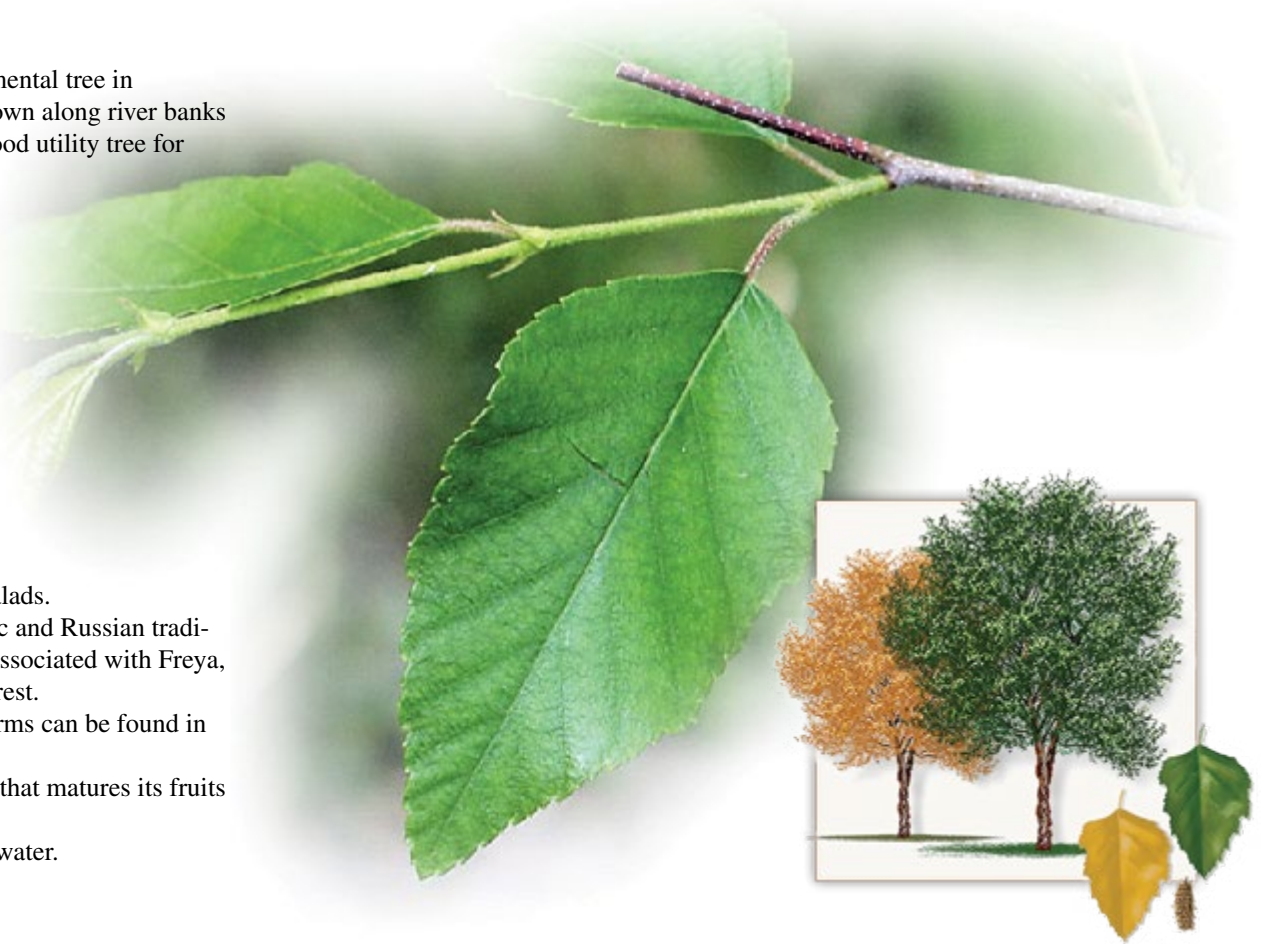
**Environment:** Prefers full sun. Does not thrive in shade. Prefers acidic soils. Grows well in wet environments, but is not limited to moist soils. The river birch will do well in well-drained soils too.



**Usage:** Common ornamental tree in landscaped yards. Grown along river banks to combat erosion. Good utility tree for stormwater control for areas prone to flooding. The river birch is relatively easy to transplant, grown from seed, or softwood cuttings. Commercial value is limited to pulpwood.

**Little Known Facts:**

- Young leaves can provide a healthy addition to fresh salads.
- In Norse, Germanic and Russian traditions, the birch is associated with Freya, the Lady of the Forest.
- Strong weeping forms can be found in nurseries.
- It is the only birch that matures its fruits in late spring.
- Can be tapped for water.



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# 2018 FRIENDS OF OUR URBAN FOREST AWARDS PROGRAM

The ability to bring people together is perhaps the greatest benefit received from the urban forests. The urban forest brings together a people, place, and purpose. The greatest value of any tree, woods, or forests is found in its people.

Throughout Florida, urban forestry programs and initiatives are always underway. The Florida Urban Forestry Council's (FUFC) *Friends of Our Urban Forest Awards* program recognizes

achievements of organizations and individuals in their efforts to manage, promote, educate, and advocate for urban forests in our communities. Nominations are received annually in the categories of outstanding professional, outstanding tree advocate or tree advocacy group, outstanding project, outstanding urban forestry program, and lifetime achievement.

Are your people, places, and programs being recognized, announced and

celebrated? Does your community forest have outstanding people and programs that are putting down roots? Have you ever applied for, or submitted an award nomination to the Florida Urban Forestry Council? You can find out more about the Friends of Our Urban Forest Award program at the FUFC website, at [http://www.fufc.org/awards\\_information.php](http://www.fufc.org/awards_information.php)

Congratulations to our FUFC Friends of the Urban Forest Award Winners of 2018:

## WADE F. COLLUM OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL



Wade's tireless commitment to the industry and dedicated contributions to his city, county, fellow Arborists, and allied professional industries are nothing short of inspiring. He is known throughout the state as a person dedicated to his profession of urban forestry- and all those that serve in it. His passion stands out among his peers and his contributions and team spirit show a wonderful sense of camaraderie and leadership.

Wade's reputation of being firm, but fair, in tree preservation, tree installation, and sound forestry and arboricultural practices, is well known. The only thing that surpasses his passion for educating people about trees, is his profound volunteering spirit to his industry, to the community, and to his friends.

The main street of Floral City, in southeastern Citrus County, is Orange Avenue. In 1884, the town fathers planted 128 Oak trees along the roadway giving it the current moniker of "Avenue of the Oaks." In 1993, the Avenue and the historic district was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Floral City Heritage Council, led by Marcia Beasley and Frank Peters, was instrumental in achieving this designation.

The County affords special protection of the trees in their land development code, primarily through the efforts of these individuals. The trees are within the

right-of-way of Orange Avenue so their care falls under the aegis of the County's Road Maintenance Division. Because of the trees' protected status, County staff discuss all planned activities with Mr. Peters, the Heritage Council Tree Committee Chair.

During 2018, the Committee convinced the County to fund a study of the health of the Historic District Oaks, including a plan for tree maintenance and replacement. The Heritage Council and Garden Club have held fundraisers in recent years to provide for tree replacement. Mrs. Beasley and Mr. Peters have provided outstanding efforts to preserve these historic trees.

## FLORAL CITY AVENUE OF THE OAKS / MARCIA BEASLEY AND FRANK PETERS OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCATE





**COMMUNITY GREENING**  
*OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCACY GROUP*



The Coral Way Tree Preservation Project is a unique effort that led to the preservation of over 150 historic Banyan trees (*Ficus benghalensis*). These Ficus trees, some as large as 22 feet in diameter and 100 feet in crown spread, are located in the public median of Coral Way. This roadway is a designated state historic highway located in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County. The project was a collaboration of public and private entities and was spearheaded by Keith & Schnars.

This project is noteworthy for the historic element of both the trees and the site, and for the negotiation of multiple objectives, which at times were competing. The Banyan trees were protected during every aspect of roadway improvements and pedestrian safety upgrades, and were crown cleaned and pruned for vertical clearance. The end result is a safer roadway, and the preservation of beautiful Banyan trees that continue to make a significant contribution to the urban forest and cultural context of Coral Way.

**CORAL WAY TREE PRESERVATION PROJECT**  
*OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROJECT*



Community Greening is a fairly new group, but they are tirelessly working to grow the urban forests of South Florida. Mark Cassini and Matt Shipley have worked very hard to establish a diverse network of partners, and have gone the extra mile to engage both adult and youth volunteers in projects aimed at bettering their communities. Community Greening uses their high-energy and infectious enthusiasm to get people excited about tree planting projects. Through their efforts, Community Greening is not just planting trees, they are planting the seeds of hope and environmental consciousness in every volunteer.



The City of Miami Beach held its first ever Junior Forester Program this year in an effort to reach out to their city's youth and educate them in the importance of trees and how our urban forest plays a major role in building a more resilient community for their generation and those to follow. This is part of the city's Urban Forestry Outreach Initiative, which has also included having children participate in city tree planting events such as Arbor Day and conducting sapling giveaways in our elementary schools as part of earth month.

The Junior Forester Program was designed as a more in-depth educational session that would be conducted through the city's science-based summer camp programs. This included an emphasis on tree biology, tree identification, proper tree planting, and general maintenance and pruning practices. In its first year, the program was able to reach over 50 children between the ages of 7 and 11 through two sessions. The City of Miami Beach is very proud of the success they had with the first-year run and look forward to expanding the program further in the years to come.



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Norm has been at the root and center of Florida's urban forestry history for over 35 years. He was practicing urban forestry before urban forestry was even recognized in Florida. Over time, his roles have changed through his long history of serving the profession.

He began his career fighting fires in Florida with the Florida Forest Service in 1980, immediately after graduating from the urban forestry program at University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point. From there he found his mark in Sarasota County by working 19 years for the government developing and implementing their first urban forestry program. He served as

president of the Florida Urban Forestry Council in 1995-96.

For the past 18 years, he has served as the CEO of the Florida Chapter of ISA, and is recognized as nearly synonymous with the Chapter at this point in his career. He also serves as the International ISA Certification Chair, and was recently appointed as a member of the ISA Pruning Qualification Committee.

Norm has significantly contributed to building urban forestry in the state and is recognized in the US and internationally as a leader in professional development.

Celebrating achievements of people and projects should be part of every urban forestry program. Awards and recognition will help build integrity into what you do and why you do it. The Florida Urban Forestry Council provides an award program that can help celebrate the people and programs that help Florida's urban forests remain a great place to live, work, and play. To learn more about the FUFC awards program visit our website at, [http://fufc.org/awards\\_information.php](http://fufc.org/awards_information.php).

**NORM EASEY**  
**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**



*Working in Harmony with Nature*

**Sumter Electric Cooperative has always placed a high priority on the environment** by working to stay in harmony with nature. Evidence of SECO's environmental stewardship is displayed through the following programs.

**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.



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Bob Turner Jr. at 1-856-694-4100



# Join Us

Our members are the lifelines of our mission.  
Thank you for your continued support.

*New and renewed members through May 31, 2019. Please let us know if we fail to mention your name.*

## SUPPORTING

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John Foltz  
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Jennifer Wiltz*

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*Daniel Adams*

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James Dillon  
Wendell Hunt  
Rick Provencher  
Cemetery Sexton (TBD)*

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*Russell Adams*

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Lisa Sanderson  
Matt Smith  
Kalan Taylor*

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Smith Amisial  
Gloria Antia  
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Lori Ballard  
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Brooke Botterill  
Kyle Brudzinski  
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Ruth Hamberg, RLA  
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Perez  
Lisa Hill  
Keith Horn  
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Gloria Jones  
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## Tim Kerns

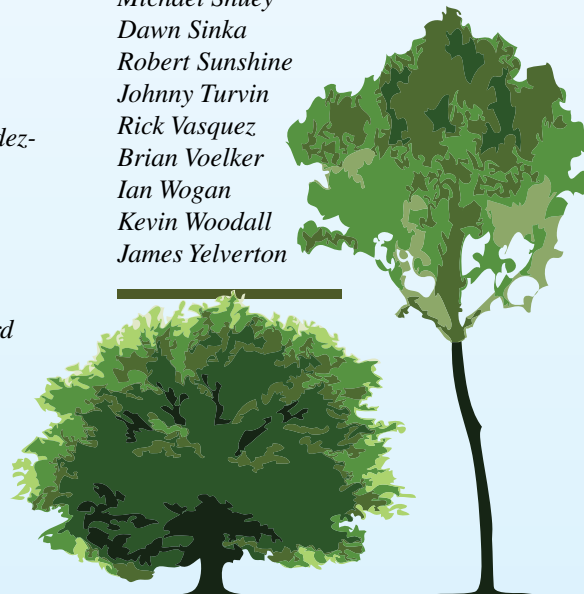
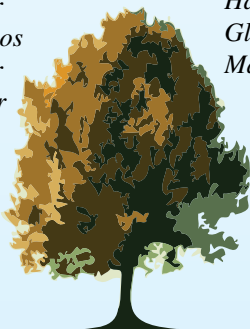
*Jason Lamey  
Casey Lee  
Dale Lesinski  
Will Liner  
Henry Mayer  
Matthew Melvin  
Carmen Mendez  
Chris Miller  
Wade Neilson  
Suzanne Newman  
Lindsey Nieratka  
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Marc Pierre  
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Jorge Rivera  
William Robbins  
Ronald Rollins  
Steve Rounds  
Dario Rubi  
Clark Ryals  
Jennifer Savaro  
Wyman Scott, Jr.  
Joseph Sentence  
Jeff Shimonski  
Michael Shuey  
Dawn Sinka  
Robert Sunshine  
Johnny Turvin  
Rick Vasquez  
Brian Voelker  
Ian Wogan  
Kevin Woodall  
James Yelverton*

## TREE ADVOCATE

*Lamont Andrews  
David Wing*

## HONORARY

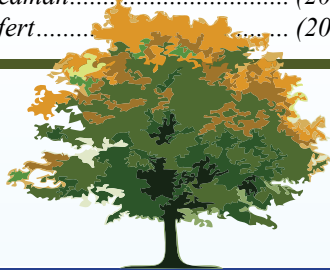
*Mike Conner  
Anna Dooley  
Norm Easey  
Justin Freedman  
Ed Gilman  
Steve Graham  
Michael Greenstein  
Elizabeth Harkey  
Mary Lou Hildreth  
John Holzaepfel  
Julie Ioose  
Howard Jeffries  
Andy Kittsley  
Ken Lacasse  
Earline Luhrman  
Bill Reese  
Jerry Renick  
Mike Robinson  
Linda Seufert  
John Tamsberg  
Celeste White*





**FUFC PAST PRESIDENTS**

- Steve Graham..... (1990-1991)
- Ed Gilman..... (1991-1992)
- Bill Reese..... (1992-1993)
- Andy Kittsley..... (1993-1994)
- Jeffrey Siegel..... (1994-1995)
- Norm Easey..... (1995-1996)
- John Tamsberg..... (1996-1998)
- Mike Conner..... (1998-1999)
- Julie Iooss..... (1999-2000)
- Anna Dooley..... (2000-2001)
- Howard Jeffries..... (2001-2002)
- Mike Greenstein..... (2002-2003)
- Mike Robinson..... (2004-2005)
- Celeste White..... (2006-2007)
- Earline Luhrman..... (2008-2009)
- John Holzaepfel..... (2010)
- Jerry Renick..... (2011)
- Mary Lou Hildreth..... (2012)
- Elizabeth Harkey..... (2013)
- Ken Lacasse..... (2014)
- Justin Freedman..... (2015)
- Linda Seufert..... (2016-2017)



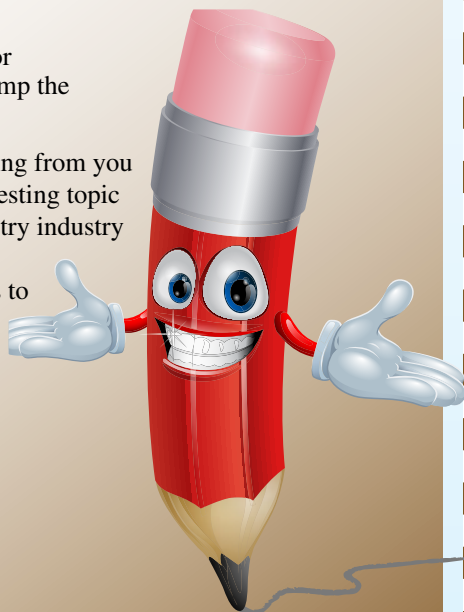
**REQUEST FOR ARTICLES**

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 Joe Anderson, FUFC newsletter editor, at [andejs@jea.com](mailto:andejs@jea.com).

Thanks for contributing!



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

*(Dues are effective for the calendar year of January 1 - December 31)*

**Make check or money order payable to FUFC and mail to:**

Post Office Box 547993, Orlando, FL 32854-7993

Categories (please check one):

- Professional @ \$25.00**  
*(Professional membership is open to anyone who is actively working in the profession of Urban Forestry or any related profession.)*
- Tree Advocate @ \$20.00**  
*(Tree Advocate membership is granted to those volunteers who are members of a tree board, beautification committee or other Urban Forestry volunteer group, and/or an interested citizen.)*
- Supporting @ \$200.00**  
*(Supporting membership is granted to those individuals, groups or other entities expressing a desire for a strong supportive role in the Council. Membership will be granted for up to five individuals of an organization or business.)*
- Government/Non-Profit Agency @ \$100.00**  
*(Government/Non-Profit Agency membership is granted to those individuals, groups or other entities actively working in the profession of Urban Forestry or any related profession. Membership will be granted for up to five individuals within the agency.)*
- Student @ \$10.00**  
*(Student membership is granted to anyone who is actively enrolled as a full-time student and who is considering pursuing a career in Urban Forestry.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in further information regarding serving on a Council subcommittee?  Yes  No

Area of interest: \_\_\_\_\_





FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL  
 Post Office Box 547993  
 Orlando, FL 32854-7993



For more information or change of address, please contact the FUFUC:

Phone: (407) 872-1738

Fax: (407) 872-6868

E-Mail: [info@fufc.org](mailto:info@fufc.org)

Website: [www.fufc.org](http://www.fufc.org)

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 FNGLA  
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**Joe Anderson**  
*President Elect*  
 Appointed Position  
 Advisory Member  
 JEA



**Erin Givens**  
*Vice President*  
 Appointed Position  
 Advisory Member  
 Orlando Utilities  
 Commission



**Steve Edgar**  
*Treasurer*  
 Appointed Position  
 Society of American  
 Foresters  
 Long Leaf Forest Service,  
 Inc.

**Vacancy**  
*Secretary*

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**Alexis Alvey, Appointed Position**

- ASLA/FL Chapter

**Kathleen Brennan, Appointed Position**

- Florida League of Cities

**Jody Buyas, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
 City of Orlando

**David Fox, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
 UF/SFRC

**Elizabeth Harkey, Elected Position**

- City Arborist  
 City of Sanford

**Julie Iooss, Appointed Position**

- FL Chapter ISA  
 Retired – City of Orlando

**Andrew Koeser, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
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 Education Center

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- Member-at-Large  
 City of Vero Beach

**William "Bill" Lester, Appointed Position**

- Cooperative Extension Service  
 Hernando County Extension Office

**Mark Miller, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
 City of Apopka

**Daisy Morales, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
 Orange County Soil and Water  
 Conservation District

**Ricky Peterika, Elected Position**

- Member-at-Large  
 Dark Moss LLC

**Gregory Polidora, Appointed Position**

- Advisory Member  
 FP&L

**Brad Radecki, Elected Position**

- Member-at-Large  
 City of Orlando

**Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes, Elected Position**

- Member-at-Large  
 Pinellas County

**Darryl Richard, Appointed Position**

- FL Department of Transportation  
 FDOT - District One

**John Springer, Elected Position**

- Tree Advocacy  
 Enchanted Walkabouts

**David Watford, Elected Position**

- Utility Forester  
 SECO Energy

**Mark Williams, Elected Position**

- Member-at-Large  
 City of Fort Lauderdale

**Ian Wogan, Elected Position**

- Private Arborist  
 True Tree Service

**Vacancy - FRPA**

**William Liner**

- Florida Forest Service Liaison

**Stephen Lloyd**

- Florida Forest Service

**Sandy Temple**

- FUFUC Executive Director