



# The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2023 Issue Four

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## 2023 YEAR IN 'TREE-VIEW'

Submitted by Todd Little, Urban Forestry Coordinator, Florida Forest Service

We've had quite a year in Florida's urban forests, with new funding sources, new grant programs, new partnerships, and of course, new trees being planted every day. But what was accomplished? I think you'll agree 2023 has been one of the best years for urban forestry in decades.

For starters, Florida had a phenomenal performance in 2022 with Tree City USA and its related programs. The year-end results for 2023 aren't available since the application window is still open. For the start of the year, we had 166 communities qualify for Tree City USA, with an astonishing 99.39% recertification rate. Across the state, the average spent on tree care and planting was \$8.17 per capita, well above the \$2 required for certification. Over half of the state lives within a Tree City USA designation, and over \$97 million was spent on urban forestry. We also had seven utility providers qualify for Tree Line USA, and 14 colleges earned Tree Campus USA status. This was a great year for recognizing Florida's urban foresters.

Helping communities recertify under these programs is great, but if you know a community not yet enrolled, please reach out and encourage their participation. Beyond the recognition, Tree City USA and its related programs come with some benefits. Applicants for grants from the Florida Forest Service receive credit on their application for being recognized under one of these programs. Other grant programs offer preference on applications, such as

the TD Greenspace Grant ([arborday.org/programs/TDGreenSpaceGrants](http://arborday.org/programs/TDGreenSpaceGrants)). If there are financial hurdles preventing a city from holding an Arbor Day celebration, we have funding available to help promote these events. Reach out to your county forester ([FDACS.gov/CountyForester](http://FDACS.gov/CountyForester)) to find out more details.

In addition to these Arbor Day programs, this year has been historic for new urban forestry funding. First, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has allowed the Florida Forest Service to offer \$750,000 in grants this year to improve green infrastructure practices throughout the state. That includes the removal and replacement of invasive species with native trees, the planting of trees along waterways, and work to improve tree preservation during construction. Given the constant challenges we face in maintaining our urban forests, this funding allows us to improve our urban forests in new ways. While the application window for this funding is closed for this year, application opportunities will continue over the next few years.

Speaking of new funding opportunities, the Inflation Reduction Act is scheduled to spread \$1.5 billion across the country to improve urban forests over the next 10 years. In Florida, we'll be offering up significant grant opportunities for at least the next three years. While our first application window just closed, keep an eye out for these grants to open again next year.

While not new, our typical urban and community forestry grants are still going strong and will be back again in 2024. Now is the time to apply for these grants. I'm expecting application windows to open throughout 2024. Keep an eye on our website ([FDACS.gov/ForestryGrants](http://FDACS.gov/ForestryGrants)) to make sure you're up to date.

At FFS, we'll continue working to provide the best assistance and representation for you at the state level; all we ask is for you to continue your great work. If there's ever anything we can do to help support you and your work, don't hesitate to contact your county forester or myself. Let's work together and take advantage of all this new funding to truly make Florida's urban forests the model for the world.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My time as President of the FUFC is coming to an end. This has been such a remarkable year and such an amazing experience to serve you and the FUFC this past year. Before becoming president, I was already astounded by the connections and opportunity I encountered just being a member and then Executive Committee member of the FUFC. The opportunity to lead this organization expanded my network and understanding of the breadth and complexity of our profession in Florida and nationwide and for that I am immensely grateful.

My tenure ends at the beginning of an historic moment in urban forestry across the United States as an unprecedented 1.5 billion dollars has allocated to Urban Forestry projects over the next 10 years. The Florida Forest Service received 3.75 million to pass through to projects in our state and the first of several grant opportunities for those funds is open now. I know that the dedicated and tireless urban foresters and tree advocates in our state and

across the country will be hard at work making the most of every dollar improving and expanding the urban forest to make our communities healthier and cooler!

I would like to take a moment to make a special shout out to Will Moriarty. I was so thrilled to have Will serve as Tree Advocate on the board during my term as President. Will has been a leading figure in Florida as President of T.R.E.E. Inc for the past 40 years. Will is stepping down from board at the end of his term this December 31st. Please join me in wishing him a well-deserved retirement. We will miss you Will, thank you for all the shade you created for us to sit beneath!

And as one tree falls in the forest, a gap is created to let others grow. I was thrilled to have new Executive Committee members PhD student Lillian Dinkins and grad student Stefano Alvernia serve on the board during my term. I hope that they and other early career academics and professionals will continue to join and lead the FUFC. Their fresh and innovative perspective is what will keep the Council on the leading edge of communication about the urban forest and service to the urban forestry community of Florida. Thank you both for joining our organization and bringing your strength and enthusiasm to our community.

And as I bend in the wind to yield to a successor, Darryl Richard steps into

the sun to lead our organization in the coming year. Darryl is a landscape architect and project manager with the FDOT. I think we are very lucky to have a President with such project management experience be in place as we undertake three new Inflation Reduction Act funded projects in the coming year! Please join me in wishing Darryl much success, I know he will do great.

Well, it is time for me to wish you all fare well as your President and hello again as an Executive Committee member. I look forward to continuing my participation in our amazing organization. I know the next few years are going to be phenomenal for our organization and the field of urban forestry in Florida. I encourage all of you to reach out to your peers and encourage them to join our community. Urban forestry intersects so many varied fields and professions, we need to invite and embrace that diversity and continue to grow and evolve our organization to build a more resilient and sustainable Florida urban forest to better protect and serve our community.

*Regards all, be well, and thank you,*  
*Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes*  
FUFC President

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SAVE THE DATE!

## 2024 Urban Forestry Institute

### Save the Date! Thursday & Friday, March 14-15, 2024 Virtual Event

The Urban Forestry Institute is a yearly conference hosted by the Florida Urban Forestry Council. This year's theme will focus on "Purpose-Driven Canopy." Don't miss this opportunity to network with urban forestry professionals and discuss the latest research and practices in Florida and nationally.

**More Info & Registration Coming Soon! • Visit [fufc.org/urban-forestry-institute/](http://fufc.org/urban-forestry-institute/)**

## 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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# FUFC ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS PART II

Submitted by FUFC Communication Committee



## Who are we?

Who are we – the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC)? We are the sum of all our parts. The FUFC is an organization of organizations that consists of the stakeholders, caregivers, and stewards of Florida’s urban forests. We invite you to visit the FUFC website and learn more “About Us,” our “History,” and “Who We Are” at <https://fufc.org/who-we-are/>.

In collaboration with the allied organizations featured in The Council Quarterly, issue 3, 2023, the FUFC Executive Board consists of elected positions, advisors, and liaisons to include the following:

## We are...

### Municipal Foresters/Arborists:

Municipal Foresters & Arborist are responsible for the long-term care and management of city trees – to include city parks, rights-of-way, and a city’s green infrastructure. They operate in a complicated world of arboriculture, public relations, administration, risk management, public policy, and planning. Municipal foresters and arborist are often the driving force behind urban forestry best practices and initiatives. Their contribution and experience are invaluable to the advancement of urban forestry programs throughout Florida, and the success of the FUFC.

- **Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes** – Urban Forester at Pinellas County Public Works, serves on the slate of officers as President of FUFC Executive Board.
- **Stefano Alvernia** – Arborist, City of Winter Park, serves as an advisor for the FUFC Executive Board.
- **Omar Leon** – City Arborist, City of Cape Coral, serves as a Member-at-Large on the FUFC Executive Board.
- **Dean Hay** – Senior Urban Forestry Specialist, City of Saint Petersburg, serves as an advisor for the FUFC Executive Board.



### Utility Arborists: OUC and JEA:

Utility Foresters, Arborists, and Vegetation Specialists from Orlando (OUC) and Jacksonville (JEA) utility providers represent the utility arboriculture industry when providing safe and reliable utility service with a sustainable and resilient urban tree canopy. OUC and JEA are both Tree-Line-USA utilities recognized for best practices in public and private utility arboriculture demonstrating how trees and utilities can co-exist for the benefit of Florida communities.

- **Erin Givens** – OUC Vegetation Program Manager, serves on the slate of Officers as the Immediate Past President for the FUFC Executive Board.
- **Joe Anderson** – JEA Vegetation Mgt Specialist, and previous past President for FUFC, serve as the Utility Forester for the FUFC Executive Board.

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# We are...



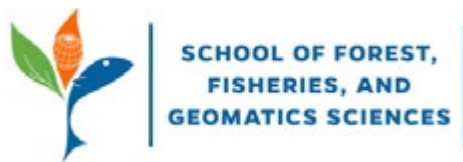
## Private Consulting Arborists: Chen Moore and Associates, Inc. (CMA):

Private consulting arborists are professional tree care experts that bring an objective, comprehensive viewpoint to urban forestry management issues and challenges. They provide invaluable service to their clients and to the FUFUC.

Headquartered in Fort Lauderdale and with offices throughout Florida, CMA's certified arborists provide a host of services related to urban forest management, including the following: urban forest management plans; tree canopy cover assessments (including ecological/monetary benefit calculations); GPS tree inventories; tree value estimates and tree grading; tree Risk Assessment (ISA - TRAQ); tree pruning specifications and pruning oversight; preparation of tree protection ordinances.

CMA understands the need to balance development with the protection of natural resources. CMA certified arborists work with staff engineers to design projects to avoid and minimize resource impacts or develop mitigation strategies to offset unavoidable impacts. Learn more about Chen Moore and Associates at, <https://www.chenmoore.com/>.

**Brian Voelker** – Senior Env. Scientist, Chen Moore & Associates, serves as the representative for Private Arborists on the FUFUC's Executive Board.



## UF/IFAS School of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences.

The school of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences is a unit within the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs). School faculty, staff, and students provide up-to-date research, teaching, and Extension that cuts across a wide range of environments and disciplines. The student body provides a willing and able workforce for the future of Florida's green industry and urban forestry related fields.

SFFGS now offers an Urban Forestry Undergraduate Certificate that is available to current Forest Resources and Conservation majors. This certificate prepares students to manage natural resources within urban and urbanizing environments. Graduates are prepared to work for municipalities, urban planning organizations, consulting firms, and similar entities involved in the planning, installation, and maintenance of urban green space. Learn more about SFFGS at <https://ffgs.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

**Dr. David Fox** – Lecturer, Urban Forestry Specialist, serves on the slate of officers as Treasurer for the FUFUC Executive Board.



## The Tampa Bay Reforestation & Environmental Effort (T.R.E.E.)

The Tampa Bay Reforestation and Environmental Effort, Inc. ("TREE") was founded on February 8, 1983. Since that time has planted over 31,063 trees in 631 projects in the Tampa Bay, Florida area. There are five major components to the organization's Mission:

1. Beautify and reforest the Tampa Bay area.
2. Further public awareness about the merits of reforesting public lands.
3. Further public awareness about the planting and preservation of native trees and underutilized trees of special interest.
4. Work in conjunction with, and support of, other organizations with similar purposes.
5. Be a clearinghouse of scientific and educational information to the public on the merits of tree species selection for use in the Tampa Bay area.

With this mission, and its five major components, it makes sense that T.R.E.E. Inc and the FUFUC are closely aligned. T.R.E.E. Inc exemplifies the meaning of tree advocacy, and is a standout advocacy organization within the Sunshine State. Learn more about T.R.E.E. Inc at <https://treeinc.org/>.

**Will Moriarty** – President T.R.E.E. Inc., serves as the Tree Advocate representative for the FUFUC Executive Board.

# We are...

Tree Check Up is a leading authority on the care and preservation of trees throughout the Southeast. As an independent consulting arborist service, Tree Check Up provides clients with expert advice, guidance, and solutions based on industry standards, years of practical field experience, research, and scientific methodology. Tree Check Up brings experience with residential, community associations, schools, large and small properties. Tree Check Up also serves the arboricultural community with educational, CEU, and credential services. Learn more about Tree Check Up, LLC at <https://treecheckup.com/>.



**John Snow** – President, Tree Check Up and Master Arborist, serves on the slate of officers as Vice President for the FUFC Executive Board.



## Earth Advisors

Earth Advisors Inc. provides a reputable environmental, arboricultural, and landscape consulting, project management, and education service for sustaining natural resources and improving our shared environment. Earth Advisors has been a leader in the Green Industry bringing consultants expertise and knowledge to increase the environmental, social, and economic values of landscapes and woodlands throughout Florida communities. Learn more about Earth Advisors, Inc at <https://www.earthadvisors.com/>.

**John Harris** – President, Earth Advisors, Inc., previous past President for FUFC and serves as an advisor for the FUFC Executive Board.



### Florida Project Learning Tree (FPLT):

FPLT advances environmental literacy, stewardship, and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world. FPLT uses environmental education to engage children in learning. It is an award-winning environmental education program designed for teachers and other educators, parents, and community leaders working with youth. PLT is an initiative of Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) - advancing sustainability through forest-focused collaborations – and is sponsored in Florida by the UF/IFAS School of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences. FPLT strengthens FUFC's vision and commitment to leadership and education when promoting the value, enhancement and sound management of Florida's Urban Forests. Learn more about FPLT at <https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/plt/>.

**Elise Cassie** – FPLT Coordinator serves as the FPLT representative for the FUFC Executive Board.



Treemendous Consulting Group showcases what true arboricultural professionals can offer by raising awareness for the importance of trees and a renewed focus on proper tree maintenance and care. With multiple years of arboricultural experience at a the private, state, county, and city level, Treemendous Consulting Group brings a unique professional edge to the complex challenges of urban forestry. Learn more about Treemendous Consulting Group, LLC at <https://www.treemendouscg.com/>.

**Mark Williams** – Owner/Chief Arborist serves as a consulting arborist representative for the FUFC Executive Board.

# We are...



PlanIt Geo is a full-service urban forestry and software provider for greenspace managers and tree care companies around the world. PlanIt Geo provides cutting-edge technology and planning services for urban forestry, park management, and arboriculture initiatives for governments, nonprofit organizations, universities, and private industry. PlanIt Geo is a leader in GIS-based tree inventories, tree data management, risk assessments, maintenance recommendations, and other consulting services. Learn more about PlanIt Geo at <https://planitgeo.com/>.

**Alex Hancock** – PlanIt Geo Urban Forestry Climate Consultant, serves as an advisor for the FUFUC Executive Board.



Resource Environmental Solutions (RES), provides consulting/advisory services that include water resource engineering, ecology (including urban forestry and arborist consulting), environmental, and more. RES is best known for providing wetland, water quality, and coastal resiliency mitigation solutions. RES develops and operates wetland and wildlife mitigation banks, stream restoration and wetland permittee-responsible mitigation projects, living shorelines, and other solutions for clients. RES minimizes client risk by providing full delivery, turnkey solutions. Learn more about RES at <https://res.us/>.

**Justin Freedman**, Florida Advisory Services Manager, serves as the FL-ISA liaison for the FUFUC Executive Board



Davey Resource Group provides scientifically based horticultural and environmental service. The Davey Institute of Tree Science (D.I.T.S) is just one example of Davey Resource Group's commitment to learning and teaching biological sciences, safety, tree and plant care, and vegetation management techniques. Consulting services cater to residential, commercial, utility and environmental solutions. Learn more about Davey Resource Group at, <https://www.davey.com/davey-resource-group/>.

**John Rohan** – Davey Resource Group, serves on the slate of officers as Secretary on the FUFUC Executive Board.

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# Tree of the Quarter

SAND PINE  
(*Pinus clausa*)

Submitted by Joe Anderson – JEA utility Veg. Mgt Spc, ISA certified arborist, and FUFCC board member

## Brief Intro:

The sand pine a minor southern pine with a natural range limited almost entirely to Florida. As the name implies, it is adaptive to sandy coastal soils. It is also commonly known as scrub pine and Florida spruce pine. In the pine family sand pine is a distant cousin to the Florida slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*) [see “Tree of the Quarter,” <https://fufc.org/downloads/councilquarterly21v4.pdf> ].

The sand pine will be found growing in conditions that inhibit growth of larger tree species. It is an important canopy tree in the Florida scrub ecosystem. The scrub ecosystem is home to a small assortment of very specific plants, to include sand live

oak (*Quercus virginiana* var. *geminata*), Chapman oak (*Q. chapmanii*), prickly-pair cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*), scrub palmetto (*Sabal etonia*), and other hardy, scrub species. Sand pine is an important canopy species for Florida scrub jay habitat [See “Wildlife Corner,” <https://fufc.org/downloads/councilquarterly22v1.pdf> ]. The sand pine is fire adapted.

Florida is home to two varieties – *Ocala* located throughout the central peninsular of Florida (waxy closed cones) and *Choctawhatchee* located along southern edge of Florida’s panhandle (open cones with exposed seeds). The largest sand pine concentration is a block of the *Ocala* variety in the “Big Scrub” area of north-central Florida. *Choctawhatchee* sand pine is heavily planted in the western sandhills for Calhoun to Escambia Counties.



continues on page 9



Sand pine is a short lived (60 years), slow growing evergreen. Outside of some commercial pulp value the small tree has little use in the lumber business, but it is not without a commercial value in Florida's Christmas tree industry. With proper shearing the small, dense, bushy canopy, with a fragrant aroma of tangerines, makes the sand pine an attractive native species as an ornamental Christmas tree. The northern *Choctawhatchee* variety is more popular as a X-mas tree.

**Habitat:**

The ideal site for sand pine are deep well-drained sands, sometimes known as 'sugar sand' or 'ball bearing sand.' While it can grow in most well drained soil types (clay, sand, slightly alkaline soil) wet sites should be avoided. Salt and drought tolerant. Grows well in full sun to partial shade. In the urban landscape the tree's small size, and tolerance to dry, sandy, infertile soils make it a possible candidate adaptable to conditions created near asphalt, hot spots, and area with little competition from larger trees.

**Form:**

Mature height 20-40 ft, with a spread of 15-25 ft. Irregular, asymmetrical, dense, oval shape. In their natural state, low lateral branches often droop, and trunks are rarely straight.

**Leaves:**

Needles 2-3 inches long, fascicles of two, slender, flexible.

**Bark:**

Smooth, and grey.

**Cones:**

Persistent; 1-3 inches long, brown, narrowly oblong. Scales armed with short, stout spines.

**Important Pest:**

Sand pines of all ages and growing situations are affected by a variety of root rot fungi which can cause sudden death or, most often, windthrow. Besides the presence of fungal fruiting bodies, leaning trees are a potential indicator of infection.

---

*“The northern  
Choctawhatchee  
variety is more popular  
as a X-mas tree.”*

---



**Little Known Fact:**

The largest sand pine in Florida is 63 cm (24.8 in) at d.b.h. and 31.4 m (103 ft) tall.

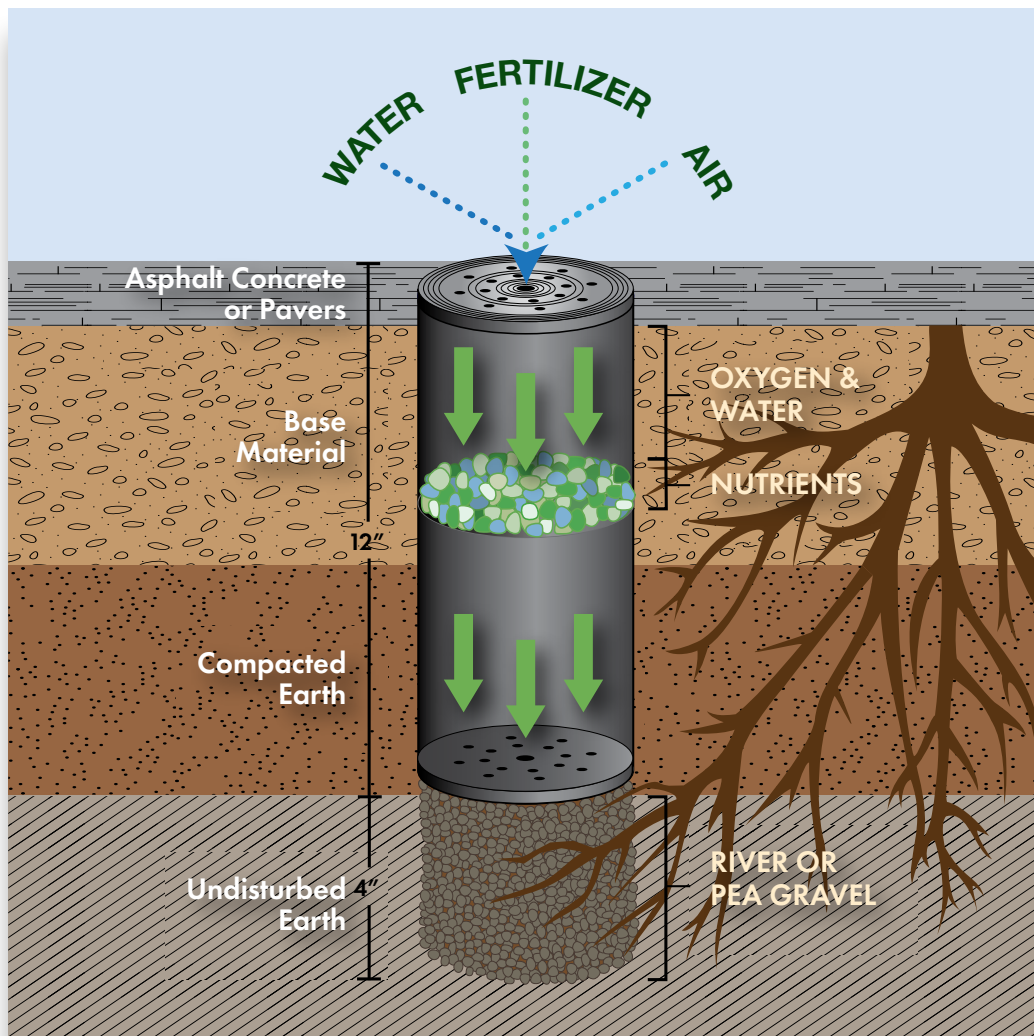


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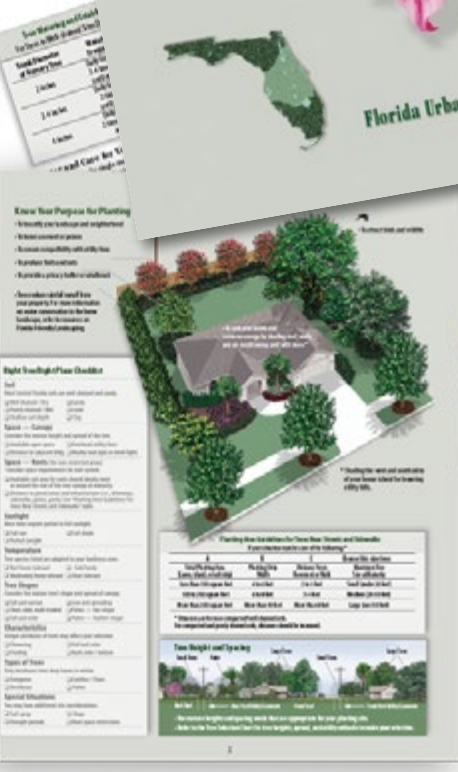
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**Central Florida Tree Selection Chart**

Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Flower Color	Flower Time	Leaf Color	Leaf Shape	Leaf Texture	Leaf Arrangement	Special Features	Soil Preference	Light Preference	Water Preference	Other Notes
Live Oak	<i>Quercus laevis</i>	20-30'	None	None	Dark Green	Elliptical	Glossy	Alternate	Shade tolerant, drought resistant, slow growing	Moist	Full Sun	Moist	Very hardy, long-lived, excellent for shade
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	20-30'	Red	Spring	Dark Green	Triangular	Glossy	Alternate	Shade tolerant, drought resistant, fast growing	Moist	Full Sun	Moist	Very hardy, long-lived, excellent for shade
Flame Tree	<i>Schinus molle</i>	10-15'	Orange	Spring	Dark Green	Elliptical	Glossy	Alternate	Shade tolerant, drought resistant, fast growing	Moist	Full Sun	Moist	Very hardy, long-lived, excellent for shade
... (many more rows) ...													



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# STUMP THE FORESTER

**QUESTION:** Can you provide some tips when applying for The Florida Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Grants?

**ANSWER:** Apply, apply, and apply. Follow these three tips and you are on your way to advancing your urban forestry programs and objectives. Grant writing is not an exact science, but it can mean big bucks for those that do it well. Apply, apply early, and apply accurately.

The Urban & Community Forestry Grant program is designed to assist in the development of urban forest management programs. The funding aims to support the programs and organizations with the greatest solutions. Focus more on the solutions than the problems, or the need. Evaluators want to know why, but how you are going to accomplish objectives is most important.

At first glance, the application process may seem intimidating, but it's not. Apply early so you are not rushed to meet a deadline. The application process enables the evaluators to determine an applicant's ability to meet and to carry out the proposed work within the award period. The application answers the question, "Will the money be well spent?" Show that you've clearly thought through how the project will be executed.

Be familiar with the *Request For Applications* (RFA). It will summarize key dates, eligibility, application requirements, contact information, and other applicable

information. Pay close attention to the *proposal evaluation* criteria. This is the score card judges use to score applications. The higher your score the better you'll be able to compete against other applicants reaching for the same available dollars.

Follow the rules. A complete application will require a few administrative details. They may include listing a Federal Financial Assistance Funding Opportunity number, a Federal Employer Identification number (FEIN), authorized signatures on multiple pages, and specific formats. Page length, margins, typeface, etc. may not seem important, but grant makers have their reasons. Reviewers are reading a lot of proposals. Not following the rules can be a distraction. These technicalities are often checked off and scored before the detailed review of the overall proposal.

Do the math. Proposals with math errors can undermine credibility. The math should add up, coincide with a budget that makes sense, and should support the proposed objectives. The hint and possibility of poor financial stewardship will weaken an approval rating.

Don't go it alone. Funding sources will be looking to get the biggest bang for their buck. Partnering with other agencies, community-based entities, and existing programs can be to your advantage. Seek out partnership with other community-based organizations that are serving disadvantaged communities. Include them as full, committed partners in the proposal.

They will have to be more than simply a name on the application. Funding is not limited to programs serving disadvantaged communities, but it can provide you leverage toward a better score.

Proposals that promote partnerships with community organizations and stakeholders may carry more weight. Heavy weight partnerships can include consulting organizations that have a good track record with urban and community forestry grants and programs. Other current, or anticipated projects that will benefit from your project, or that are tied into your proposal, can help increase your score.

Every application, every proposed project, is a story. The more compelling a story is, the better chance it will get published – or in this case, the better the chance it will get funded. Sometimes the best stories are easy to read, concise, and understandable. The promotional value of your story is important. Evaluators will want to know to what extent will a project promote the value of urban forestry to the stakeholders, the public, or a local community. When we consider the funding source, the promotional and education component of a project makes perfect sense.

The Florida Forest Service, along with several private urban forestry, or arboricultural consulting services, have the experience and solutions to help you move forward when applying for urban & community forestry grants.

*Answer provided by Joe Anderson, JEA utility Veg Mgt Spc, ISA certified arborist, and FUFCA board member.*



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING EXPERIENCES

Florida PLT conducted ten trainings for over 130 formal and non-formal educators in Q2. Notable trainings include our first training with University of Tampa preservice students, a specialized natural resource professional training, two early childhood trainings, PLT integration with the Florida Forestry Teachers Tour, two Green Jobs trainings, and one Green Schools Investigations training for high school teachers in Hillsborough County.

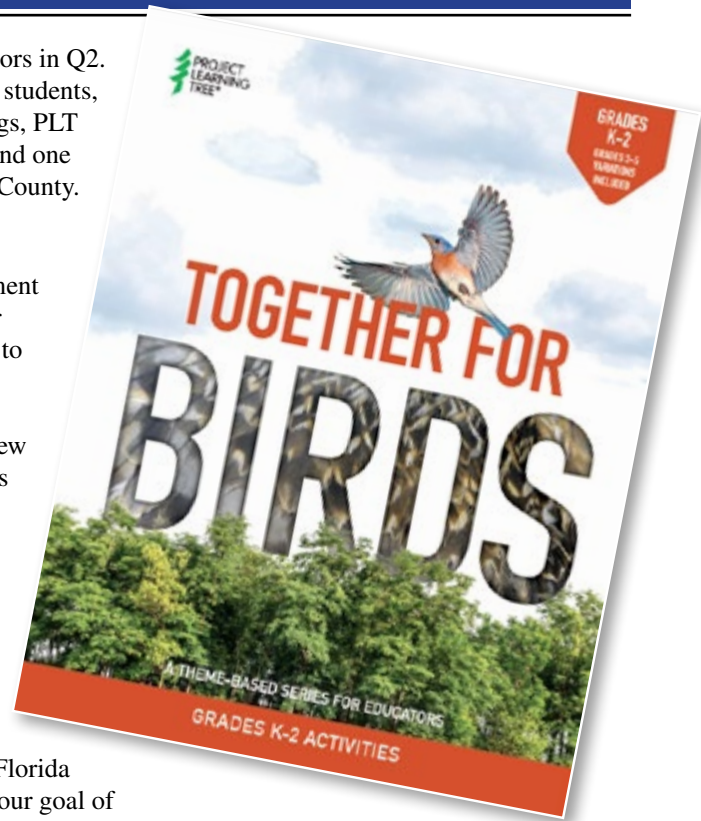
## PLT FACILITATOR LEARNING SERIES

Professional development training is an important aspect of facilitator management in keeping facilitators curious and engaged. Florida PLT developed a Facilitator Learning Series as a convenient way to meet the yearly facilitator requirements to attend a professional development experience of choice.

As an example, PLT Florida offered “Together for Birds,” with a focus on the new PLT activity collection. Twelve facilitators attended. “Web of Life” activity was offered at the Natural Resource Professionals training. PLT Facilitator Karen Johnson provided a “Tree Rings” activity to Florida Forestry Teachers Tour participants in June.

## GRANT AWARD

Florida PLT was awarded a \$10,000 2023 SFI Education Grant to provide a specialized workforce development training at Florida Memorial University for community classroom teachers and preservice students, to increase student exposure to and interest in green jobs. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!** Florida PLT is grateful to the Florida Urban Forestry Council for helping us to achieve our goal of reaching more students by helping provide high quality professional development.



## OUR TEAM

JOHN HOLZAEFFEL, CA, TIAQ

(352)238-0917

ERIC HOYER, CA, RCA, TIAQ, WRRQ

(863)870-0734

CHARLIE MARCUS, CA, TIAQ

(850)570-5963

STAN ROSENTHAL, TIAQ

(850)508-6771

JAY VOGEL, CA, WRRQ

(352)238-0458

## LEGACY ARBORIST SERVICES

A DIVISION OF NRPS FOCUSED ON PROVIDING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR MANAGING THE URBAN FOREST

Tree Inventories and Management Plans

Tree Protection Strategies

Tree Appraisals and Risk Assessment

Tree Ordinance Analysis

Tree Health Care Treatments Expert

Witness Testimony Educational

Workshops

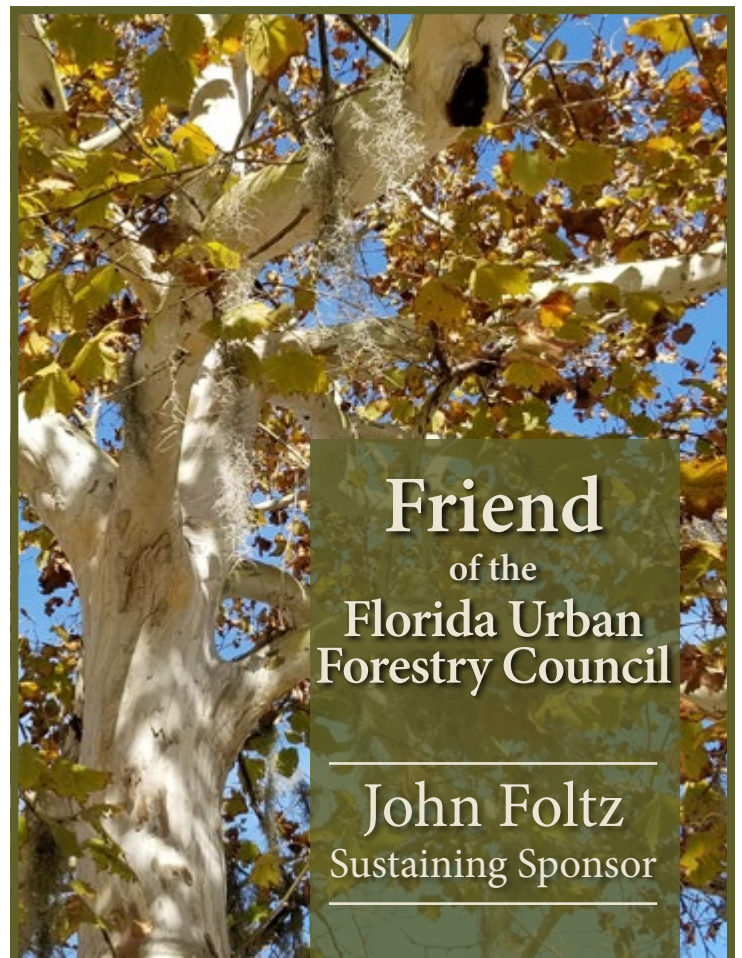
i-Tree/Environmental Analysis

Community Wildfire Plans/Mitigation



CREATING A LEGACY, GROWING YOUR FUTURE SINCE 1974

[www.NRPSforesters.com](http://www.NRPSforesters.com)



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of the  
Florida Urban  
Forestry Council

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Sustaining Sponsor

# Join Us

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

*New and renewed members through September 30, 2023. Please let us know if we fail to mention your name.*

## SUPPORTING

*Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes*

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Lilian Sattler  
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Dustin Goodson  
Rich McCoy  
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Nicholas Esposito  
Tamron Fernandez  
Mike Graham*

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Omar Leon*

#### CITY OF NORTH PORT

*Alice White*

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Kenny Williams*

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Landall Demby  
Sam Dunbar  
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Greg Preston  
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John Roberts  
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Buck Rollings  
Andrew Simmons  
Travis Simmons  
Ronnie Simpson  
Dawn Sinka  
Daniel Sorrow  
Don Spence  
Bonnie Stine  
Christina Stocking  
Angela Straun  
Cary Strukel  
Dana Sussmann  
Chrystine Tauber  
Johnny Turvin  
Donald Ullom  
Alyssa Vinson  
Brian Voelker  
Mark Williams  
Greg Wright  
Dianne Yekel*

**TREE ADVOCATE**

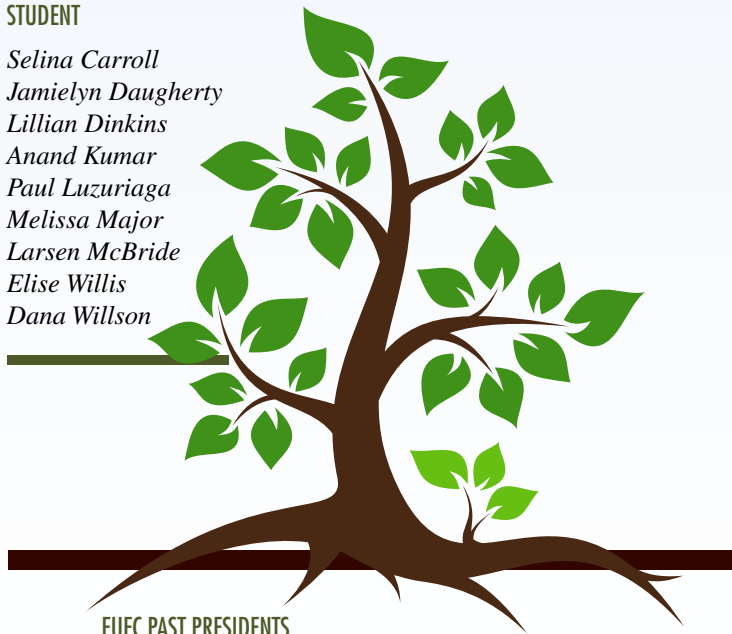
Tracey Arpen  
 Kelly Baumier  
 Susan Carter  
 Arnaldo Fernandez  
 Julie Iooss  
 Nicholas Jerry  
 Jerry Renick  
 Shawn Smith  
 Patricia Stefun  
 Derric Tay  
 Tammy Vrana  
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 Norm Easey  
 Justin Freedman  
 Ed Gilman  
 Steve Graham  
 Michael Greenstein  
 Elizabeth Harkey  
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 Julie Iooss  
 Howard Jeffries  
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 Ken Lacasse  
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 Bill Reese  
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 Mike Robinson  
 Linda Seufert  
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 Jamielyn Daugherty  
 Lillian Dinkins  
 Anand Kumar  
 Paul Luzuriaga  
 Melissa Major  
 Larsen McBride  
 Elise Willis  
 Dana Willson



**FUFC PAST PRESIDENTS**

Erin Givens ..... (2022)  
 Joe Anderson..... (2020-2021)  
 John Harris ..... (2018-2019)  
 Linda Seufert..... (2016-2017)  
 Justin Freedman ..... (2015)  
 Ken Lacasse ..... (2014)  
 Elizabeth Harkey..... (2013)  
 Mary Lou Hildreth ..... (2012)  
 Jerry Renick ..... (2011)  
 John Holzaepfel..... (2010)  
 Earline Luhrman..... (2008-2009)  
 Celeste White..... (2006-2007)  
 Mike Robinson ..... (2004-2005)  
 Mike Greenstein ..... (2002-2003)  
 Howard Jeffries..... (2001)  
 Anna Dooley..... (2000)  
 Julie Iooss ..... (1999)  
 Mike Conner..... (1998)  
 John Tamsberg ..... (1996-1997)  
 Norm Easey ..... (1995)  
 Jeffrey Siegel..... (1994)  
 Andy Kittsley ..... (1993)  
 Bill Reese ..... (1992)  
 Ed Gilman ..... (1991)  
 Steve Graham..... (1990)

**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:**

200 2nd Ave. South #130, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-4313

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:

## GUIDELINES

- Nomination can be your own work, the work of your organization or the work of another.
- You may download an application <https://fufc.org/downloads/awards-brochure2023.pdf> or apply online at <https://fufc.org/awards-application/>.
- Deadline for entry is **Friday, December 1, 2023.**
- 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. 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.
- If mailing, please submit the original typed application, one full copy and the three digital photos to:

**Friends of Our Urban Forest  
Awards Program  
Florida Urban Forestry Council  
200 2nd Ave. South #130  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-4313**

*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 visit <https://fufc.org/awards-information/>.*



# 2023 AWARDS PROGRAM

Sponsored by



- OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL
- OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCATE OR TREE ADVOCACY GROUP
- OUTSTANDING PROJECT
- OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM
- OUTSTANDING UTILITY
- LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## CATEGORIES



*Apply today. Download an application or apply online at <https://fufc.org/awards-application/>*  
**Nominations must be submitted by Friday, December 1, 2023.**





FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL  
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St. Petersburg, FL 33701-4313

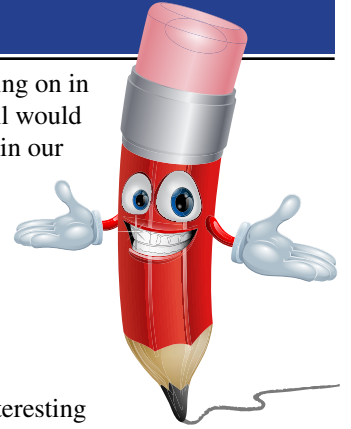
For more information, please contact the Florida Urban Forestry Council:

E-Mail: [info@fufc.org](mailto:info@fufc.org)  
Website: [www.fufc.org](http://www.fufc.org)  
Phone: (727) 475-5900  
Fax: (727) 565-2981

## 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, FUFUC newsletter editor, at [andejs@jea.com](mailto:andejs@jea.com).

*Thanks for contributing!*

## 2023 FUFUC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### OFFICERS:



**Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes**  
*President*  
Appointed Position  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory



**Darryl Richard**  
*President Elect*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
FDOT - District One



**John Snow**  
*Vice President*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
Appointed Position  
Tree Check Up, LLC



**John Rohan**  
*Secretary*  
Elected Position/Member-  
At-Large  
Davey Resource Group



**David Fox**  
*Treasurer*  
Executive Officer/  
Member-at-Large  
University of Florida -  
SFFGS



**Erin Givens**  
*Immediate Past President*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
Orlando Utilities  
Commission

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

**Jen Ahearn-Koch**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory  
Florida League of Cities  
Tallahassee

**Stefano Alvernia**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory  
Winter Park

**Joe Anderson**, *Elected Position*  
Utility Forester  
Jacksonville

**Elise Cassie**, *Elected Position*  
Member-at-Large  
FL Project Learning Tree  
Gainesville

**Brian Dick**, *Appointed Position*  
ASLA/FL Chapter  
City of Lakeland

**Lillian Dinkins**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory  
Gainesville

**Steve Edgar**, *Appointed Position*  
FL SAF  
Port Orange

**Justin Freedman**, *Appointed Position*  
FL Chapter ISA  
Resource Environmental Solutions  
Miami Beach

**Alex Hancock**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory Member  
PlanIt Geo  
St. Petersburg

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FNGLA  
Earth Advisors, Inc.  
South Florida

**Dean Hay**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory  
St. Petersburg

**Omar Leon**, *Elected Position*  
Member-At-Large  
City of Cape Coral Arborist

**William “Bill” Lester**, *Appointed Position*  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Hernando County Extension Office

**Will Moriarty**, *Elected Position*  
Tree Advocate  
T.R.E.E. Inc. Tampa Bay

**Mark Williams**, *Elected Position*  
City Arborist  
Treemendous Consulting Group

**Brian Voelker**, *Elected Position*  
Private Arborist  
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Miami - Fort Lauderdale

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**Todd Little**  
*Liaison* – Florida Forest Service

**Matt Kennard**  
*Liaison* – Florida Forest Service

**Dr. Deborah Hilbert**  
*FUFUC Executive Director*

**Web & Graphic Design**  
*Sinclair Design Studio*