

# The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council



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2024  
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## Statewide Tree Canopy Project Provides Data For Every Florida Community

*Submitted by Alec Sabatini, PlanIT Geo, Writer and Editor*

An urban tree canopy data resource has just been launched. The program provides Florida municipalities easy access to information on local tree canopy. This ambitious project was funded by the Florida Forest Service, who enlisted the help of urban forestry software company PlanIT Geo, to analyze the urban tree canopy of 488 Florida cities, towns, and census designated places.

The statewide canopy assessment tool is part of the TreePlotter software suite of solutions, and is now available at the interactive website <https://pg-cloud.com/FloridaCanopy/>. To load your tree canopy data, select your community from the map, or select it from the list on the sidebar. From here you can use the website's built-in tools to identify areas with low canopy and high planting potential; fine-tune your priorities based on a range of metrics; and assess new canopy goals.



The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) announced the program at the 2024 Urban Forestry Institute (UFI) conference. Be on the lookout, the program will also be announced inside The Council Quarterly newsletter, In A Nutshell monthly e-bulletins, and on the FUFC social media platforms. The FUFC will be promoting in-depth webinars with representatives from PlanIT Geo and the Florida Forest Service.

The goal for this tool is to help communities advocate for their urban forest management

# President's Message

**Greetings fellow tree people!** I am honored to be your 2024 President for the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC)! I've been fortunate in having the opportunity to learn arboriculture from the experts at Louisiana State University (Go Tigers!) while maintaining the campus live oak trees! Prior to my time at LSU I had the opportunity to serve in the United States Coast Guard where I learned many management and leadership principles that can be applied to any organization, be it government or non-government (like the FUFC). Gaining experience in a variety of organizations provides valuable insight into how individuals bring value to a team.

We all bring so many perspectives, knowledge, and experience to the table to benefit the Urban Forestry Council. This enables the Council to become more effective at delivery of the goals and objectives outlined in the FUFC Strategic Plan & the associated annual work plans.

This year our 5-year review of the **Strategic Plan** is due. We will be scheduling a workshop to update the current plan and make the necessary changes to ensure that the FUFC strategic plan matches the FUFC mission. We will define annual goals, objectives, and action items to measure our success. These things tend to evolve over time as the organization grows in membership. Our mission statement and strategic goals change as a reflection of who **we are**.

In fact, one of my main areas of focus as a leader is who **you are**, and who we are as an organization. The wonderful diversity of our people makes us a functional organization! I would encourage you to be involved with the strategic planning process as we determine our focus going forward over the next five years. Being involved ensures that your values and



priorities are included in the strategic plan.

True to my heritage as a Louisiana Cajun; I like to put passion (*and a little spice!*) into everything I design or plant – to include my trees! We, as tree people as I like to say, have a vital role to play in ensuring that the urban canopy remains intact and continues to thrive! I challenge you to passionately pursue the area of urban forestry that is of most interest to you.

As you will see, we have also added a little spice to the FUFC newsletter. *The Council Quarterly* comes to you with an updated, fresh new look. You will see a fresh screen appearance; an easier font face for online presentation; base colors compatible with the FUFC website and branding; and the sporting of additional earthy tones and colors. *The Council Quarterly* is something to show-off to our members, sponsors, advertisers, and Florida's urban forest community.

I look forward to serving as your President. I am very appreciative and thankful to you for your contribution and continued service to the Florida Urban Forestry Council. I would also like to recognize and extend a special thank you to our Immediate Past President, Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes. Her assistance, dedication, and continued service to the Florida Urban Forestry Council has been invaluable.

Gratefully yours,

*Darryl Richard*

2024 FUFC President

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Issue 3 – June 15 (July 15)  
Issue 4 – September 15 (October 15)

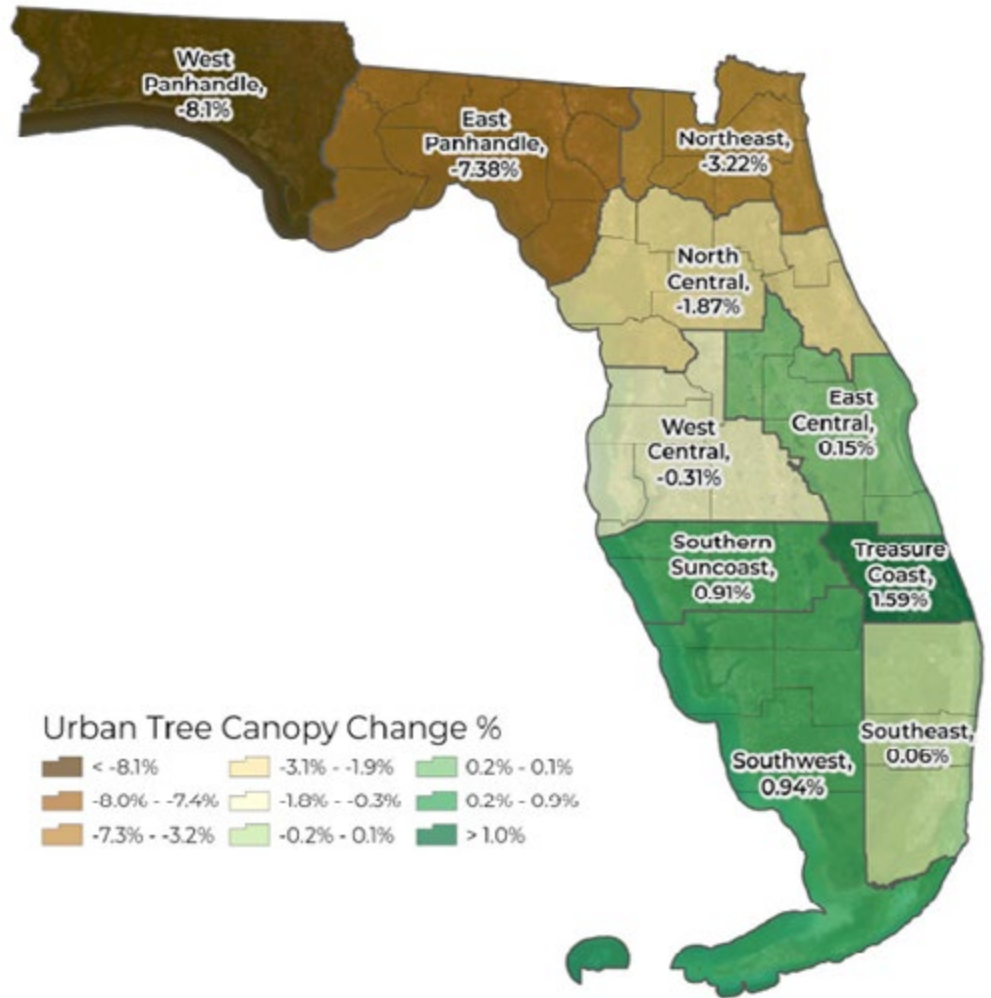
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programs and initiatives by backing them up with data. The tool can show you a baseline of where your local urban forest is now, how that baseline has changed over time, and what your canopy can become with informed management and targeted tree plantings.

The canopy tool can provide results specific to your community. Here are a few statewide insights from the assessment:

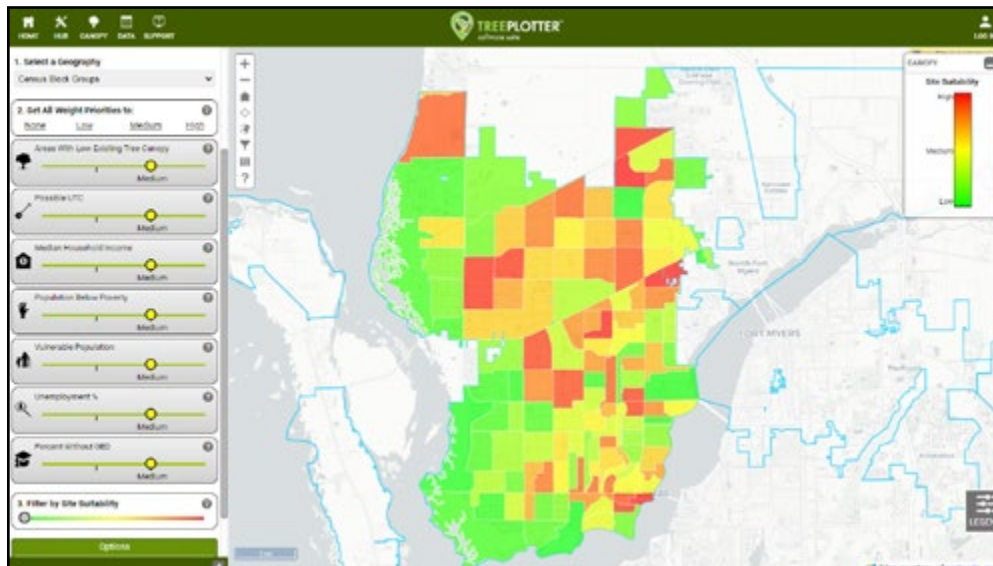
- Florida communities have 36% urban tree canopy cover, amounting to 1.5 million acres of canopy out of 4.9 million acres of assessed area.
- The study looked at historical imagery from 2013, 2017, and 2021 to identify how Florida's urban forest has changed over time. Over the entire assessment period (2013-2021) statewide urban tree canopy had a net loss of -2%.
- The total assessed area contained 36% urban tree canopy, 35% areas possible for tree planting, and 29% areas unsuitable for planting.
- Florida's urban forests provide \$456 million in annual benefits to communities in ecosystem services and the cost of infrastructure that's replaced by these benefits.



Map of net canopy change from 2013 to 2021 by region from the State of Florida Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Report.

Check out the full canopy assessment report at, <https://ccmedia.fdacs.gov/content/download/115736/file/Statewide-Canopy-Assessment.pdf> for

a complete breakdown of statewide and regional results. There will be several upcoming opportunities to learn more about the statewide canopy assessment, such as the webinar on June 26th, so keep an eye out. If you have any questions, please reach out to Todd Little, Florida's Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator at [Todd.Little@FDACS.gov](mailto:Todd.Little@FDACS.gov).



A screenshot of the planting prioritization tool in action for the City of Cape Coral.

# Purpose Driven Canopy

*Submitted by Joe Anderson – JEA Veg Mgt Spc; ISA Arborist; FUFC board member*

A road map is a fitting analogy when driving a *Purpose Driven Canopy* with a management plan. The map and the plan serve as guides when moving from one place to another. They may reveal various routes, strategies, or alternatives available when orienting oneself toward a desired destination. Though a management plan will not actually have a heading, legend, scale, grid, and a directional compass, it will have aspects that resemble the components of a map.

Just as a map heading, the title of a plan will identify exactly what the plan is for and its intended use and purpose. The legend of a map defines the symbols, components, and scale of the map. Similarly, the management plan provides definitions, contents, references, and scope of the plan. A map's scale will identify the dimensions of the map. The dimensions of a management plan are identified by goals & objectives. The scale is often presented as an estimated timeline. A map's grid is commonly displayed as a series of horizontal and vertical lines dividing the map into smaller manageable parts. In just the same way, a strategic plan of a purpose driven canopy may have various segments broken out, mapped out, and characterized in more detail. These may include a brief history, funding sources, jurisdictions, various natural & built operating systems, locations, communities, strategies, and time frames. The vision, mission, guiding principles, and goals of a master plan will provide direction much like the points of a directional compass on a road map.

A purpose driven canopy is a form of forestry – managing trees, forests, and associated resources to create specific benefits, for an identifiable group or purpose, within a foreseeable timeframe. It's not simply about planting trees. A purpose driven



canopy is designed to avoid accidents. Traveling on without a purposeful plan is an accident waiting to happen. A willful strategic plan minimizes risks and conflicts and maximizes benefits and values of tree-related resources. A purpose driven canopy is a comprehensive process of design that includes costs, scopes of work, and on-going maintenance schedules over the long-term growth of trees.

Purpose driven canopy is purposely drafted into the blueprint of the overall design. Trees, vegetation, and natural systems are necessary components of a city's working infrastructure. The green & gray components compliment and complete the basic design and function of buildings, homes, streets,

sidewalks, parking lots, utilities, rights-of-way, drainage systems, bioswales, natural buffers, parks, greenspace, water sheds, and landscapes. Collectively they provide inherent benefits purposely outlined to enhance the intended use and design.

The plan (map) of a purpose driven canopy may not reveal all the obstacles and roadblocks along the way, but it can often reveal alternative routes when maneuvering around unforeseen conflicts and difficulties. Not everyone will be guided by the same map, the same guidance system, or moving in the same direction at the same point in time. There will be those groups that do not fully appreciate the value

of the urban forest resource. It is the responsibility of the planners (map makers) to enable others to discover the value and purpose of the forest management plan.

To understand a purpose driven canopy, one must have answers to a few basic questions. Who's doing the driving? Why are they driving? Where are they going? Are they safe and responsible drivers? Trees mean different things to

different people. Decisions steering a purpose driven canopy are influenced by an array of motivations, experiences, prejudices, priorities, and expertise. Keeping them all in balanced motion is perhaps the greatest challenge. To make the process more complex, trees can outlive terms of employment, budgets, property ownership, existing administrations, and the various benefits they themselves provide throughout their life cycle.

In Florida, purpose driven canopies are driven by C.A.R.S. The Community Accomplishment Reporting System (C.A.R.S.) is a web-based tool used by the Florida Forest Service and the U.S. Forest Service to report annual accomplishments of Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) programs. Reporting is essential when steering programs and projects in the right direction.

C.A.R.S. measures performance. It rates the progress of statewide urban forests management programs by identifying communities and reporting how well they meet four criteria: Professional staffing; tree protection ordinances/policies; advocacy/advisory assets; and an urban forestry management plan. The Florida Urban Forestry Council affectionately identifies the components with the acronym of

S.O.A.P. (Staffing, Ordinance, Advocacy, Plan). C.A.R.S. enables agencies to justify and provide technical and financial assistance to various urban forestry activities. C.A.R.S. is driving urban forestry down the road to healthy, durable, resilient, local forests. The aim is to maximize the environmental, social, and economic benefits that trees and forests provide, for the greatest number of people, for the longest period of time.

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“*Decisions steering a purpose driven canopy are influenced by an array of motivations, experiences, prejudices, priorities, and expertise. Keeping them all in balanced motion is perhaps the greatest challenge.*”  
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C.A.R.S. are not the only vehicles traveling down the highway. A purpose driven canopy is as much about people as it is about trees. A purpose driven canopy will bring together the people, agencies, and organizations that plan, plant, nurture, manage, and celebrate trees.

A purpose driven canopy is urban forest management. It will generate a lot of traffic. The various disciplines and actors of urban forestry may be driving at different speeds, and in separate lanes, but all are subject to specific rules of the road which include legalities; applied research; professional training; and the physical requirements of trees, tree stands, forests, and functioning ecosystems.

Are we safe and responsible drivers? Are we preventing accidents? The Smith System Driver Improvement Institute identifies 5 key principles to driving safely along roadways:

1. Aim high in steering – anticipate your future position.
2. Always have the big picture.
3. Keep your eyes on all sides of the road.
4. Have a way out in all situations.
5. Make sure other drivers see your moves.

The five principles can apply to urban forest management and/or a purpose driven canopy.

(1) Aim high in steering when planting trees. Anticipate the future shape and form of trees as they mature. View your present accomplishments and anticipate where your urban forest program should be on down the road.

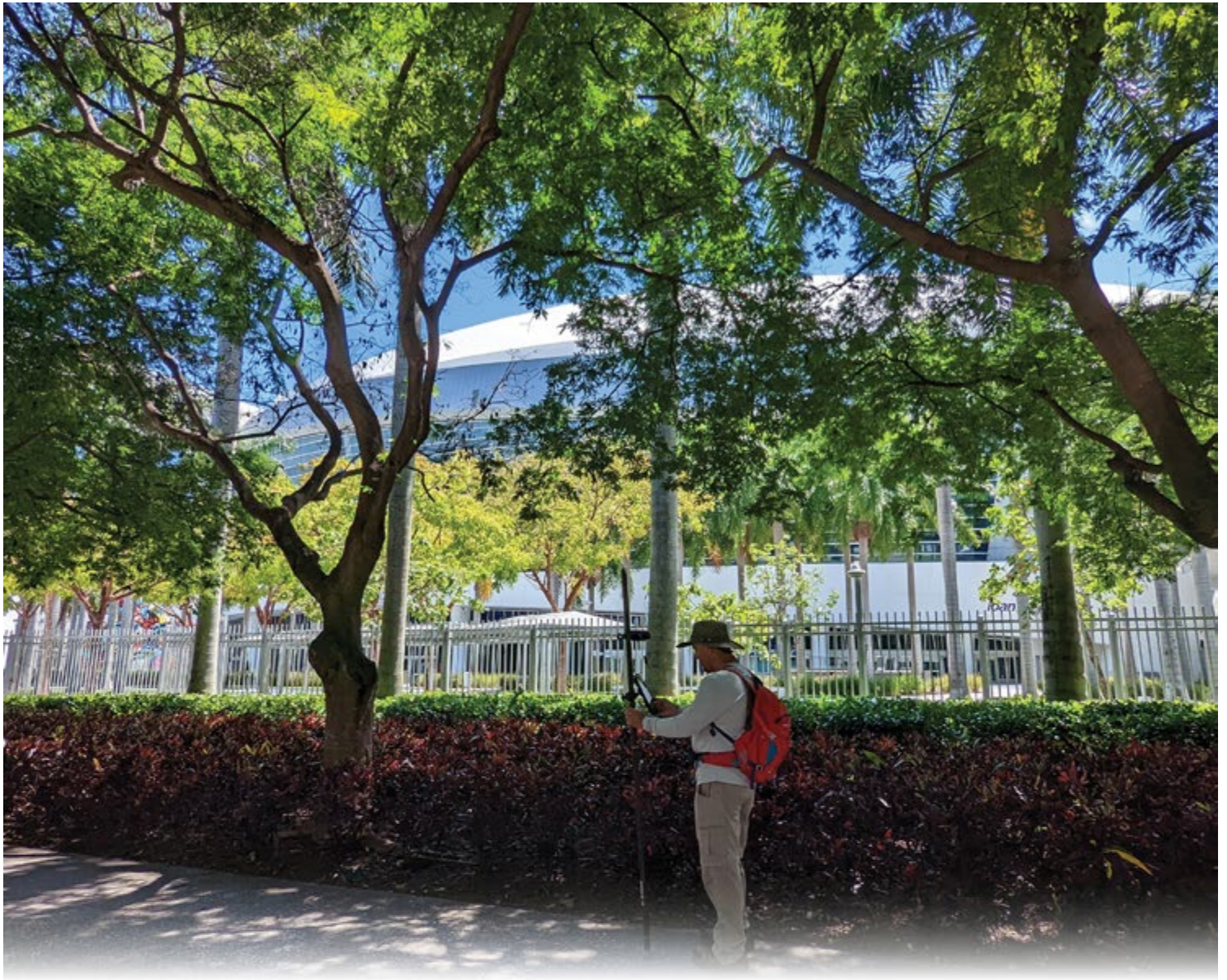
(2) Always have the big picture. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Be aware of professional, social, financial, and political landscape that surround you. Anticipate who might be moving into your lane. These may be potential partners, allies, and advocates.

(3) Keep your eyes on all sides of the urban forest landscapes. Look beyond your boundaries and scopes of work. Stay alert of alternative points of view; headlines; trends; and the motives and movement of other stakeholders.

(4) Have a way out in all situations. Don't let others box you in and obstruct your progress forward. Stay true to your mission. Don't get sidetracked by personal agendas and programs that are attractive but moving in a different direction.

(5) Make sure others see you. Let them see your purpose, your success, and your movement forward. Promote, advertise, celebrate, and award your programs and projects. A purpose drive canopy deserves to be recognized. Fulfill your purpose, be recognized, and recognize other urban forests professionals, and advocacy groups. Expand your tree-related community.

A purpose driven canopy is urban forest management. It follows a road map. It follows a planned route. It is a journey down an open highway. There are rules of the road, traffic, construction, and on & off ramps. The purpose drives us to an intended destination, where we'll need to be on down the road. Enjoy the ride.



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# Stump The Forester

**QUESTION:** Is this tree salvageable? Can it be saved?

**ANSWER:** Thank you for your question(s). Yes, the tree is salvageable. Trees are tree-mendous survivors. A tree's vulnerability to injury depends on many factors, such as tree species, age, and characteristics of the wound. This tree appears to be a live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) of young age. Young live oaks are fairly vigorous and resilient. The living tissue of the tree is located in the outer layers of the tree - just under the bark. This is where the vascular system flows and it is intact outside of the wound. Therefore, the tree will not likely die from the injury. The tree will eventually compartmentalize the wound. The living, growing tissue will eventually close the wound. Note, in

your picture, the smooth, light-colored tissue (looks like a roll of dough) just under the bark along the edge of the wound. This is a good sign. This is the healing tissue that will grow or expand as the tree attempts to wrap the wound.

Research is inconclusive as to the value of wound dressing. Oxygen is very important for the formation of callus tissue. Any kind of material (wound dressing) that interferes or impedes oxygen may prevent wound closure or poor callus formation. For example, wound treatment with petroleum-based products is not recommended and may slow the healing process.

With all that said, the risk factor here is not the survival of the tree. The tree will likely recover from the wound. The risk factor is the long-term structural integrity of the tree. The interior of the tree is dead tissue. It forms the interior wood that provides structural support. If the wound allows for the entry of wood decaying fungi, insects, or disease, the structural integrity could be compromise. Though the tree is alive, interior decay may create a structural weak point. Continue to

observe the wound site. Treat for any insects (carpenter ants/termites) or fungi (mushroom formation, or bracket fungus) forming at the wound site. I didn't see any in the pictures.

Do you have a tree-care professional that maintains the tree or trees? Ask if they have a certified arborist on staff that can assess the wound and risk factors.

*Answer provided by Joe Anderson -Utility Forester, ISA Arborist FL-6428A*



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



# Tree of the Quarter

Red Maple  
(*Acer rubrum*)

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

**BRIEF INTO:** The red maple (*Acer rubrum*) may be perhaps the most abundant, native tree in eastern North America. It is appropriately named as its flowers, twigs, spring seeds, and fall color are all red to some degree. It is best known for its deep scarlet autumn color in the fall, and red winged seeds (samaras) clusters in the late winter/early spring. The red flowers and seed clusters can be quite conspicuous developing while its canopy and neighboring trees are still dormant and leafless.

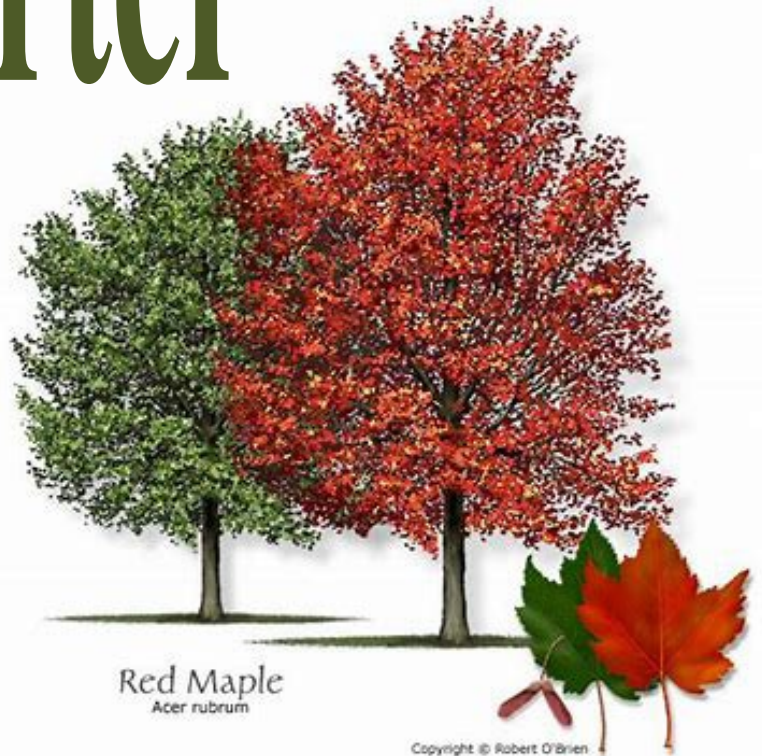
The common names of swamp maple, water maple are also appropriate as the tree adapts well to wet habitats such as riparian zones, swamps, flood plains, and water sheds, but not exclusively so. The red maple is a resilient, substantial species adaptable to a wide range of site conditions to include upland forests, disturbed soils, and urban habitats.

Popular Florida cultivars include, 'Florida Flame,' 'Summer Red,' 'Autumn Flame,' and 'Red Sunset.'

The red maple is a relatively fast grower. Maximum lifespan of 150 years, though commonly less than 100 years; and a relatively short-lived 30-45 years in urban environments.

**HABITAT:** The red maple ranges from Manitoba, Canada, south to Florida, west to Minnesota and southwest Texas. Most common in USDA Hardiness zones 4A-9B. It is very adaptable to a variety of soil conditions. Ideal conditions are for moderately well-drained, moist sites at low or intermediate elevations. It can grow in shade or sun. Tolerant to flooding. Due to its wide range, there are distinct characteristic regional variations. Trees of different regions have adapted to climate differences. Maples growing in Florida's Zone 9-10 will not survive the cold climate up north and visa-versa. In Florida's southern range, the red maple is limited to exclusively wetlands and moist habitats.

**FLORIDA'S URBAN LANDSCAPE:** As an adaptable species the red maple is tolerant to the stresses of urban site conditions. Its fast growth, full canopy, and height makes for a reasonably good shade tree. It's tolerance for wet conditions may make the tree a good selection for vegetative areas used for storm water control. In inappropriate



sites, the wide, shallow root system makes for a poor species selection adjacent to paving, concrete walks, drives, foundations, and wind prone areas.

Surface roots beneath the canopy can make mowing difficult. Its fast growth will require early structural pruning to eliminate early formation of structural defects. All maples have opposite leaf arrangements which leads to opposite branching and development of co-dominant stems and branch conflicts. Young tree pruning is essential to help develop a well-formed crown having a central leader and strong branch angles.

**FORM:** Medium-large sized tree. Full, upright, rounded crowns. Its adaptability, pleasing form, and dense canopy makes the red maple an attractive selection for an ornamental shade tree. At maturity the red maple has the potential to attain a height of 100 ft, but heights of 40-60 ft are most common and a reasonable







expectation; with a spread of 25-35 feet wide.

**LEAVES:** Deciduous; opposite arrangement; leaf blades have 3-5 lobes with serrated edges, typically



2-4 inches long; upper side is light green in contrast to a whitish/greyish underside. Twigs and leaf stalks are characteristically red. Leaf stalks and approximately 4" long. Over its extensive range the leaves are variable in form.

**BARK:** Thin bark. Smooth and grey when young, developing shallow ridges and furrows as it matures.

**SEEDS:** The red maple is a prolific seeder. Winged seed/fruit (samaras) is 2-paired, with pairs forming dense clusters. The seeds are affectionately referred to a "helicopters," or "whirlybirds" because of the way

they spin as they fall. Late winter/early spring seeds form prior to leaf development. Maturity for seeding is reached at approximately 6-8 years old. Moist mineral soil is best for seed germination. The seed is one of the smallest seeds of all the maples.



**USES:**

- High quality lumber producing durable, strong, high-grade wood.
- Wood used for furniture, flooring, musical instruments, and crates.
- Ornamental shade tree for rural and urban landscapes.
- A good food source for a variety of wildlife

**LITTLE KNOWN FACTS:**

- The sap from the red maple has a high sugar content and can be used for the producing maple syrup. It will have a lower yield and shorter "tap" season than the sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*).
- State tree of Rhode Island
- Maple leaves can be toxic to horses.

# 2024 UFI Review



The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) celebrated its long-standing tradition of presenting the annual Urban Forestry Institute (UFI) conference. The UFI provides affordable education for a wide range of topics about urban forestry people, places, and professions. This year, 2024 marks the fourth year in a row that the UFI was delivered virtually via the Whova conference online platform. Speakers from across the United States and leaders from Florida's urban forestry community joined in the conversation about what it means to develop and maintain a "Purpose Driven Canopy."

The UFI Program Committee and the FUFC Executive Board would like to thank all the speakers that made the UFI possible by sharing their insightful presentations. We extend a BIG thank you to the participants that were willing to come together in this virtual format to soak up the latest urban forestry developments and interact with a community of scientist, planners, and practitioners. A huge shout out goes to the UFI sponsors for their financial support of the urban forestry community with various products, services, and solutions.

## A QUICK RECAP OF THE 2024 UFI:

### • Pre-Conference Programming:

- 5 Pillars of Arboriculture – Arborist certification predatory course.

### • FUFC President's Welcome:

- Darryl Richard – Florida Dept of Transportation (FDOT) District Landscape Architect

### • Welcome by FUFC Allied Organizations:

- Todd Little – Florida Forest Service Urban Forestry Program Coordinator
- Leah Heinzelman – FL American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)
- Dean Stoddart – FDOT
- Tal Coley – CEO of Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FL NGLA)
- Marshall Hilton – FL Society of American Foresters (FL-SAF)
- Dr. Andra Johnson – Dean University of Florida Institute Food and Agriculture Services (UF/IFAS) Cooperative Extension Service
- Greg Ross – President, FL League of Cities (FLOC)
- Charlotte Presenski – President, FL Recreation & Parks Association (FRPA)
- Lori Ballard – Executive Director – FL International Society of Arboriculture (FL-ISA)

### • Presentations:

- [Putting the Purpose in Purpose-Driven Canopy](#), by Alana Tucker – Arbor Day Foundation
- [Eradicating racist roots from urban and community forestry](#), by Christine Carmichael – Fair Forests Consulting, LLC
- [Growing with Keep Pinellas Beautiful](#), by Stephanie Lawler-Ellington & Patricia DePlasco – Keep Pinellas Beautiful
- [Explore Florida's New Statewide Canopy App](#), by Todd Little -FFS, Andy Evans & Alexandria Hancock – PlanIt Geo
- [Strategies for Increasing Ecological Resilience in the Urban Landscape and Urban Canopy](#), by Timothee Sallin – CherryLake, Inc, and Chris Hite – Dix.Hite & Partners
- [Green Infrastructure: How and Why Street Trees Impact Transportation](#), by Katie Habgood – Patel, Greene & Associates
- [Allowable Expenditures from the Tree Mitigation Fund According to Recent Changes to the City of Gainesville Landscape Development Code](#), by Dave Conser, City of Gainesville
- [Panel Discussion: Communicating the Urban Forest](#), by Dr. Deb Hilbert – Many Trees, LLC, Christine Carmichael – Fair Forests Consulting, LLC Mysha Clarke – UF SFFGS, Alana Tucker – Arbor Day Foundation, and James Kaechele – NYC Parks Dept.
- [Balancing Act: Juggling the S.O.A.P. Framework in Organizational Development](#), by John Snow, Tree Check Up LLC
- [Tampa Electric Company and Tree-Line-USA](#), by Thomas Moore – Tampa Electric Utility
- [Planned Obsolescence: Utility Vegetation Mgt for a System Going Underground](#), by Josh Nye, Winter Park Utility
- [Whole Ecosystem Forest Mitigation Banks for Florida](#), by Mark Ray, RayEA, LLC
- [Annual FUFC Member's Mtg](#), by Darryl Richard, FUFC President
- [FUFC 2023 Award Presentation](#), by Brian Voelker – Chen Moore & Associates
- [Cultivating Urban Sustainability: A Statewide Analysis of Food Forests in Florida](#), by Erika Guirraes – Florida International University

- Why S.O.A.P.? The Purpose Behind the Canopy at FFS, by Todd Little, FFS Urban Forestry Program Coordinator
- The Jacksonville Tree Mitigation Fund: How it developed, how it works, the extent to which it works, and the challenges/benefits associated with it, by Jonathan Colburn – COJ Forestry Mgr, Justin Gearhart – COJ Arborist, Susan Grandin – COJ General Council
- Treejuvenation Florida Urban Forestry Extension: Promoting the Afforestation Benefits of Micro-Forests, by Marguerite Beckford – UF/IFAS Extension
- Conference Wrap-up by Conference Co-chairs, John Snow – Tree Check Up, LLC & Brian Voelker – Chen Moore and Associates

**SPECIAL THANK YOU TO UFI COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ORGANIZERS:**

- Darryl Richard – FDOT; FUFU President
- John Snow – Tree Check UP LLC; FUFU President Elect; UFI Co-Committee Chair
- Brian Voelker – Chen Moore & Assoc; FUFU Vice President; UFI Co-Committee Chair
- Bill Lester – UF/IFAS Extension Agent; FUFU Executive Board
- David Fox – UF School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences; FUFU Treasurer
- Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes – Pinellas Co. Forester; FUFU Immediate Past President
- John Harris – Earth Advisors; FUFU Past President
- Erin Givens – OUC Veg Prgm Mgr; FUFU Past President
- Alex Hancock – PlanIt Geo Consultant; FUFU Executive Board
- Dr. Deborah Hilbert – Many Trees Consulting, LLC
- Justin Freedman – Resource Env. Solutions; FUFU Past President
- Joe Anderson – JEA Utility Forester; FUFU Past President
- Carla Sinclair-Wells – Sinclair Design Studio

As we adapt to changes occurring in our natural, social, and professional environments we need to keep our field relevant to the practitioners, occupations, and needs of the communities we serve. Through careful observation, meaningful conversations, and collaboration we can understand and drive urban canopies with a purpose. Our diverse perspectives enable us to create insight and unity in our efforts to properly manage Florida's urban forest – and the resources and services they provide. We encourage you to connect with the Florida Urban Forestry Council to build a more diverse and inclusive organization that will better serve constituents, customers, colleagues, and future generations to build a tree-mendous future for Florida's urban forests.

**A SHOUT OUT TO THE 2024 UFI SUSTAINING SPONSORS:**

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## 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:

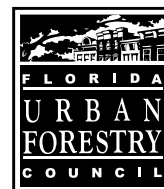
- was named a *Tree Line USA* utility for the fourth consecutive year by *The National Arbor Day Foundation*. Employee arboriculture training, public education, and maintaining abundant, healthy trees in SECO's service area are common practices.
- installs osprey nesting dishes atop of the utility pole 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.



# John P. White Memorial Scholarship Fund



Students should be on the lookout as the fall term deadline for John P. White Memorial Scholarship is not far off. The J.P. White Scholarship is sponsored by the Florida Urban Forestry Council and the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. The scholarship was first created in 2008 to assist students pursuing careers in Florida's arboriculture/urban forestry industry, or related field, by providing financial assistance for undergraduate, post-graduate or other advanced education programs. The intent is to encourage active members and future leaders to pursue urban forestry careers. For updates, keep a watchful eye on our monthly *In A Nutshell* e-bulletin, and our social media posts. Learn more about John P. White, scholarship eligibility, and requirements on the FUF C website at <https://fufc.org/scholarships/>.



## FUF C Member Spotlight

### DAVID FOX

David is an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Florida School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences. With 40 years of experience in urban forest management, and a passion for mentoring and engaging with the next generation of natural resource professionals. David joined the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUF C) to keep in contact with fellow green industry professionals and to stay current with urban forestry trends and research in Florida. Over the years he has served on the FUF C Executive Board as an Advisor, Member at Large, UFI

Committee Co-Chair, Communications Committee, and serves on the Slate of Officers as Treasurer. David enjoys time with family, travel with an emphasis on visiting botanical gardens, maintaining his family's personal patch of the urban forest, cooking, and amateur radio.



Calling all members! Please fill out the following form so we can keep you in the SPOTLIGHT of who's who in Florida's urban Forestry.

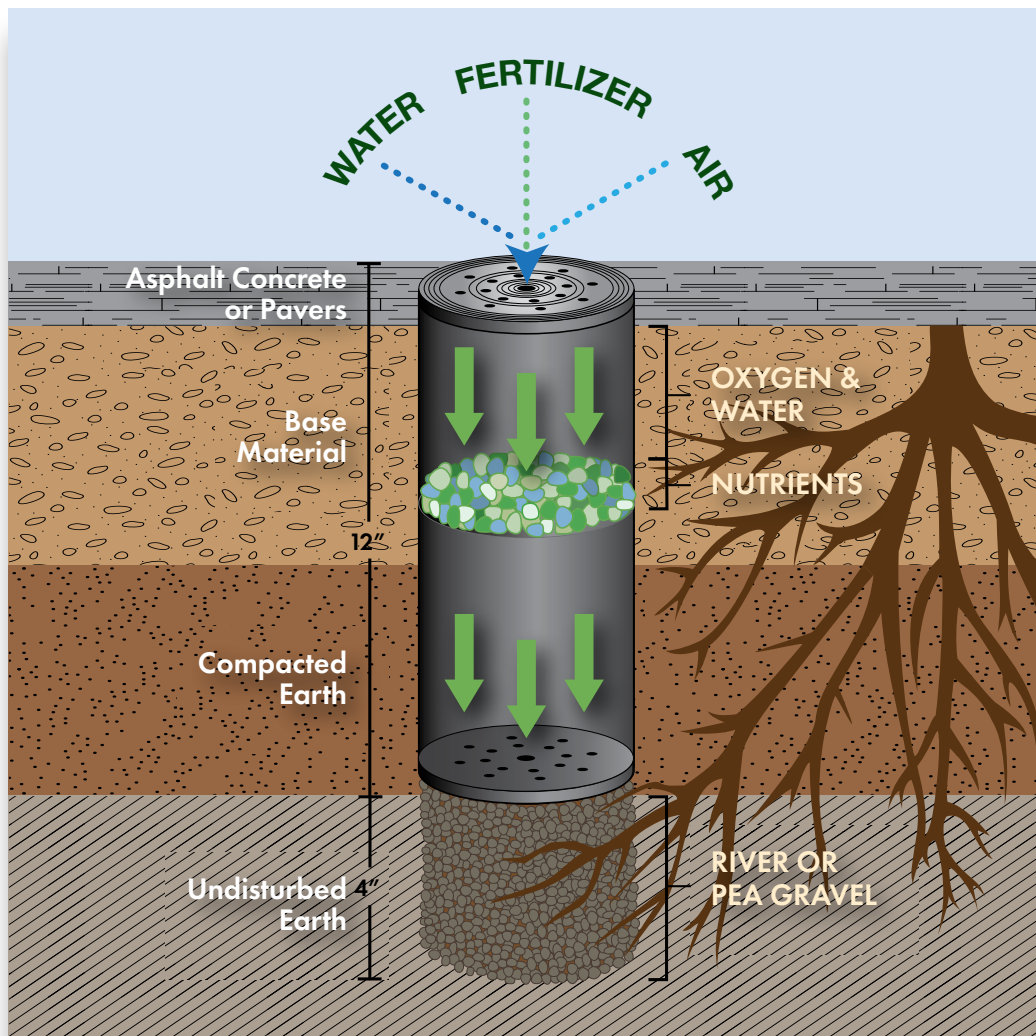
The form link is at: <https://forms.gle/Basc7r7zhULxjJrw6>

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# Internships

Forestry students are on the hunt for summer on-the-job internships. Forestry students are always looking for valuable summer experiences targeted toward a future career. Can you help a student succeed? Do you currently have an urban forestry, or green industry internship program? The University of Florida School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatic Sciences (SFFGS) and Department of Environmental Horticulture want to know about it. If you have questions about what an internship might look like in your organization, or a listing to share, please contact Scott Sager [ssager@ufl.edu](mailto:ssager@ufl.edu) in SFFGS and /or Ryan Klein [ryanwklein@ufl.edu](mailto:ryanwklein@ufl.edu) in Horticulture to discuss the benefits and the possibilities. Get involved and help prepare the next generation of natural resource professionals!



## OUR TEAM

**JOHN HOLZAEFFEL, CA, TRAQ**  
(352)238-0917

**ERIC HOYER, CA, RCA, TRAQ, WRRQ**  
(863)670-0734

**CHARLIE MARCUS, CA, TRAQ**  
(850)570-5963

**STAN ROSENTHAL, TRAQ**  
(850)508-6771

**JAY VOGEL, CA, WRRQ**  
(352)238-0458

### LEGACY ARBORIST SERVICES

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- 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

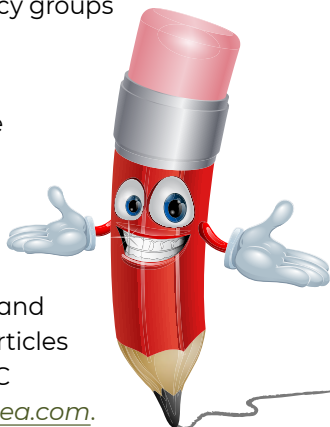
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[www.NRPSforesters.com](http://www.NRPSforesters.com)

# 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!*

# Help Us Grow!

**BECOME A MEMBER, FOLLOW & SHARE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILES**

/floridaurbanforestrycouncil

/floridaurbanforestry

/ufuc\_org

/company/florida-urban-forestry-council/

# Membership

## JOIN US

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

**New and renewed members through March 31, 2024. Please let us know if we fail to mention your name.**

## SUPPORTING

Kathleen Brennan  
Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes

A FRIEND OF THE FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL  
Jeff Foltz  
John Foltz  
Lilian Sattler  
Andrew Wiltz  
Jennifer Wiltz

CANOPY TO COAST CONSULTING GROUP  
Erik Nobs  
Ira Padgett  
Michelle Padgett  
Robert Robicheau  
Brian See

DARK MOSS  
Richard Peterika  
Dalton Smith  
Elise Willis

EARTH ADVISORS, INC.  
Carol Bailey  
Darlene Harris  
John Harris  
Brandy Kuehne  
James Plowman

NRPS LEGACY ARBORIST SERVICES  
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Nathan Holzaepfel  
Charlie Marcus

ORLANDO UTILITIES COMPANY  
Erin Givens  
Dustin Goodson  
Rich McCoy  
Rick Taylor

URBAN FORESTRY ORGANIZATION (UFO)  
Daniel Adams

## UTILITY PARTNERS

CITY OF WINTER PARK UTILITIES  
Jordan Hinrichsen  
Josh Nye  
Josejuan Rodriguez Torres

DUKE ENERGY - ORLANDO  
James Bent  
Betsy Castro  
Nicholas Esposito  
Tamron Fernandez  
Mike Graham

## GOVERNMENT/NON-PROFIT

CITY OF CAPE CORAL  
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Omar Leon

City of DeLand  
Kim Grebosz

CITY OF NORTH PORT  
Alice White

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG  
Whitney Blair  
Dean Hay

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Sherri Mullis  
Kathleen Carter  
Toby Loveall  
Nelson Martinez-Cortes

CITY OF TAMPA NATURAL RESOURCES  
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Joseph Cermak  
Mary Danielewicz-Bryson  
Steven Eyster  
Dan Graham  
Brian Knox  
Michael Lousias  
Erin Maehr  
Henry Salazar Perez  
James "Drew" Stephens

CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS  
Shannon Brewer

CITY OF TITUSVILLE  
Maureen Phillips

CITY OF WINTER HAVEN  
Michael Carneval  
Michael Campbell  
Dustin Everitt  
Mary Thornhill  
Savannah Winstanley

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Victoria Centamore  
Ford Derastel  
Michele Lewandowski  
Kenny Williams

JEA  
Joe Anderson  
Landall Demby  
Sam Dunbar  
Michael Ninon  
Greg Preston  
Scott Souter

NAPLES BOTANICAL GARDEN  
Nick Ewyr  
Brian Galligan  
Britt Patterson-Weber  
Isabel Soto  
Chad Washburn

OSCEOLA COUNTY  
Terry Kincaid

TAKEMAR  
Michelle Ellena  
Andrew Elsass  
Tara Hubbard  
Brad McCoy  
William Moriaty  
Michael Riebe

UF/IFAS EXTENSION - PALM BEACH COUNTY  
Emily Marois  
Kara Krueger  
John Roberts

UF OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY - GAINESVILLE  
Kaylee August

UF, SCHOOL OF FOREST, FISHERIES, AND GEOMATICS, SCIENCES - GAINESVILLE  
Michael Andrew  
Elise Cassie  
Mysha Clarke  
Basil Iannone  
Amanda Tanner

## PROFESSIONAL

Lauren Adams  
Ander Alvarez  
Joe Anderson  
Kathy Beck  
Marguerite Beckford  
Whitney Blair  
Erika Bonnema  
Cheryl Callender  
Geoffrey Campbell  
Charles Carr  
Kelly Carson  
Mark Cassini  
Rachel Chambers  
Christine Claus  
Amanda Claxton  
Beverly Cline  
Orlando Comas  
Lindsay Cope  
Mark Covington  
David Crawley  
Abdias Dalisma  
Jessica Dalisma  
Thomas Danks  
Jamielyn Daugherty  
Emilyvette DeGaetano  
Dante Ditommaso  
Kalyn Ennis  
Joesepp Ferris  
Patrick Foslin  
John Fuller  
Anthony Gabriello  
John Gentile  
John Giedraitis  
Erin Givens  
Emily Gonzalez  
Robert Gould  
Lisa Grubba  
John Guziejka  
Katie Habgood  
Laurie Hall  
Ruth Hamberg  
John Harris  
Jackie Hartley  
Deborah Hilbert  
Jeremy Hinkle  
Casey Hogan

Julie looss  
Ray Jarrett  
Josephine Johnson  
Matthew Keyzers  
John Kilcullen  
Terry Kincaid  
Gayle Lafferty  
Shane Largent  
Michele Laskowski  
Casey Lee  
Janine Lester  
Chuck Lippi  
Jason Maldonado  
Andrew J Malmquist  
Larsen McBride  
Ingrid McClellan  
Drew McLean  
Eric Muecke  
Mona Neville  
Suzanne Newman  
Justin Newton  
Michael Orfanedes  
Paula Osborne-Vasquez  
Darla Ostenson  
Kyra Paris  
Jorge Rivera  
Yasmin Rodriguez  
John Rohan  
Buck Rollings  
Gary Roux  
Clark Ryals  
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John Snow  
Don Spence  
Daniel Spencer  
Bonnie Stine  
Laura Tooley  
Johnny Turvin  
Donald Ullom  
Jordan Upcavage  
Brian Voelker  
Alison Walker  
Mark Williams  
Gary Worthington  
Greg Wright  
Dianne Yekel

## TREE ADVOCATE

Tracey Arpen  
Monica Campos  
Susan Carter  
Susan Emala  
Arnaldo Fernandez  
David Fox  
Alan Holbrook  
Nicholas Jerry  
Frank Krens  
Lou Shepherd  
Dawn Sinka  
Patricia Stefun  
Derric Tay  
Carla Wells

## STUDENT

Melisa Becirevic  
Lillian Dinkins  
Paul Luzuriaga  
Elise Willis

## HONORARY

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



# Become a Member!

By joining the Council you will help fund education and research to prevent and reverse urban deforestation in your community and throughout Florida. Your membership adds your voice with hundreds of other concerned Floridians who care about trees in our community and are working together for a tree-filled future.

## FUFC Past Presidents

- Carolyn Cheatham-Rhodes ..... (2023)
- 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 looss..... (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)

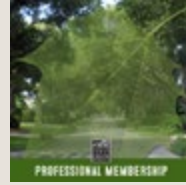


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### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

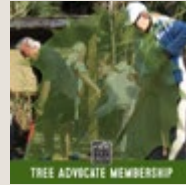
#### Professional @ \$25.00

(Professional membership is open to anyone who is actively working in the profession of Urban Forestry or any related profession.)



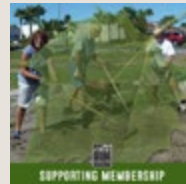
#### Tree Advocate/Individual @ \$20.00

(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.)



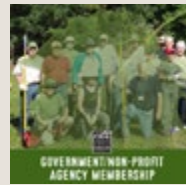
#### Supporting @ \$200.00

(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.)



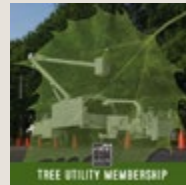
#### Government/Non-Profit Agency @ \$100.00

(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.)



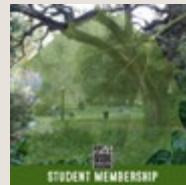
#### Utility Partner @ \$349.00

(Utility professionals expressing a desire for a strong presence in the Council. 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.)



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Scan the QR code to join or go to [fufc.org/member-application/](http://fufc.org/member-application/)



# 2024 FUFC Executive Committee Members

## OFFICERS:



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



**John Snow**  
*President Elect*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
Tree Check Up, LLC



**Brian Voelker**  
*Vice President*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
Appointed Position  
Chen Moore &  
Associates



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



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



**Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes**  
*Immediate Past President*  
Executive Officer/  
Advisory  
Pinellas County Urban  
Forester

## 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

**John Harris**, *Appointed Position*  
FNGLA  
Earth Advisors, Inc.  
South Florida

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

**Omar Leon**, *Elected Position*  
Municipal Forester  
Cape Coral

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

**Will Moriarty**, *Elected Position*  
Tree Advocate  
TakeMAR

**Eric Muecke**, *Appointed Position*  
Advisory  
City of Tampa

**Mark Williams**, *Elected Position*  
Member At Large  
Fort Lauderdale

**Vacancy**, *Appointed Position*  
**Vacancy**, *FUFC Executive Director*  
...

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

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



FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL  
200 2ND AVE. SOUTH #130  
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

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