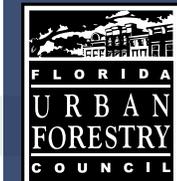


The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council



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The Council Quarterly newsletter is published quarterly by the Florida Urban Forestry Council and is intended as an educational benefit to our members. Information may be reprinted if credit is given to the author(s) and this newsletter. All pictures, articles, advertisements, and other data are in no way to be construed as an endorsement of the author, products, services, or techniques. Likewise, the statements and opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not represent the view of the Florida Urban Forestry Council or its Executive Committee. This newsletter is made possible by the generous support of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Florida Forest Service, Wilton Simpson Commissioner.

The Urban Forestry Summit

Submitted by the FUFC Communication Committee

The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) extends its gratitude to all the attendees, sponsors, presenters, volunteers, industry experts, and administrative Board members who made the 2025 Urban Forestry Summit a success.

On Thursday, July 31 through Friday, August 1st, Florida's urban forestry community gathered at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, in Gainesville, FL, for the inaugural membership summit. This was a dynamic event bringing together a diversity of professions, an assembly of advocacy, exhibition of experience, array of awards, degrees of knowledge, tiers of talent, gathering of generations, collection of challenges, and a show of solutions. The summit provided the opportunity to learn, network, and celebrate with leaders and peers in urban forestry.

Presentations included an introduction to the Florida Forest Service's Urban Forestry

Management Plan; Connecting Urban Forestry to Florida-Friendly Landscaping; Tree Preservation Ordinance & Tree Development Code; Tree Giveaways – A Municipal Perspective on Volunteer Tree Planting & Distributions; Gainesville Urban Forestry Bus Tour; awards



luncheon, sponsor presentations, and an open urban forestry panel discussion.

The Florida Urban Forestry Council scheduled an Executive Board meeting into the agenda, inviting membership to attend and observe the governing body and FUFU committees in action. A most impressive segment was the Leadership Growth Forum written into the agenda of the Executive Board Meeting. The FUFU is an organization of organizations. It is many minds, many hands, with a single purpose. The Leadership Growth Forum was a roundup of executives, directors, and leaders representing the various

funding and allied organizations that are the FUFU.

The leaders gathered face-to-face and rally behind education & research initiatives; discussed common ground regarding tools & resources; prioritized career paths and the entry of youth into the green industry; discussed re-engagement and alignment of member organizations; the mutual benefits to members; and elevated urban forestry concepts, values, principles, challenges, and solutions. Leaders recognized existing disconnects and the need to close the gaps when growing Florida's urban forests – together.

Late Friday afternoon, when the summit agenda was complete, and all was said and done, the only regret was in the word, "adjourn."



FUFU Q3 Workshops & Events



FUFU Webinar Series

Unlocking Insights with Advanced Biomechanics:
3D Scanning, Photogrammetry, and AI

Friday, September 26, 2025
12:00 - 1:00 pm ET




Join Ondrej Kolarik, co-founder of ARBO Technologies, to discover how 3D scanning, AI, and biomechanical analysis are transforming tree stability assessments. Through global case studies, learn how this approach has saved hundreds of trees, reduced costs, and advanced sustainable arboriculture.

Ondrej Kolarik

This webinar is eligible for 1 ISA, SAF, FNGLA, LIAF, LACES, CAM CEU with verified attendance.

FUFU WEBINAR: UNLOCKING INSIGHTS WITH ADVANCED BIOMECHANICS: 3D SCANNING, PHOTOGRAMMETRY, AND AI

Friday, September 26
12:00 pm ET

Speakers: Ondrej Kolarik

Course Description: This presentation dives into the evolution of Advanced Biomechanical Analysis, showcasing its innovative approach to assessing tree stability. We explore the seamless

integration of 3D scanning technology, photography analysis and artificial intelligence, unraveling how Adbian analyzes tomographic data to evaluate factors crucial for understanding a tree's response to external forces.

Information: <https://fufu.org/regional-workshops/>

Save The Date!



2026 URBAN FORESTRY INSTITUTE

Thursday & Friday
March 12-13, 2026

Urban Forestry – Resilience, Resistance, and Recovery – Urban Forests for Everyone Everywhere

The Urban Forestry Institute is a yearly conference hosted by the Florida Urban Forestry Council. The virtual format will include talks, presentations, and discussions that help promote, manage, and grow a healthy urban forest. Don't miss this opportunity to network with urban forestry professionals. Stand out; be seen. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Further details are posted at, <https://fufu.org/urban-forestry-institute/>.

President's Message

Hello FUFUC Members,

When I think back on our inaugural Membership Summit this summer, one word rises above the rest: **together**.

The Summit showed us what happens when leaders from every corner of Florida's urban forestry community come face-to-face, share ideas, and recognize that we're not just working on our own projects, we're building something much larger. The Leadership Growth Forum especially brought that to life. For me, it was a reminder that FUFUC isn't just one organization. It's an alliance of many, each bringing its own strengths and perspectives, all aligned around a common purpose.

Now the question is: **where do we go from here?**

FUFUC has already begun charting that course and developing the 2026 Work Plan.

One of our biggest initiatives ahead is refining and advancing the **Model Municipal Tree Ordinance**. This work can't, and shouldn't, happen in a vacuum. It requires collaboration with our allied organizations, municipalities, and professionals who see the ordinance not as words on paper, but as a living framework that guides healthier, more resilient urban forests. This only happens when we work **together**.

At the same time, we're reaching outward. New partnerships are on the horizon with groups like **Scenic Florida** and the **Landscape Inspectors Association of Florida (LIAF)**. These collaborations are more than adding

logos to our list of allies. These crucial partnerships are about creating stronger bridges across the Green industry, so that arborists, planners, inspectors, engineers, and advocates can align around shared goals. The challenges facing Florida's urban forests don't fall neatly within any one profession. Our solutions can't either.

Looking ahead, I see FUFUC becoming an even stronger hub for these kinds of collaborations. Whether it's developing model ordinances, expanding education and outreach, or creating pathways for the next generation of urban forestry professionals, the key will always come back to the power of working **together**.

What might this look like? It starts with continuing and expanding the **Leadership Growth Forum** we launched at the Summit. That Forum gave us a taste of what happens when leaders have space to connect and think big. Now, imagine building on that momentum: creating more opportunities for our leaders to meet, talk, and collaborate.

And why stop there? We can envision a **Leadership Growth Institute**, a dedicated initiative to help grow the next generation of urban forestry leaders. A place where emerging professionals learn not just the science of trees, but the skills of leadership, collaboration, and advocacy that our field needs to thrive. I had the pleasure of meeting and discussing this type of future thinking growth with several leaders at the Members Summit.



While these ideas might sound lofty, they're far from out of reach. These are **doable goals** when we commit to working **together**. If the UFI, Summit, and committee work taught us anything, it's that we already have the passion, the expertise, and the partnerships to make it happen.

So, as we turn the page from the Summit and look forward to the next season of growth, I encourage each of you to stay engaged, not just within FUFUC, but with the many partners who are walking this path with us. Our collective voice is stronger when every member, every committee, and every allied organization plays a role. If you know someone who might benefit from joining FUFUC, spread the word. That is how you can help grow the Urban Forest, one professional at a time.

We proved what we can accomplish when we gather. Now let's keep that momentum alive and continue building Florida's urban forests — **together**.

John Snow
2025 FUFUC President

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For more than 25 consecutive years, OUC—The *Reliable One* has earned the Arbor Day Foundation Tree Line USA[®] designation for its ongoing commitment to effective vegetation management within the communities it serves. This makes OUC the longest-running recipient of the award in the state of Florida.

Tree Line USA[®] is a national program that encourages utilities to adopt practices that protect and enhance urban forests. It promotes the dual goals of delivering reliable electricity while preserving community trees, allowing the power grid and urban forest to co-exist.

To achieve this recognition, OUC meets five rigorous standards for urban forest management, including quality tree care, employee training, tree planting sponsorships, public education, and participation in Arbor Day events.

Learn more at:
[OUC.com/Preservation](https://www.ouc.com/preservation)

OUC 
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Urban Forestry – The Bus Stops Here

By Joe Anderson JEA Veg. Mgt Sp, FUFC & FL-ISA Board Member

When growing Florida's urban forests together; when advancing our professional careers through education and field experience; where real-world windows replace virtual windows; where conversational networking occurs; and when moving forward on down the road, you don't want to miss the bus.

Bus tour field trips have been popular events at the 2025 Urban Forestry Summit and the 2025 Trees Florida conference, hosted by the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) and the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (FL-ISA) respectively. The bus tours took urban forestry on the road, as the best arboricultural, forestry, and green-industry professionals climbed aboard and occupied seats.

The *Urban Forestry Summit* bus tour, hosted by the FUFC, highlighted Gainesville's "living green" Madera neighborhood, bioswales installations, downtown Gainesville streetscapes, and development plans for Tom Petty Park. All stops introduced innovative projects that came to fruition not by

chance, but by determination and sound urban forestry concepts and principles. Even better, the stories were told by Gainesville's Urban Forestry staff that were passionate and experienced with each point of interests.

The FUFC partnered with FL-ISA to include an urban forestry bus tour at the FL-ISA 2025 TREES FLORIDA Conference and Trade Show. Buses toured targeted attractions around the peripheral of Palm Coast, FL. Bus stops included the unique estuary system at Long Creek Nature Preserve; a glimpse of the rich natural and cultural history of old Florida at Princes Place Preserve, and guided tours at the St. Johns Botanical Gardens & Nature Preserve. The remote, peri-urban attractions provided a striking view of the interconnection to a rapidly developing state of Florida.

Why a bus tour? Because urban forestry is on the move. Urban forestry is happening everywhere. Florida is in the business of development and urbanization. The exhibition was not limited to scheduled stops. Urban

Forestry was seen all along the way as buses traveled from one destination to another. If we want to move forward and get where we want to go, Florida's green industry must be moving in the same direction.

Roads provide a great segue into urban forestry topics. Highways, streets, roads, bridges, railways, and other transportation corridors are a critical part of our built environments. They most certainly have an impact on the urban forest resources and economic opportunities that link together our urban, suburban, rural, commercial, industrial, and agricultural centers.

Destinations in town provided insight to traditional urban forestry challenges between multi-use gray and green infrastructure - to include streetscapes; landscapes; parks; core municipal investments; overhead & underground utilities; population density; community development; and complex planning, zoning, decision making.

It was obvious, just looking out the window as the buses traveled rural routes that peri-urban counties

continues on page 6



are being primed for economic growth and development. Rural routes and destinations brought attention to traditional forest land use management; utility substations where transmission & distribution lines meet; lengthy spans of communication cables; right-of-way setbacks; wildland-urban interfaces; urban forest fragmentation; rapid changes to ecosystems and land use; wildfire management; lack of resources; and the far reach of urban forestry management.

The professional careers of Urban forestry continually intersect. Diverse in scope and discipline, each are closely linked with a synergy that will ultimately benefit Florida's natural and developing future. They may not always appear to be on the same page, or seated at the same table. The urban forestry field trip can at least have them seated on the same bus and moving in the same direction –



even if it's only for the length of the tour. Bringing the various stakeholders together may be the greatest attribute for conferences, summits, workshops, webinars, and bus tours. A united urban forest industry is all about solutions – cost effective, sustainable, and obtainable solutions in sync with career opportunity and growth. When growing Florida's urban forests together, you don't want to miss the bus.

Special thanks to the coach providers, bus drivers, tour guides, administrators & organizers, sponsors, and participants that made the ride possible.



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-brochure2025.pdf> or apply online at <https://fufc.org/awards-application/>.
- Deadline for entry is **Friday, November 14, 2025.**
- 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/>.



2025 AWARDS PROGRAM

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CATEGORIES



Apply today. Download an application or apply online at <https://fufc.org/awards-application/>
Nominations must be submitted by Friday, November 14, 2025.

Stump The Forester

QUESTION: Can you provide some tips for storm preparation?

ANSWER: If it takes sun and rain to produce rainbows, Florida skies will pass with flying colors. Sun and rain are inevitable. Frequent summer storms are inevitable. Seasonal tropical systems and hurricanes are inevitable. The narrow peninsula, between warm Atlantic and Gulf waters, offers no escape, nor safe haven from severe weather. Our urban forest canopies are always under the weather with acute or chronic stressors. With proper preparation, they can remain strong and resilient. With sound urban forestry practices its inevitable too, that forest canopies will thrive with a level of immunity, impunity, vitality, and endurance.

Urban tree canopies are vulnerable to severe storms and intense environmental impacts, but they are amazingly resilient. Like a prize fighter, trees and forest canopies can take a hit and bounce back if healthy, in great shape, and under good management. Stepping into the ring unprepared is ill advised.

PLAN AHEAD. Having a storm/disaster plan in place prior to an advancing storm is the "top-tip" for hurricane preparation. Once a trajectory path for a named storm is announced, expect disruptions in the normal supply of fuel; consumer goods; medical supplies; communication systems; and response times for service requests to

municipalities, utilities, and tree-care providers. A comprehensive storm plan should include an evacuation plan, communication plan, financial plan, and, if you have trees, a tree maintenance and recovery plan.

Understanding the strength and risks of your home, property, and local area will enable you to prepare a game plan that fits your circumstance. Assembling an emergency supply kit, tree-care services, and addressing utility/tree conflicts should be scheduled and completed well in advance of an advancing storm.

PRESCRIBED TREE MAINTENANCE plans and assessments are important factors when avoiding tree failure from chronic environmental forces, or the acute shock and clash with storms. Tree hazards as poor structure; structural defects; diseased parts; dead stems; broken branches; previous wounds; and adjacent tree and infrastructure conflicts are examples of where and why trees fail due to wind, rain, and flood.

A preventative pruning program can mitigate the risks of tree failures – before, during, and after storms. Proper pruning objectives, practices, and cycles can promote good structure and storm resistance. For some basic tips to evaluating a tree's health, revisit *Stump The Forester* at <https://fufc.org/downloads/councilquarterly17v3.pdf>.

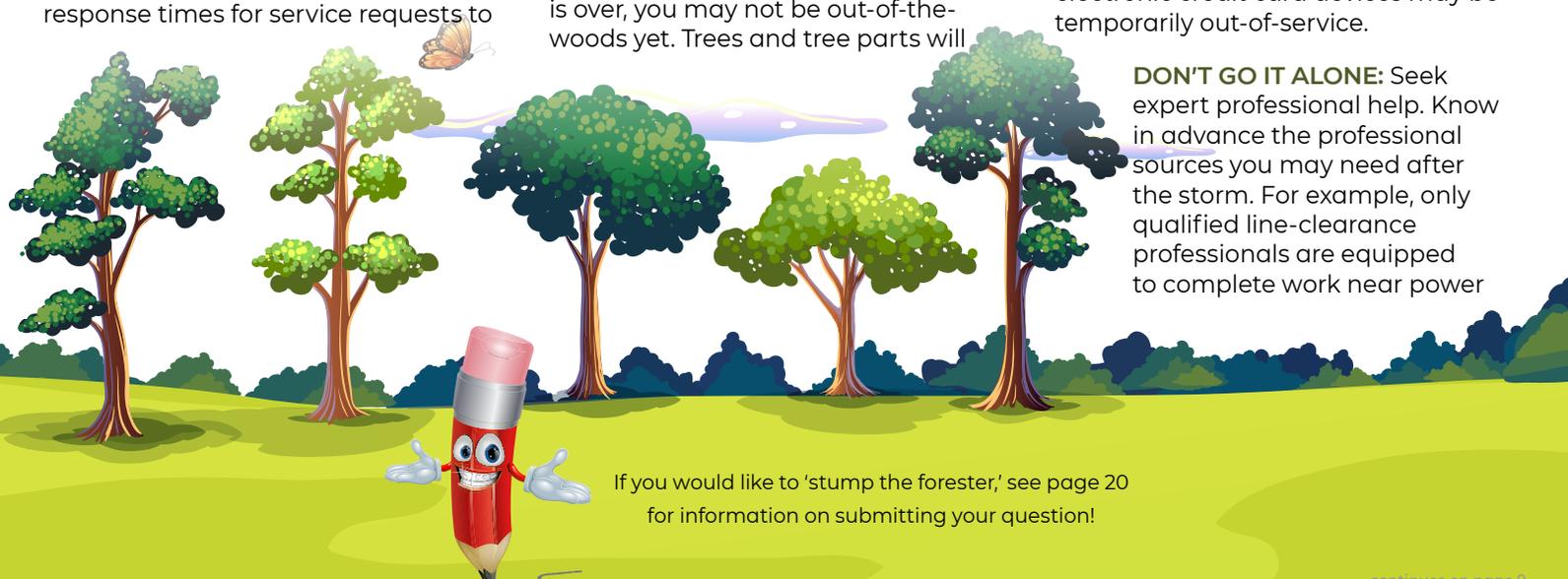
AFTER THE STORM, once the storm is over, you may not be out-of-the-woods yet. Trees and tree parts will

continue to fail and fall for days, weeks, and perhaps months after the storm. In short time, trees that survived the initial storm may slowly succumb to weakened root systems and impaired branches. Municipalities, utilities, and private property owners have experienced latent tree failure in the wake of large storms. Recovery systems, risk assessments, and budgets should be in place for an extended period. For top tree tips following a major storm event, revisit *Stump The Forester* at <https://fufc.org/downloads/councilquarterly24v4.pdf>.

FIGHT OR FLIGHT: Prepare to shelter in place or evacuate. Avoid flood waters especially. Don't get carried away with the dangers, risks, and inconveniences associated with a storm urge and flood waters from riverbanks, rising creeks, inundated drainage systems, and susceptible low areas. Flood waters can block access; submerge hazards; contaminate soils, food, and supplies; disrupt underground utilities; and invite displaced wildlife. Seek high ground. Prepare an evacuation plan and follow local evacuation advisories. For a brief discussion about the impact storm flooding will have on trees, revisit, *Stump The Forester* at, <https://fufc.org/downloads/councilquarterly17v4.pdf>.

FINANCE & INSURANCE: Have your finances & insurance coverage in order. Fully fund your emergency budget. Be prepared to finance insurance deductibles. Secure some cash as electronic credit card devices may be temporarily out-of-service.

DON'T GO IT ALONE: Seek expert professional help. Know in advance the professional sources you may need after the storm. For example, only qualified line-clearance professionals are equipped to complete work near power



If you would like to 'stump the forester,' see page 20 for information on submitting your question!

lines. Remember, trees and utilities run underground too. Licensed and insured contract services are highly recommended. Professional tree-care services will have the experience, tools, gear, techniques, and solutions to complete a task effectively and safely. Follow the operating manual instructions for any equipment you may be using.

Public services have plans, resources, and personnel in place. Fortunately, the restoration process and storm response are not haphazard or chaotic as it might first appear. Restoration efforts are preplanned, strategic, methodical, and in most cases, rehearsed. Early in the storm season, public entities are conducting assessments, identifying vulnerabilities, reviewing past experiences, securing equipment, preparing mutual aid contracts, and training staff. Once a storm is in the forecast it won't be business as usual. Municipalities, utilities, and other public services activate pre-planned priorities, tasks, schedules, and locations associated with critical infrastructure and the backbone of essential public services. The autonomy of emergency services, municipalities, utilities, and local and state agencies will often fade as they unite with a collective, interdisciplinary approach to authority, responsibilities, funds, personnel, facilities, equipment, communication, and the influx of mutual aid. Urgency and availability of response crews may not necessarily



be aimed at the need and desire of individual requests for services.

Once core public safety repairs are complete, response crews will expand restoration efforts to commercial zones, businesses, community centers, and eventually individual needs.

THINK ABOUT IT. Grocery, hardware and retail stores, restaurants, and financial institutions can provide residents, homeowners, and individuals the products, services, and alternatives needed to make repairs and sustain

a temporary level of comfort until life can return to a familiar state of normalcy.

STORMS ARE PREPARABLE. Trees, communities, and individuals are repairable. Florida sun, rain, and rainbows are inevitable.

To learn more, you can obtain a *Homeowner's Handbook To Prepare for Natural Disasters* from your local UF/IFAS Extension Office.

Answer provided by Joe Anderson – JEA Veg. Mgt Spp, ISA Arborist, FUFC & FL-ISA Board Member



Arbor Day Foundation Tree Programs

Submitted by the Communications Committee



Arbor Day Foundation™

The Tree USA programs are a suite of nation-wide programs provided by the Arbor Day Foundation to include, but not limited to, Tree City USA, Tree Line USA, Tree Campus, Tree Campus K-12 USA, and Tree Cities of the World. Details about the Arbor Day programs can be found at <https://www.arborday.org/our-work>. Qualifying participants may be operating in your neck of the woods. Participating organizations may have tree-mendous resources, expertise, and incentive to collaborate with local tree-related initiatives when fulfilling respective program requirements. Do you have a local interest in planting and protecting trees? Perhaps you should be reaching out to the participants of these programs? You may find common ground when planting trees in the ground.

TREE CITY USA

Tree City USA provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees. The program's four, core, urban forestry management standards include, (1) an established tree board or department, (2) an existing tree ordinance, (3) urban forestry budget, and (4) Arbor Day observance.

Tree City
— USA —

TREE CAMPUS

The Tree Campus USASM higher education program helps two and four-year accredited colleges and universities to establish and sustain healthy trees with student involvement. The five core standards include,

- (1) An existing campus tree advisory committee,
- (2) Campus tree care plan,
- (3) Campus tree budget, or dedicated expenditures,
- (4) Arbor Day observance,
- (5) Service-learning project.

Tree Campus

TREE LINE USA

The Tree Line USA recognizes the best practices in public and private utility arboriculture, demonstrating how trees and utilities can co-exist for the benefit of communities and citizens. The Arbor Day Foundation collaborates with the National Association of State Foresters on this initiative. The program's five, core, utility arboricultural standards include,

- (1) Quality tree care,
- (2) Annual worker training,
- (3) Tree planting and public education,
- (4) Tree-based energy conservation program,
- (5) Arbor Day observance.

TREE CAMPUS K-12

The Tree Campus K-12 USA program inspires the next generation of tree stewards through experiences that bring the benefits of trees to life inside and outside the classroom. The program is in collaboration with Project Learning Tree (PLT) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). The program encourages schools to create purposeful opportunities for students to interact with trees. The four core standard requirements include,

- (1) A tree campus team,
- (2) A tree-related education plan,
- (3) Hand-on experience,
- (4) Arbor Day observance.

TREE CITIES OF THE WORLD

The Tree Cities of the World program is an international effort to recognize cities and towns committed to ensuring that urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed, and duly celebrated. The five core requirements include,

- (1) Designated tree care responsibilities,
- (2) Set of governing rules for the management of tree and forest resources,
- (3) Updated tree-related inventory,
- (4) Allocated resource for the management of trees,
- (5) An annual celebration of trees.

Read in-depth articles by the industry's best tree care professionals and elevate your game. There might even be a funny story or two as well!

Very interesting.

Very engaging.



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Photo: Rip Thompkins and Bruce Duffy enjoy *TCI Magazine*. Taken by Chris Hall, TCIA.

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Tree of the Quarter

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

BRIEF INTRO: Laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*) is a common, native, red oak in the southern landscape. Laurel oaks are quite tolerant to a wide range of soils leading to its prevalence within its range. It is a relatively fast-growing shade tree. Verses other oaks it possesses a rather short life span of 60-70 years even under the best conditions. The oak is semi-deciduous in its southern range. It possesses many similar characteristics, and often confused with, sand laurel oak (*Quercus hemisphaerica*) and water oak (*Quercus nigra*).

HABITAT: Native to the southeastern and south-central United States; from coastal Virginia to central Florida, and west to southeast Texas. It will tolerate wet soils but does not do well with prolonged flooding. Moderately drought tolerant. Grows well in full sun to partial shade. Hardiness zones 6B-10A.

FLORIDA'S URBAN LANDSCAPE: The laurel oak is a common urban tree, forming a shade canopy relatively quickly. Laurel oaks do not compartmentalize decay well. Mature and over-mature trees are susceptible

to rapid interior decay within the trunk and lateral limbs. Interior decay can spread rapidly through entry points at storm-broken branches, improper trimming, and injuries. Therefore, a higher level of pruning maintenance may be required throughout its life span. The laurel oak grows in well-drained soils but will tolerate wet sites. It lends itself well to pruning with a branch structure that provides pruning options. Pruning is recommended for strong structure. Overmature trees with declining foliage are susceptible to outbreaks of mistletoe. Large branches of overmature trees are susceptible to breakage, especially in high winds. Trees with low vigor are susceptible to Hypoxylon canker (*Biscogniauxia atropunctatum*).

Large diameter trunks and root flares can create conflicts to adjacent sidewalks and paved surfaces.

FORM: Medium-large size tree. Commonly taller than it is wide, having a potential height of 65-80ft, and 35-45ft spread. The large dense, symmetrical oval canopy provides for a great shade tree when mature. Mature trees can form large diameter trunks and large root flares.

LEAVES: Smooth, glossy, narrow, lanceolate shape with entire margins, rarely lobed, 1-5 inches long and ½ to 1 ¾ inches wide. Alternate leaf arrangement. The leaves tend to be two-toned having dark green on top with a lighter green on the reverse side. Tree is semi-deciduous shedding in the spring with the sprout of new leaves.

BARK: Gray and smooth when young; forming shallow, flat ridges when mature.



Laurel Oak (*Quercus laurifolia*)

continues on page 13



LITTLE KNOWN FACTS:

One of the most cold hardy of the southern, semi-deciduous oaks.

SEEDS: Acorns are oval/round; up to 1 inch long; blackish-brown when ripe; laurel oaks are a pollen producer and acorn production can be heavy. Acorn production can begin at 15-20 years of age. Natural germination of fall stock may stay dormant in the ground until spring.

USES:

- Ornamental shade tree for large lawns, wide rights-of-ways, and natural buffers.
- Oak diversity to urban oak inventories.
- A good food source for a variety of wildlife.
- Extensive interior decay provide hollows for cavity nesting birds and mammals.
- Fuel wood





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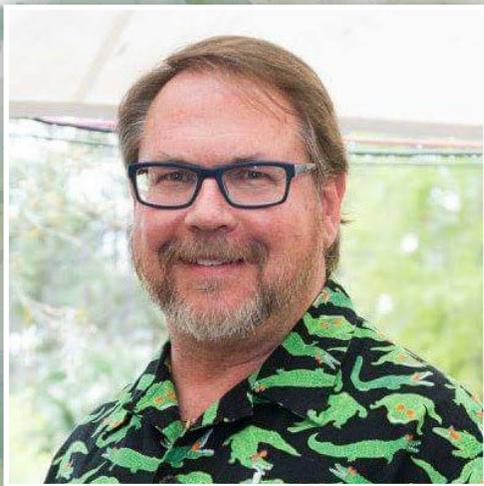
KERI SMITH

Congratulations to Keri Smith, recipient of the John P. White scholarship for the 2025 fall semester. Keri is a University of Florida, Horticultural Science major pursuing her PhD. Outside of her academic work, Keri serves as a Regulatory Specialist with Palm Beach County Env. Resource Management. She is an ISA-certified Arborist and TRAQ-qualified. The scholarship is offered through a partnership between the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC.org) and the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (FloridaISA.org). The Scholarship is designed to

support education in the arboriculture/urban forestry. For more details about the scholarship and to apply for the spring term, visit <https://fufc.org/scholarships/>.



Tribute To David Fox



The Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) and Florida's Tree Community lost a beloved champion with the passing of David Fox in late June 2025.

In 2015, after 30 years of experience as a private forestry consultant, David made a monumental career change from the woods to the classroom. As a lecturer at the University of Florida School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences, David positioned himself to mentor the next generation of natural resource managers.

David joined the FUFC to keep in close contact with fellow green industry professionals and to stay current with urban forestry trends and research in Florida. Over the years, David stepped up and served on the FUFC Executive Board in various capacities to include, Advisor, UFI Co-chair, Communication Committee, FUFC Strategic Planning Committee, and was a frequent contributor to *The Council Quarterly* newsletter.

Most recently, David served as an officer on the Executive Board as Treasurer. David was passionate about urban forestry and was well-suited for the FUFC. As a governing body, the decisions and directions of the FUFC were always on better footing because David was in the room. David has left a conspicuous mark upon the FUFC, Florida's urban forest community, and within our hearts.

Please join us in remembering a beloved friend, talented colleague, and noteworthy contributor to the advancement of urban forestry and the professional spirit that defines our industry.



FUFC Member Spotlights

ERIC MUECKE

Eric Muecke is the Urban Forestry Manager for the City of Tampa. Eric earned an Urban Forestry degree from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Eric was actively involved in the Wisconsin Chapter of the ISA serving as a database manager and editor for the ISA Chapter's newsletter.

Eric is an ISA Certified Arborist, Certified Urban and Community Forester, and TRAQ qualified. Eric is a Registered Forester in N.C. and previously served as the N.C. Forest Service representative for the North Carolina Urban Forestry Council.

Eric joined the FUFC in keeping with his continued interest, keen insight,

and progressive experience with urban forestry. Eric identifies the secret of our success is in tying urban forestry management practices and strategies to other initiatives, master plans, mobility improvements, and infrastructure projects.

Eric is a member of the FUFC Executive Board and serves on the Communication Committee. Eric is a frequent contributor to The Council Quarterly newsletter. Eric's active involvement in the FUFC enables him to expand his influence on a broader perspective of urban forestry throughout the state of Florida. The FUFC is fortunate to have Eric "On Board."



JAMIELYN DAUGHERTY HAGYARI

Jamielyn is the Florida-Friendly Landscaping & Urban Forestry Agent for Sumter County, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Cooperative Extension.

Jamielyn holds a biology degree, with an environmental emphasis, from Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL. She received post graduate diploma in Ecology and a master's degree of forestry from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Jamielyn will be completing her PhD in Horticulture from UF by August 2025.

Prior to her current UF/IFAS Extension position, past experiences included serving as an Urban Forester for the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation; Transmission Utility Arborist for a 10 county service territory, with

Davey Resource Group; Biological Lab Manager at Warner University, Lake Wales, FL; adjunct Biology Instructor at Polk State College, Lakeland, FL; Instructor at Florida Southern College; electrical distribution Hazard Tree Inspector for ECI-Environmental Consultants; and Lake County Extension Agent.

Jamielyn joined the FUFC to connect and embrace other urban forestry professionals and opportunities throughout Florida. Jamielyn is serving on the FUFC Executive Board as the UF/IFAS Extension representative. If your path in Urban Forestry has not yet crossed with Jamielyn it will undoubtedly merge soon. Her active role as an Urban Forestry Agent, and leadership role in the FUFC places her in the forefront of Florida's urban forestry arena.



ANDREW MARQUIS

Andrew Marquis is a Vegetation Management Program Manager for Duke-Energy. He is responsible for vegetative management practices along transmission lines within the utility's west coast service territory.

Andrew earned a degree in Natural Resource Conservation from the University of Florida. He is an ISA certified utility arborist. His professional experiences include environmental consulting regarding wetland mitigation, and a Utility Arborist with Davey Resource group. Andrew serves as the Utility

Representative on the FUFC Executive Board. Andrew joined the FUFC to share his experience and insight about utility arboriculture and vegetative management with Florida's urban forestry community. When he is not out walking the line, he is likely close to water casting a line, as he enjoys fishing and other water-related activities.

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New and renewed members through July 2025. Please let us know if we fail to mention your name or have it displayed incorrectly.

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Become a Member!

By joining the FUFC you will help promote the value, enhancement, and sound management of urban forests through leadership, collaboration, guidance, and education. Your membership adds your voice to hundreds of others working together for a tree-filled future for Florida.

.....

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.)



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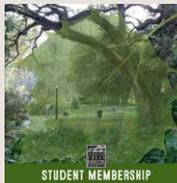
Utility Partner @ \$349.00

(Utility professionals expressing a desire for a strong presence in the Council. Membership will be granted for up to five individuals within the agency.)



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(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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Tree Check Up, LLC

Vacant

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Advisory Appointed
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Davey Resource Group
(Fort Myers)



Jeremy Mynes
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For more information, please contact the
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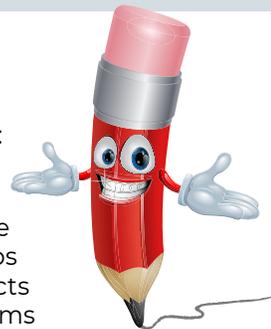
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Request for Articles

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.

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 these or any other interesting topics related to the urban forestry industry and profession. Please send articles or ideas to Joe Anderson, FUFC newsletter editor, at andejs@jea.com.

Thanks for contributing!