



# URBAN FORESTRY SUMMIT

**JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2025**

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**HILTON UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CONFERENCE CENTER  
GAINSVILLE, FL**

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, July 31, 2025

8:00 - 8:15 am	President's Welcome
8:15 - 9:15 am	Introducing Florida's Urban Forest Management Plan (1 CEU) <i>Presented by Todd Little</i>
9:15 - 10:15 am	Connecting Urban Forestry to Florida-Friendly Landscaping (1 CEU) <i>Presented by Jamie Daugherty Hagyard</i>
10:15 - 10:45 am	Vendor Break
10:45 - 11:45 am	Tree Preservation Ordinance & Tree Development Code (1 CEU) <i>Presented by John Snow &amp; John Harris</i>
11:45 am - 12:45 pm	Tree Giveaways: A Municipal Perspective & Volunteer Tree Planting & Tree Distribution Events (1 CEU) <i>Presented by Mark Williams &amp; Mark Cassini</i>
12:45 - 2:00 pm	Lunch, Sponsor Presentations & Wrap-Up Session
2:30 - 6:30 pm	FUFC Executive Committee Meeting & Leadership Growth Forum
6:30 - 8:30 pm	FUFC Executive Committee Dinner & Networking

Friday, August 1, 2025

7:30 - 8:30 am	Networking Breakfast & Welcome
8:30 - 11:30 am	Living Cities Bus Tour: Florida's Urban Forestry in Practice (3 CEUs) <i>(Load the Bus out of the Conference Center doors through the Courtyard)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Madera Neighborhood</li><li>• Bioswale</li><li>• Downtown Streetscape</li><li>• Tom Petty Park</li></ul>
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	FUFC Membership Meeting
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Awards Luncheon & Keynote Speaker <i>Speaker: Kevin Hunt, LIAF</i>
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Urban Forestry Panel Discussion (2 CEUs) <i>Panelists: Mark Williams, Mark Cassini, John Snow, John Harris, Todd Little and Jamie Daugherty Hagyard</i> <i>Moderated by Omar Leon and Joe Anderson</i>
2:30 - 3:00 pm	<i>Tree Planting Memorial Service for David Fox, FUFC Treasurer</i>

4 CEUs on Thursday and 5 CEUs on Friday are available from ISA, FNGLA, LIAF, SAF, LACES, CAM.  
Attendance will be verified to be eligible for CEUs.

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FUNDED IN PART BY VISIT  
GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY

# SESSIONS

## Introducing Florida's Urban Forest Management Plan

**Speaker: Todd Little**

**Thursday; July 31<sup>st</sup> 8:15-9:15 am**

**Course Description:** This presentation will introduce and describe the urban forest management plan developed by the Florida Forest Service, with the help of the committee, to guide the Florida Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program for years to come. Learn how the plan was developed, what goals the plan hopes to accomplish and how it will be used to aid the state forestry agency in providing better assistance to all communities



**Speaker Bio:** Todd Little is the urban and community forestry program coordinator for the Florida Forest Service. In this role, he administers the agency's education, technical, and financial assistance programs to aid in the enhancement of Florida's urban forest. Over the past two and a half years, he's managed the development of a statewide urban tree canopy assessment, overseen large expansions to the urban forestry grant program, and chaired the regional urban and community forestry committee of the Southern Group of State Foresters.

## Tree Preservation Ordinance & Tree Development Code

**Presented by John Snow & John Harris**

**Thursday; July 31<sup>st</sup> 10:45 - 11:45 am**

**Course Description:** This session explores how modern tree preservation ordinances and development codes can move beyond vague standards and fragmented rules by adopting a clear, science-based framework that ensures fairness, accountability, and long-term canopy protection.



**Speaker Bio:** John Snow is a Board Certified Master Arborist with over 30 years of experience in urban forestry, policy, and education. Known for his practical tree management strategies and environmental advocacy, he has overseen the care of more than 100,000 trees across diverse sectors. A dedicated educator and mentor, John helps arborists elevate their careers while promoting the long-term planning and preservation of trees as essential community assets.

**Speaker Bio:** John A. Harris, MS, MBA is a nationally recognized expert in urban forestry, arboriculture, and landscape economics with over 40 years of experience across North America and the Caribbean. He is the Principal of Landscape Economics LLC and President of Earth Advisors, Inc., providing expert witness services and consulting on vegetation management, tree risk, and landscape valuation. John is a certified and credentialed professional in multiple disciplines and is a frequent educator and speaker for leading industry organizations.

# SESSIONS

## Connecting Urban Forestry to Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

**Speaker: Jamie Daugherty Hagyar**

**Thursday; July 31<sup>st</sup> 9:15-10:15 am**

**Course Description:** This presentation will introduce the connection between Urban Forestry Management and the Florida Friendly Landscaping (TM) Principles. Discussion will be held on the topics of Right Tree, Right Place, Water Efficiently, Fertilize Appropriately, Mulch, Attracting Wildlife and much more.



**Speaker Bio:** Jamie is the Florida Friendly Landscaping(TM) and Urban Forestry Agent in Sumter County. She Works with Landscape Companies and homeowner in all areas related to Urban Forestry. She has been an ISA Certified Arborist since 2010. She also holds certifications in Utility and Municipal Arboriculture as well as the TRAQ and PPQ qualifications. She is passionate about trees and urban tree care.

## Tree Giveaways: A Municipal Perspective & Volunteer Tree Planting & Tree Distribution Events

**Presented by Mark Williams and Mark Cassini**

**Thursday; July 31<sup>st</sup> 11:45 am - 12:45 pm**

**Course Description:** Learn about Community Greening's volunteer tree plantings and tree distribution events to increase the tree canopy in South Florida



Discussion of tree giveaway programs, logistics of management/ creation, commonly encountered challenges and how to address and overcome them from a municipal forestry perspective. Review current and past examples of tree giveaway programs within the municipalities of Fort Lauderdale and Miami Beach.

**Speaker Bio:** Mark Williams has over 25 years' experience with horticulture and arboriculture at the private, state, county, and city levels. Originally from Fort Myers, Florida the "City of Palms" he brings a unique perspective that combines multi-faceted experience with tree preservation, tree removal permitting, and tree management plan formulation, with advanced tree risk assessment, tree pruning, and evaluation skills.

**Speaker Bio:** Mark Cassini is from Indianapolis, Indiana where he spent his childhood days immersed in nature at the creek and exploring in the woods. Mark has created a diverse non-profit career including international work in East Africa leading a team of cultural orientation instructors resettling refugees. He has an M.A. in International Studies from the University of the Pacific and graduated from Indiana University with a B.A., majoring in Cultural Anthropology. Mark, an ISA certified arborist, is the Executive Director of Community Greening, an urban forestry non-profit he co-founded in 2016. Mark lives in Delray Beach, Florida with his wife and four children.

# AWARD WINNERS

## Outstanding Tree Advocate Award Mark Cassini



## Outstanding Tree Professional Joe Anderson



# AWARD WINNERS

## Outstanding Urban Forestry Program TakeMAR



## Outstanding Tree Project: Pampano Beach Youth Sports Complex



# AWARD WINNERS

## Lifetime Achievement Award Don Spence



## Outstanding Tree Ordinance City of Fort Lauderdale

TREE PRESERVATION  
ORDINANCE  
UPDATE



City of Fort Lauderdale  
Development Services Department  
Urban Design and Planning  
February 27, 2024  
REVISED August 21, 2024



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



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