

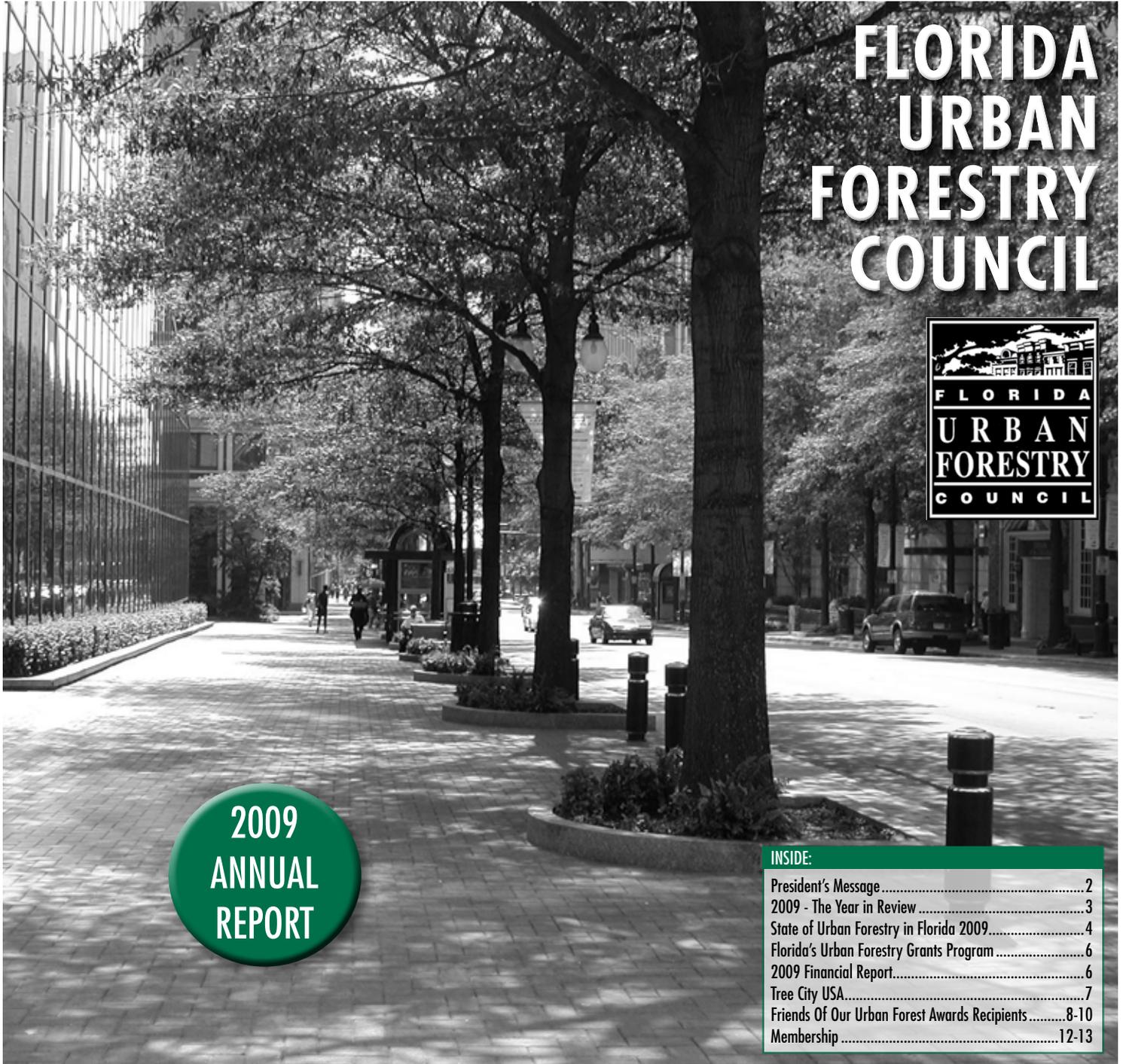


The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2010 Issue One

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, Division of Forestry, Charles H. Bronson Commissioner.



FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL



**2009
ANNUAL
REPORT**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is my distinct pleasure to address the membership of the Florida Urban Forestry Council as we look back on 2009 and ahead to 2010 and beyond. As detailed in reports by 2009 FUFC President Earline Lührman and FUFC Executive Director Sandy Temple, FUFC was able to promote awareness and understanding of issues pertinent to the urban forestry community through a number of excellent outreach activities and programs. I continue to be impressed with the talent and passion of the FUFC members serving on committees and speaking at training sessions and conferences on behalf of FUFC. Their efforts have also gotten us off to a great start in 2010!

In January of this year, FUFC and our sponsors once again partnered with Tim Womick, the modern day Johnny Appleseed, to present the Trail of Trees program. Tim spread the word about the importance of trees in our environment to over 4000 Florida elementary and middle school students and teachers. We added presentations in Southeast Florida for the first time this year and are hopeful to add presentations in West Central Florida next year.

On February 10th & 11th, the Executive Committee sequestered for two days in Gainesville to handle important business issues, plan for the year ahead, and also begin the efforts to compose a new five-year Strategic Plan. Although this is a significant task, we are excited that this effort will assist us in being relevant and worthy of your continued support.

Some other FUFC focus areas this year include training opportunities for professionals, the Annual Regional Membership Meeting, revisions/reprints to the popular Right Tree, Right Place poster, and promotion of Tree Campus USA. This year the Annual Membership Meeting will be in Central Florida. Our annual meeting is now a one-day event held each fall and includes a mix of educational presentations with CEU credits and a short business meeting to provide the membership with an opportunity to learn about current FUFC issues and give feedback to the Executive Committee.

Revisions are currently being made to the Central Florida Right Tree Right Place (RTRP) poster. The three regional posters continue to be very popular, and to-date over 78,000 posters have been printed with almost 68,000 of those being sold to support the efforts of the Council!

Looking for a place to use your urban forestry talents and join-in on a good cause? FUFC is helping to spread the word about The Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Campus USA to Florida colleges and universities. If you would be willing to lend a hand with starting up a program in your home area, please let us know! This program was started in 2008 to compliment the popular Tree City USA program by encouraging and recognizing college campuses and leaders that promote sound urban forest management and environmental stewardship. As of the date of this writing, three Florida colleges/universities have earned the Tree Campus USA designation – several more are in the works. FUFC members can assist in a number of ways including:

- *Providing assistance in developing a tree care plan*
- *Helping to organize an Arbor Day celebration*
- *Serving as a community representative on a Campus Tree Advisory Board*

For more information on the program visit the Arbor Day Foundation website (www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa).

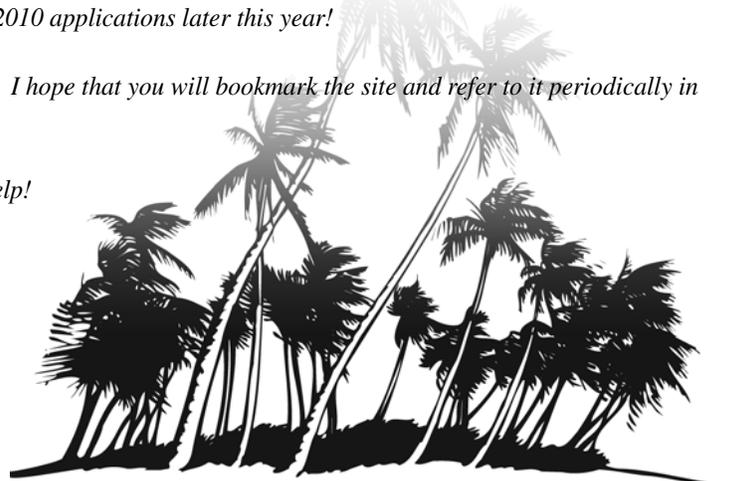
Of course, we take great enjoyment in recognizing outstanding individuals, projects, and municipalities with our Friends of Our Urban Forest Awards. These awards are now presented locally, so recipients can receive recognition in their home community. The 2009 award recipients were presented early this year with much deserved fanfare. Watch for the 2010 applications later this year!

If you haven't visited our website (www.fufc.org) lately, please take a look. I hope that you will bookmark the site and refer to it periodically in order to catch up on urban forestry news and issues.

Please contact your "Council" if you have questions, ideas, or desire to help!

Gratefully yours,

John Holzapfel
FUFC President
JohnH@nrpsforesters.com



2009 – THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Earline Luhrman, FUFUC Immediate Past President

The 2009 Executive Committee of the Florida Urban Forestry Council had a gratifying year. We as a group completed many projects identified at our annual retreat which was held in January, 2009 in Altamonte Springs. The Executive Committee is pleased with the goals that were met and the accomplishments which were made throughout the year.

Over 3,000 elementary students were reached through presentations of the Trail of Trees program. Tim Womick, the educator and modern-day Johnny Appleseed, travels across America and foreign countries educating people of all ages about the importance of trees, their value to a community and about our fragile environment of today. The Council targets elementary students so they will be the future advocates of Mother Earth. You can read more about this program by visiting the FUFUC web site.

In seeking new avenues and alternative strategies for gaining new members, the Membership Subcommittee looked at groups that share similar common interests and selected the Master Gardeners as a target for membership outreach in 2009. A pilot program developed in late 2008, was implemented in 2009 and several UF/IFAS Extension Office Master Gardener groups were contacted and presentations were made on the benefits of trees as well as an overview of FUFUC and the benefits of membership. While only a limited number of new members were recruited, the exposure for the Council and potential opportunities for further educational programs was achieved at a relatively minimal cost.

We introduced a new format for the urban forestry awards program, "Friends of Our Urban Forest," with categories including Outstanding Professional, Outstanding Tree Advocate or Tree Advocacy Group, Outstanding Public Educational Program, Outstanding Project, Outstanding Urban Forestry Program (Large and Small Communities), and a Lifetime Achievement Award. The awards were presented at a

local event of the recipients' choice being held in their own community in order to bring the presentations "closer to home"—where it matters most.

The tree note cards, which feature the superb art work of artist Steve Vaughn, were redesigned for printing on recycled paper. You can visit the Council's web site at www.fufc.org to order tree note cards, Right Tree, Right Place posters, Trees Love Care! posters, apparel with our logo, and much more. The web site is outstanding and has many links that are beneficial for the public.

The Executive Committee was active in 2009 displaying our booth at the Trees Florida conference, Great Southern

Tree Conference, Florida Institute of Park Personnel, Master Gardeners' Conference, Kanapaha Botanical Spring Garden Festival, Friends of Sliver River Park, League of Cities, Rebuilding Together, and many other venues.

In October, the Council held the Northeast Florida Regional Workshop and 2009 Annual Meeting. At the Regional Workshop, presentations were made on Firewise Communities (Bill Butler, City of Palm Coast) and Laurel Wilt (Dr. Bud Mayfield, FDACS Division of Forestry). The Annual Meeting was for networking with other FUFUC members and tree advocate groups in the state. A special presentation was made highlighting Council activities. We hope each member will be able to attend this event in 2010!

The Council joined forces with the Florida Institute of Park Personnel to co-sponsor their 43rd Annual Fall Conference, "Surviving the Crunch and Planning for the Future," which was also held in October. Many topics were presented including Current and Future Impact to Local Government Due to Tax Reform, Alternative Funding through Public/Private Partnerships, Maintaining Focus and Motivating Employees during Difficult Economic Times, Creative Funding through Grants, and other informative topics.

The Executive Committee sponsored three i-Tree Training workshops in November and December. The locations were Miami, Fort Lauderdale and St. Augustine. These classes were hands-on training consisting of classroom instruction and outdoor field exercises. The attendees were taught about environmental services related to trees such as energy conservation, air quality improvement, carbon dioxide reduction and storm water control.

It was my pleasure to serve as your President, and I will forever remember being a part of this fantastic organization. I encourage YOU to get involved and make a difference in our Urban Forest at your local level or statewide.

"Over 3,000 elementary students were reached through presentations of the Trail of Trees program."

ARTICLES WANTED

The Florida Urban Forestry Council would like to share information on what is going on throughout the state in our newsletters. We would like to receive articles on any aspect of our field. Article ideas may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- New trends in the industry
- News about tree advocacy groups
- Volunteer projects
- Favorite or new websites
- Ideas on working with the public
- City tree programs
- Solutions to common problems in your typical workday
- Children's poems, drawings, favorite quotes

Please update us on urban forestry news in your corner of the state so that we can learn from each other. Our newsletter is not only a great way to share information, but also a way to show off our accomplishments and successes. Articles can be sent to Sherie Burch, FUFUC newsletter editor, at sburch@ocalaf1.org.

Thanks for contributing!

STATE OF URBAN FORESTRY IN FLORIDA 2009

Charlie Marcus, Florida Division of Forestry – Urban Forestry Coordinator

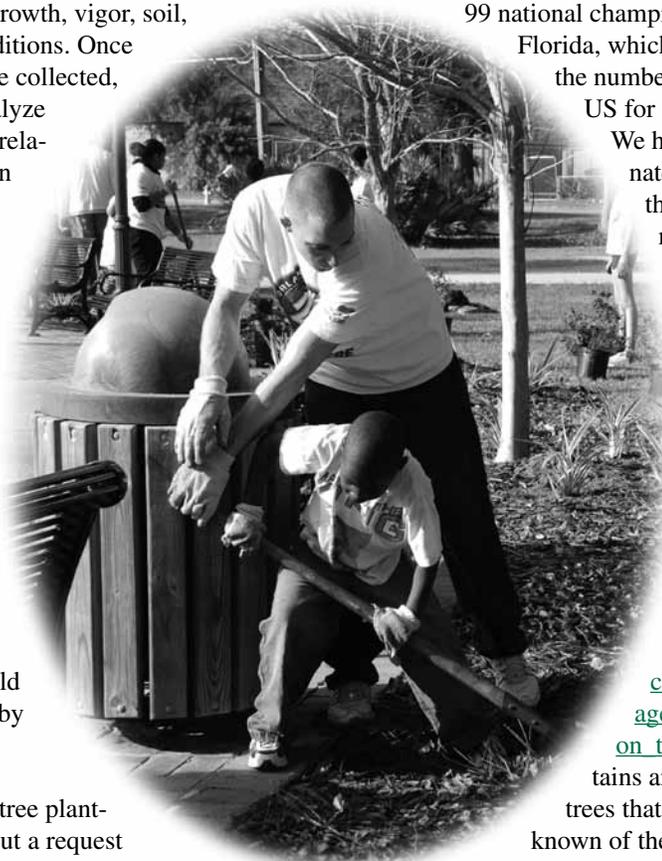
As you have probably noticed, people have planted lots of trees in Florida's urban communities during the past couple of decades. The Division of Forestry has helped sponsor the planting of over one hundred fifty thousand of them since 2005, and I'm sure that's just the tip of the iceberg. After patting ourselves on the back for generating these kinds of numbers, the question becomes, "Are we doing any good?" Given the expenditures involved, I certainly hope that our outcomes are at least as impressive as our outputs. Do the trees continue to grow at a healthy rate after we have stopped monitoring them, and do they eventually provide the economic and environmental benefits that we anticipate?

Dr. Ed Gilman expressed this concern to me while we rode from Fort Lauderdale to Gainesville last Spring. By the time we arrived at our destination, we had decided to take a slice of the pie and study it. We started by checking 20 of the hurricane grant plantings located throughout the state. After two to three years in the ground, their survival rates averaged just under 90%. That's a credit to the growers, installers, and local officials who have taken care of these trees, and it gave us reason for optimism as we proceeded to broaden the study. Dr. Gilman and his students are examining urban tree plantings in cities within 10 or so miles of the Interstate 4 corridor and will measure various parameters. These may include sur-

vival rates, growth, vigor, soil, and site conditions. Once these data are collected, they will analyze potential correlations between growth and survival and factors such as species, location, time of planting, nursery production method, available rooting space, and use of irrigation. Results should be available by mid-2011.

Speaking of tree plantings, I sent out a request for information about Small Business Administration (SBA) tree plantings that took place in Florida communities from 1991-1994. Thank you to those who responded. The photos you sent are a testimony to the benefits of our tree planting efforts. I also forwarded copies to various parties who are actively working on behalf of HR 4509, the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Act. As proposed, this program would provide as much as \$50 million nationwide in matching grants for urban tree plantings. The Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is actively advocating the passage of this bill, and can provide more information on their website, <http://actrees.org>.

The Division of Forestry has participated in American Forests' National Register of Big Trees since its inception in 1940, and has also maintained a state registry since 1975. The latest edition of the national registry, which is published every two years, was released on April 20. You can peruse the registry on-line at <http://www.americanforests.org/resources/bigtrees/>, or you can order your own copy from American Forests for a nominal fee. The 2010 registry features



99 national champion species from Florida, which now makes us the number one state in the US for champion trees.

We have also nominated several others that were not submitted in time for publication, so the 2012 register should include well over 100 Florida national champions.

The Florida champion tree registry, http://www.fl-dof.com/forest_management/champion_trees.html, contains an additional 90 trees that are the largest known of their species in the state. Currently, this information

is available on our agency website in a PDF document. Within the next six months, however, we will have a new interactive champion tree website that will display photos and have some user-friendly search and query features. If you know of a tree that is worthy of nomination, the instructions and forms are available on the current web page. We have a list of about 90 species that do not have champions at this time.

A total of 16 tree planting projects involving 642 trees were conducted in conjunction with Super Bowl XLIV in Miami Gardens this year. The Division of Forestry joined forces once again with the National Football League, the Super Bowl host committee, and various local governments and non-profit groups in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties, to promote an awareness of trees among those who were already aware of football. This is the fourth Florida Super Bowl since 2005, and the second one at this location during that time, where these groups have come together to promote the benefits of trees. The partnership has been a win/win for everyone involved.



NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING ANNUAL RATES:

Business-card size advertisement.....	\$75
Quarter page advertisement	\$115
Half-page advertisement.....	\$225
Full page advertisement.....	\$450

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To place an advertisement in *The Council Quarterly*, please contact Sandy Temple, FUFC Executive Director (407-872-1738).



NOTE CARDS \$20

(plus \$2.95 shipping)

** For large quantity orders, please call the Florida Urban Forestry Council at 407-872-1738 for special pricing **



Bald Cypress • *Taxodium distichum*



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Each set contains 12 cards with four each of three panoramic photographs donated by artist Steve Vaughn. Purchase and use of these unique and beautiful cards supports the Council's efforts and commitment to plant and save Florida's urban forests for future generations.

To order the Florida Urban Forestry Council's Note Cards, please complete the following order form and return with payment (check or credit card) to:

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FLORIDA'S URBAN FORESTRY GRANTS PROGRAM

Charlie Marcus, Urban Forestry Coordinator, Florida Division of Forestry

This year, the US Forest Service provided the Florida Division of Forestry with \$1.57 million in funding to promote tree planting and care of community trees under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The program is called the Florida Forest Health Improvement Initiative, because the goals are to increase tree canopy and improve the health of existing trees in developed areas of Florida. Unlike previous urban forestry grant programs, the grant recipients under this program do not have to provide a match for the funds received.

The enrollment period for this program concluded on February 12, 2010. A committee of city foresters met in Boynton Beach for two days in March to score the applications according to standard guidelines. Applicants who showed the most need, the most worthwhile projects, and the best ability to carry them out received the highest scores. A total of 86 communities, non-profit groups, and schools each received up to \$20 thousand in funding. Funds were allocated throughout the state, although a significant portion of the grant recipients are located either in the Orlando or Miami-Fort Lauderdale areas.

Grant recipients must complete their projects by September, 2011. The DOF is using approximately 10% of the allocated funds

to support temporary grant administrator positions who will work out of the Orlando and Palm Beach County offices and handle the grants in the surrounding counties. Both of the selected administrators have good credentials in related fields and will begin working with grant recipients in April.

The Division of Forestry is also providing the annual Urban and Community Forestry grants for 2010. The enrollment period concluded on April 2, 2010; the review committee met in early May to evaluate the grant applications; and approved applicants will receive notification of their awards within 30 days of the review meeting. Approximately \$265,000 in matching funds will be allocated to these applicants.

The purpose of the annual grant program is to help provide Florida communities with the resources they need to either initiate or improve their local urban forestry management programs. Eligible entities include local governments (city and county), non-profit groups, and educational institutions.

Eligible activities include the following:

- hiring temporary staffing
- purchasing urban forestry equipment
- conducting urban forest inventories and/or master plans
- various educational projects

In addition, a small amount of funding is available under this program for demonstration tree planting projects. However, most of these funds are awarded to small rural communities or underserved neighborhoods in larger cities.

Additional information about these grants is available on the Division of Forestry website, www.fl-dof.com, or by contacting your local County Forester.

During the early to mid-1990s, the Division of Forestry provided tree planting grants to cities using matching funds provided by the Small Business Administration (SBA). Nationally, the program provided sufficient funds to plant 23 million trees in urban areas from 1991-94. On January 26, 2010, the US House of Representatives introduced legislation known as the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Act (HR 4509). This legislation is intended to reinstitute funding for this program, at a national level of \$50 million.

This is not intended to be an endorsement of this program; however, if you would like to support this legislation, contact your local US Congressional Representative.

2009 FINANCIAL REPORT

The FUFUC continues to thrive due to the generosity and support of individuals, governmental agencies and private corporations who provide financial assistance to ensure the sustainability of the Council and its mission of planning, promoting and protecting the urban forest. While total revenue received in 2009 was less than previous years, funding which was carried forward from previous years has allowed for the Council's programs and activities to be continued. Total revenue received was \$80,378.57 in addition to \$58,636.32 which was carried forward from 2008.

A significant portion of the revenue received in 2009 was from the Florida Division of Forestry which accounted for 50% of the total revenue (\$40,343.00). The Florida Division of Forestry (FDOF) and FUFUC execute an annual memorandum of agreement for specific services which are provided to the FDOF by the FUFUC in exchange for the funding that is received.

Poster and merchandise sales continue to be a key source of revenue for the FUFUC.

Revenue received from Right Tree, Right Place poster sales, Trees Love Care! poster sales and note card sales (\$16,446.17) accounted for 20% of funding. Memberships in 2009 totaled 423 members (down from 474 members in 2008). Revenue received from the memberships (\$10,252.21) accounted for 13% of total revenue received. Revenue from workshops generated 9% (\$6,936.40) of the 2009 revenue. Workshops which were held included the Northeast Florida Regional Workshop, three i-Tree Training Workshops and co-hosting the 43rd Annual FIPP Fall Conference. Sponsorship revenue (\$4,290.40), 5% of revenue received, offset costs for the 2009 Trail of Trees program. Advertising revenue, which includes revenue generated from newsletter advertisements, totaled \$2,058.75 (3%). The remainder of revenue was from miscellaneous donations totaling \$51.64.

Expenditures for 2009 totaled \$119,222.67. The Council provided sponsorship of the Trees Florida Conference and Great Southern Tree Conference in addition to the workshops and Trail of Trees program

previously mentioned. In addition, the Friends of Our Urban Forest awards program was initiated. Further programs, activities and accomplishments are highlighted in the "2009 Year in Review" article.

As proposed projects are considered by the Executive Committee, revenue versus expense criteria is evaluated. While not all projects or programs produce revenue, the data is carefully considered as the Council strives for sustainability. In summary, although the expenditures exceeded the revenue received in 2009, a balance of \$19,792.22 was carried forward to 2010.

The Council has not been immune to the tough economic times everyone is facing. However, FUFUC will continue to strive to use our available resources conservatively on behalf of the membership and sponsors. Executive Committee members have made identifying and seeking alternative sources of revenue and cultivating new partnerships one of their priorities in order to sustain the Council.



TREE CITY USA®

Welcome to Florida's new Tree City USA communities for 2009:

- Anna Maria, Manatee County
- Bonita Springs, Lee County
- Cutler Bay, Miami-Dade County
- Manatee County
- Marco Island, Collier County
- Montverde, Lake County
- Palmetto Bay, Miami-Dade County
- Seminole County

This brings our state total to 156, putting Florida close to overtaking New Jersey as the #5 state in the US for total Tree Cities. Almost all Tree Cities from the previous year applied for recertification, which does not happen every year. Kudos to everyone involved in this effort.

The largest participating city in Florida is Jacksonville, with a population of close to one million residents. The smallest participating city is Pomona Park in Putnam County, with a population of less than one thousand residents. The cities of Boca Raton, Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Orlando, Plantation, and Winter Park have now been certified as Tree Cities USA for at least 30 years.

The Division of Forestry administers the Tree City USA program in Florida. Information about the program is available on the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) website, www.arborday.org, and the Division of Forestry website, www.fl-dof.com. City and county governments, as well as federal military bases, are eligible for certification. To qualify, they must have a designated tree board, advocacy group, or department in charge of tree management. They must also have an enforced tree ordinance, work plan with an annual budget of at least \$2.00 per capita, and an annual Arbor Day celebration.

For those who go above and beyond the call of duty, there is the Tree City USA

Growth Award. Certified communities who spend at least as much as they did the previous year on their urban tree program can qualify. In addition, they must either initiate new tree management activities, or expand their current activities over the previous year. In 2009, a total of 34 Florida communities received Growth Awards. Any city receiving the Growth Award for at least 10 years is recognized as a Sterling Tree City USA. Florida currently has 12 cities who have achieved this honor.

The NADF initiated the new Tree Campus USA program in 2008. Colleges (meaning any post-secondary academic institution) who maintain an active tree management

program on their campus with adequate funding, dedicated staff and resources, and volunteer participation from students and faculty are eligible to receive this award. The first Tree Campus USA colleges in Florida became certified at the beginning of 2010. Congratulations to:

- Florida International University, Miami
- Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers
- Central Florida Community College, Ocala

The NADF also administers their Tree Line USA in Florida through the Division of Forestry. This certification goes to electric utility companies and cooperatives who employ proper pruning methods during

tree maintenance, protect tree roots when tunneling, provide for adequate training and safety for line clearing crews, and conduct tree education and planting projects in their local communities. There are currently 10 Tree Line USA companies and cooperatives in Florida.

“Any city receiving the Growth Award for at least 10 years is recognized as a Sterling Tree City USA. Florida currently has 12 cities who have achieved this honor.”

If your city, county, college, company, or cooperative would like to participate in any of these NADF programs, or if you would like to know more about them, please contact Urban Forestry Coordinator Charlie Marcus at 850-921-0300, or marcusc@doacs.state.fl.us.



2009 FRIENDS OF OUR URBAN FOREST AWARDS PROGRAM WINNERS



OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL

Recognition of a professional individual for their contribution to urban forestry activities and arboricultural practices.



ROB WILLIAMSON
Rob Williamson, owner of Trees Plus located in Bagdad, sums up his business' core philosophy with one word—"service." Service to his customers.

Service to his employees by providing a work environment where growth is encouraged. Service to the community. Service to the industry by educating customers and the community about the importance of trees and selecting the right people to care for them. Rob passionately promotes his mission of "service" on a daily basis. Whether he is raising awareness through the newly created Trees Plus Greenscapes award or volunteering his expertise to the City of Fort Walton Beach Tree Board, Rob is constantly promoting the benefits of trees. He has held workshops at the local high school, provided services for the restoration of a family park and playground at one of the housing communities at Elgin Air Force Base, donated services for restoration pruning of historic live oaks for the City of Fort Walton Beach, provided free hurricane evaluation to schools located in Okaloosa County for the Okaloosa County School Board, and donated tree work and materials for local projects, just to name a few. Congratulations to Rob Williamson as the "2009 Outstanding Professional" for his contribution to urban forestry activities and arboricultural practices!

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Recognition of a public outreach program or communication tool which informs, teaches and motivates the public on the importance of trees and the value of urban forestry activities within their communities and the state.



BROWARD COUNTY TREE TRIMMER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

In October of 2000, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners passed an ordinance regulating the county's tree trimming industry. The ordinance requires individuals and businesses who trim trees for hire to obtain a license. This action was taken as a result of concerns about the quality of tree trimming practiced in the county and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. The Commissioners also voted to require proof of training in the

form of certifications earned through participation in a continuing education course. In doing so, they directed staff at Broward County Extension Education to develop a tree trimming curriculum and administer exams to all who participate.

To date, the program has trained nearly 4,800 tree trimmers to properly prune trees for clearance, wind tolerance and canopy restoration using best practices to maximize tree longevity and workplace safety. Moreover, the program is making a difference in the health of their local tree canopy. The tree trimmer program has also benefitted Broward County homeowners and property managers. As a result of having taken these courses, they are more knowledgeable consumers and also better equipped to determine a company's training and licensing status before signing a contract.

Congratulations to the Broward County Tree Trimmer Certification Program as the "2009 Outstanding Public Educational Program" for their program which informs, teaches and motivates the public on the importance of trees and the value of urban forestry activities.

OUTSTANDING PROJECT

Recognition of a residential, commercial or public project that demonstrates tree preservation, tree planning, tree maintenance, or environmentally-sound planning or design.



"Nova Southeastern University Lower School and Central Plant Project"

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY LOWER SCHOOL AND CENTRAL PLANT PROJECT

The new Lower School and Central Plant Expansion Project took place in the core center of the Main Campus. The project limits displaced old buildings, parking areas, open space, and roadways. The Town of Davie's old 75th Avenue once bisected the Campus at the start of the project. This roadway was abandoned to the development cause, thus making way for new major underground utilities, new buildings, plazas, open space, and landscape.

Development plans called for major upgrades in the underground utilities which led to relocation of mature trees. Several of the relocation trees came from the roadway shoulder and others from the area surrounding existing buildings. The search began for viable homes for the relocation trees based on a well-designed and select list of criteria. The root pruning operation was accomplished in two phases. The root ball was sized following ISA Standards and/or intentionally exceeded those guidelines, for better success. Customized equipment was matched to the job for transporting the root ball and pre-digging the final location holes of each of the relocations to ensure the hole matched the ball dimensions and depth. Each tree was hand watered into place and then fitted with an irrigation bubbler on a battery-operated zone valve to ensure constant watering until established. There were no losses of any of the Live Oaks relocated under this program.

Credit for the success of this project goes to Landscape Architects Collaborative, Inc. and Tom Laubenthal for the vision, coordination, planning and technical arrangements, to Jim Aucamp of Aucamp's Nursery who performed the root pruning operation several months in advance which was key to the successful process, Landscape Service Professional, Inc. for the irrigation work, to Ron Turner of Tree Movers, Inc. and his experienced equipment operations who executed the technical moved, and to Nova Southeast University who shares the vision, teaches environmental practices and leads by example.

Congratulations to Nova Southeastern University Lower School and Central Plant as one of the "2009 Outstanding Project" winners!



"Lake Nona"

LAKE NONA

Lake Nona is a thoughtfully-designed, 7,000 acre master-planned community within the city limits of Orlando that will be home to world-class education, medical and recreation facilities, a science and technology park, diverse workspaces, retail centers, entertainment choices, and resident options. The development includes an over 1,000-acre primary conservation network featuring preserved and enhanced upland and wetland systems and natural lakes. Lake Nona, the largest of the natural lakes, is 584-acres and located in the heart of the development. Early in the site planning of Lake Nona south, the owner recognized the importance of preserving existing wetlands and upland wildlife habitats. It was also recognized that a substantial commitment to preserving the tree canopy would be required in order to continue the "Old Florida" landscape that has become a hallmark at Lake Nona. Lake Nona has made a significant investment to preserve 10 large 50-year-old oak trees by relocating them from a commercial construction site to one of Lake Nona's major residential entrances. The project has experienced a 100% survival rate and has established a grand sense of arrival to the new planned residential communities. As the concept of developing a 600-acre health and life sciences park took shape,

there became a determined effort to present and enhance a sustainable outdoor environment. An Urban Forest Plan was developed and has served as a guide in the selection of native trees throughout the project and to build upon the natural systems. In total to date, the Urban Forest Plan has guided the installation of over 5,760 trees with 92% of those being Florida Natives.

Congratulations to Lake Nona as one of the "2009 Outstanding Project" winners!

OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM – LARGE COMMUNITY (OVER 35,000 IN POPULATION)

Recognition of a local government or agency providing exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban forestry program.

TOWN OF DAVIE

The Town of Davie established their first, town-wide tree inventory under the direction of Urban Forester Tim Lee in 2008 utilizing an Urban and Community Forestry Grant awarded by the Florida Division of Forestry. The data gathered from the tree inventory was utilized to develop a plan to manage and maintain the urban forest in Davie.

Continued on next page.

2009 FRIENDS OF OUR URBAN FOREST AWARDS PROGRAM WINNERS, cont.

As the economy improves and funds become available, it is anticipated that the forestry plan will be fully put into action and the inventory will be continually updated. The final product will be healthier, regularly pruned trees, along with the removal of invasive exotics which will be replaced with plantings of new diverse trees.

Additional noteworthy activities include the 2009 Tree City Growth Award, preservation of 338 trees and palms from construction damage, initiating an active Tree Legacy program which was implemented as a way to improve the natural environment and also to honor a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion, the use of bond funds to purchase two private tree nurseries, production of a tree trimming video for the local cable television station, designing streetscape projects for five major thoroughfares, actively working with private businesses to renovate the landscaping on properties that have been damaged by hurricanes or just neglected over the years, and working on having the Town of Davie parks certified as National Wildlife Habitats and becoming Naturescape certified.



Congratulations to the Town of Davie as the “2009 Outstanding Urban Forestry Program – Large Community” for their programs put in place to preserve and improve their urban tree canopy!

OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM – SMALL COMMUNITY (UNDER 35,000 IN POPULATION)

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH

The City of St. Augustine Beach is a small community (population less than 6,400) with residents that wish to see more trees, plants conserved and plantings within the public right-of-ways as well as on private property. In 2006, the City of St. Augustine Beach applied for Tree City USA status and



has earned the recertification and Tree City USA Growth Award since 2007.

In 2007, a newly established Tree Board obtained funding from the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association to purchase 30-gallon live oaks for planting along 16th Street. This planting demonstrated coordination and cooperation with the Division of Forestry Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program, the St. Augustine Beach Beautification Committee, the St. Augustine Beach Tree Board, St. Augustine Beach Public Works Department, and the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association.

Another accomplishment was the update of the tree ordinance. Once the ordinance was passed, a Board Certified Master Arborist trained code enforcement staff on tree risk assessment. In 2008 and 2009 a street tree inventory was completed in two phases. The main emphasis of the street tree inventory was risk assessment. Trees were given a numerical grade based on various pre-determined risk factors. Trees with higher scores had greater apparent risk and mitigation was done sooner based upon the scoring method of risk assessment. The street tree inventory also provided valuable information on the type of tree species which were prevalent in St. Augustine Beach. Overall, the tree population is predominately live oaks with about half of the live oaks being relatively young in the 10 to 19 DBH range.

Congratulations to the City of St. Augustine Beach as the “2009 Outstanding Urban Forestry Program – Small Community” for their exemplary leadership and vision for a comprehensive urban forestry program!

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recognition of an individual for their career-long distinguished service and dedication to the advancement of Urban Forestry.

JEFFREY SIEGEL

Jeffrey Siegel, also known as the “tree guru,” brought a special perspective to Urban Forestry. His passing away in July, 2009 was a great loss to not only his family, but also his colleagues and friends. Jeffrey served as one of the founding members of the Florida Urban Forestry Council and was very committed to the Council. As a Landscape Architect with the City of Plantation, he will be remembered for Plantation’s parks, the budding trees on medians and policies forcing developers to think green. He rejoiced year after year when the City of Plantation was designated as a Tree City USA. He lobbied for tougher regulations aimed at preventing “tree abuse” when homeowners would chop down trees or trim them badly. Among both his colleagues and friends, he was well known for his kindness, generosity and talent. The impact he had on his profession, citizens of Florida and its communities are a lasting legacy and statement of his exceptional influence and dedication.



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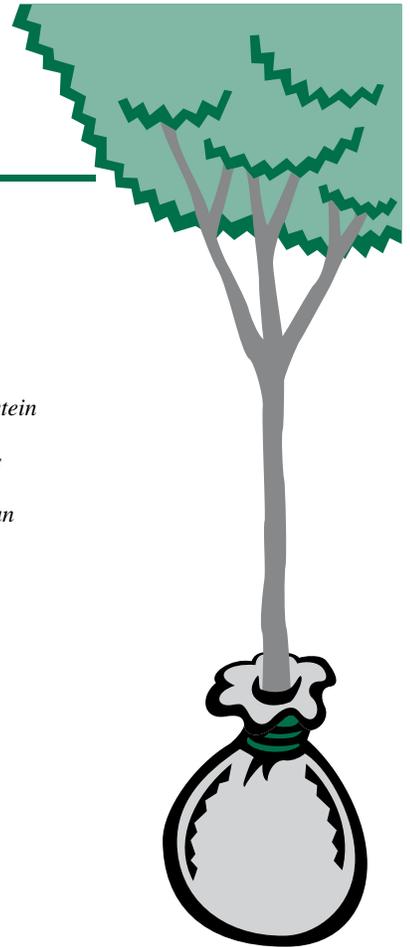
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