



Georgia Urban Forest Council, Inc.
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Date: April 15, 2005

To: Tree Ordinance Administrator,
Municipal Forester/Arborist/Tree Care Manager

From: Bruce Herrick, Ph.D., President
Georgia Urban Forest Council, Inc.

RE: *Survey of Municipal Tree Regulation in Georgia*

Dear Administrator/Manager:

Does your community's tree ordinance make your job easier when dealing with developers or neighbors' complaints or when making everyday decisions? Or, if your community doesn't have tree regulations, do you sometimes wish that it did? As a tree care professional, you appreciate the importance of basing your work on the law. With your input we can help you!

As communities across Georgia consider creating or revising their tree ordinances, they look for models of what has worked and what other communities have tried—how tree regulations are administered, what trees are regulated, how tree conservation and planting are managed, and what resources are required to regulate and manage community trees. To save municipalities the effort of duplicating another's research and to get an overview of the status of tree regulation in the State, the Georgia Urban Forest Council, Inc. (GUF), has commissioned Technical Forestry Services (TFS) to conduct the enclosed survey. The project is being funded in part by an Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program grant from the USDA Forest Service and Georgia Forestry Commission.

The enclosed *Survey of Municipal Tree Regulation in Georgia* is being distributed to all municipalities within Georgia (over 700!). Your participation in this survey is critical to our assessment and to returning useful information back to you and other communities. The answers you provide and the content of your tree ordinance will be included in a summary report and on CD focused on tree ordinances. The summary will be an essential tool and provide a good foundation for tree ordinance development, revision, and administration. Getting your survey back to us is important to the success of this project! *If your community does NOT have any tree regulations, please send back the RESPONSE CARD only!*

The project results will also be presented at a GUF sponsored workshop planned for later this year. Each municipality that fills out and returns a survey or post card by **5/31/05** will be provided with a copy of the final report and CD *and* will receive one free registration to the tree ordinance workshop!

For further information or for help filling out this survey, please contact Connie Head at TFS by e-mail (preferred) at tfshead@aol.com, by phone at (706)335-7070 office, (706)202-5279 cell, or by fax at (706)335-5677 (between 8 am and 6 pm). Please provide a name and phone number for a return call from TFS.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PROVIDE US WITH THIS
IMPORTANT INFORMATION!**