



FALL 2008

2009 Municipal Forestry Institute Scholarships Available

A limited number of scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 will be provided to Municipal Arborists that are members of International Society of Arboriculture, Society of Municipal Arborists, and the Georgia Urban Forest Council to attend the 2009 Municipal Forestry Institute, to be held February 22-27, 2009 in Ridgeland, South Carolina. Please submit one paragraph expressing your interest in attending, financial need and contact information to GUFC by October 1.

The Municipal Forestry Institute (or MFI) is a high-level training opportunity educating professionals in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry programs.

For more information on MFI 2009, visit www.urbanforestry.com or call **(706) 769-7412**.

For information on scholarships, call GUFC at **(800)994-4832**.

Partners in Community Forestry National Conference

November 18-20, 2008
Sheraton Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia

Presented by the Home Depot Foundation and the National Arbor Day Foundation

With a growing interest in greening our communities, this conference seeks to harness the power of partnerships by engaging diverse professionals and volunteers in promoting the growth of our community forests and elevating the benefits of community trees.

Register online at arborday.org/PCF or call **(888)448-7337**.

GUFC's 18th Annual Conference and Awards Program

Clean Water, Clean Air - Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem

Join the **Georgia Urban Forest Council** for its Annual Conference and Awards Program **October 29-31, 2008** at the **Augusta Marriott Hotel and Suites**. (The conference ends at noon on the 31st.)



This year's conference, **Clean Water, Clean Air - Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem**, is an exciting opportunity to further explore the vital role community trees play in cleaning our air and water while improving the overall health of our ecosystem.

Who should attend? Water conservationists, community organizers, arborists, urban foresters, city & county personnel, landscape and tree care professionals, engineers, nonprofits, tree boards and all concerned with the well-being of our cities! Enjoy an informative keynote address by **Gary Moll**, VP of American Forests' Urban Ecosystems Center. Hear an inspiring talk from developer **Turner Simkins**, whose North Augusta Hammonds Ferry Development is an outstanding example of quality growth incorporating green principles. Learn from outstanding educational sessions with favorite educators such as UGA's **Dr. Kim Coder**, and from tours, including a leisurely boat ride down the historic Augusta Canal. We've also

scheduled our Annual Urban Forestry Awards Luncheon, GUFC's traditional bike ride, a tree planting ceremony, and a look back at 20 years of the Georgia Urban Forest Council at the Wednesday night opening reception. Certified Arborists and Foresters can earn up to 14 hours of CEUs. A Professional Development Certificate is available for use in other certification programs.

Presenting Sponsor



For an hour-by-hour schedule of sessions and a registration form, turn to **page 4**.

President's Letter



As I grow older, and hopefully wiser, I realize what an impact my life has on this earth. I recycle paper, plastics, metals, motor oil, glass, and compost. I take my own reusable grocery bags to the supermarket. I like to walk more, and drive less. I catch my rain water in rain barrels now for my plants. I maintain a summertime temperature (if my kids aren't at home) on my thermostat of 78 degrees and a wintertime temperature of 70 degrees. These are little habits that I've become accustomed to, and they are accepted more as the norm. As stewards of the Earth, we are responsible to do the little things collectively to benefit us all.

Stewardship is what this organization is all about - maintaining Georgia's green legacy. We are blessed to be members of an organization that gives freely of talents, from arborists to landscape architects, from tree boards to developers, from forestry experts to nonprofits. We as a unit are working collectively to bridge the gap of those who don't count themselves as stewards to date. One opportunity we are currently working on with Trees Columbus is a DVD to show different elements of development impacts, featuring trees as the component that makes these developments work. We are focusing on the interactions between the developers, arborists, grading contractors, general contractors, utilities, and the consumer. We intend this to be a fundamental tool to be distributed to a broad base of professionals to solidify the goal of preservation before development for the greater good of all, but more importantly, this great Earth.

Another opportunity we have in October is our annual conference, **Clean Water, Clean Air – Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem**. We will be celebrating GUFC's twentieth year at the conference in Augusta, and hopefully you will be a part. This will take place at the Augusta Marriott Hotel and Suites October 29 through 31. The conference cost for members is \$150.00 if received before October 15. As a Tree Board partner myself, I encourage all Tree Boards and nonprofits to take advantage of the scholarships being offered by the GUFC which are provided by funding from the Georgia Forestry Commission and the USDA Forest Service. The annual conference has something for everyone. This one promises to be the best yet, and that is saying a lot.

I hope everyone you contact realizes what a great influence you have in protecting the basics of quality of life. Through GUFC, the strength exists to shine through us to illuminate each of our communities to be examples of ecological stewardship. This is wise.

Keep your canopies ever expanding, **Kris Thomas**

Funds for this project were provided by the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program administered by the Georgia Forestry Commission. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-A, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

From the Executive Director

This has been a tough year economically for individuals and businesses alike, and I'd like to thank those GUFC sponsors who have kept a place carved out in their budget for support of the **Georgia Urban Forest Council**. Your continuing support during these times is appreciated more than a simple thank you letter can express, and your sponsorships help us present an annual conference that provides direct, cutting-edge information to attendees in maintaining healthy urban forests and sustaining Georgia's green legacy. Our updated website will have greater capacity for spotlighting your logos and contact information, and I will do my best throughout the year to distribute your literature and flyers at our programs around the state.

I hope that everyone can join us for an outstanding **Annual Conference** in **Augusta, October 29-31**. There are two important dates to remember: **October 8** is the deadline for hotel reservations with the conference rate of \$129, and **October 15** is the early bird deadline for conference fees of \$150 for members and \$175 for non-members. If you'd like to save money on gas by carpooling, let me know, and I'll seek out others in your area who are attending. And don't forget, scholarship money is available for tree boards and nonprofits, with some of the scholarship money going toward travel expenses.

As you will read in this issue, our **Tree Legacy grant program** is entering its second year, with funding from the **Home Depot Foundation**. GUFC thanks the **Home Depot Foundation** for its generous support and enthusiasm for this valuable program and the outstanding opportunity it offers for communities to engage in tree planting for environmental purposes. We are targeting fourteen counties in the metro Atlanta area with the 2008-2009 cycle of funding. (See page 3 for a complete list of eligible counties.) A brochure with application form is available on **www.gufo.org** – please share this information with nonprofits and governments that are seeking this type of funding.

I hope you all have a safe and healthy fall season, **Mary Lynne Beckley**

GUFC's Announces Second Year of Tree Legacy Grant Program, with funding from the Home Depot Foundation

The Georgia Urban Forest Council is proud to announce the **2008-2009 Tree Legacy Grant Program**, which is generously funded by the Home Depot Foundation. The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding to Georgia communities for urban forestry projects involving tree planting to achieve environmental goals. This funding program will allow communities to take a "big picture" approach to their urban forest, growing the forest in places that will help mitigate the environmental impacts of stormwater, air pollution, impervious surfaces and other issues, creating healthier and better managed urban forests.



In order to maximize the impact of the grant dollars and create model projects across the state, GUFC is targeting a different region of the state each year. Last year, The City of Pelham, The City of Americus, Trees Columbus, and The City of Tifton in southwest Georgia received a total of \$50,000 in funding to help replant this storm-damaged area and improve its existing urban forest. The 2008-2009 Tree Legacy Grant Program will provide grant assistance to communities in Metro Atlanta. For this year's grant cycle, communities in the following fourteen Metro Atlanta counties are eligible to apply: **Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dekalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale.** A study conducted between 1991 and 2005 by the Natural Resources Spatial Analysis Laboratory (NARSAL) at the University of Georgia revealed that this area of metro Atlanta lost approximately 50 acres of tree canopy per day which was replaced by impervious surface at a 1:1 ratio, making this region an ideal candidate for the Tree Legacy Grant Program. Upon completion, projects will be showcased on the GUFC's web site to demonstrate results of increased tree canopy.

The Tree Legacy Grant Program addresses two vital areas of The Five-Year Plan for Georgia's Urban and Community Forest, 2007-2011. These areas include (1) increasing tree canopy and limiting impervious surface, and (2) increasing the understanding of the resource value of trees for residents, elected officials and resource managers. The objective met will be an increase in the benefits provided by adequate and healthy tree canopy such as cleaner air and water, health benefits for citizens, and greater habitat for wildlife. These grants will bring attention to the urban forest and will ultimately create sample projects in every corner of the state allowing communities to see via their neighbors what can be accomplished. In addition to the environmental benefits reaped by participating communities, raising the profile of urban forestry and concretely demonstrating its benefits encourages all communities to manage their urban forest resources responsibly.

Eligibility

Only urban forestry projects involving strategic planting/management to mitigate environmental impacts will be considered. Only registered nonprofits and local governments may apply. Partnerships are encouraged, as are regional and multi-jurisdictional proposals. **Funds are not available for beautification projects.**

Available Funds: \$50,000

Maximum Award: \$20,000

Grant awards must be matched dollar-for-dollar with cash or in-kind services.

Grant Application Deadline: **December 1, 2008**

Grant Recipients announced: **December 31, 2008**

Projects may start **January, 2009** and must be completed by **December 31, 2009.**

To apply for a 2008-2009 Tree Legacy Grant from The Georgia Urban Forest Council: Visit www.gufc.org, and download an application form, or call 800-994-4832.

Additional Fall Urban Forestry Events

Savannah Tree Foundation's Bacon Park Forest Discovery Walks

• September 21 • October 19 • Nov. 9 • December 14

For more information, visit www.savannahtreefoundation.com

Trees Atlanta and the Alliance for Community Trees Host Tree Planting Workshop for National Neighborwoods Month

Saturday, September 27, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Trees Atlanta, 225 Chester Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30316

For more information, contact Robby Astrove, Trees Atlanta Program Coordinator 404.681.4901 robby@treesatlanta.org

Alliance for Community Trees Annual Member Rally & NeighborWoods Academy™

November 17, 2007 8:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

Pre-Conference Educational Opportunity at the Partners in Community Forestry National Conference (see page 1 sidebar)

Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is the national alliance of nonprofit and volunteer groups engaged in urban and community forestry. The agenda features trees as a tool for civic engagement and community health, strategies for successful corporate partnerships, grassroots program models and volunteer success stories, National NeighborWoods Program tools for community organizing, and opportunity to contribute to ACT's national advocacy platform. Geared toward nonprofit executives, volunteer coordinators, and community advocates, the ACT annual member gathering is energizing, interactive, and a great place to trade ideas with creative and motivated peers.



Georgia Urban Forest Council's 18th Annual Conference & Luncheon
Clean Water, Clean Air – Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem

October 29-31, 2008 (closing at noon on October 31)
 Augusta Marriot Hotel and Suites
 Two 10th Street, Augusta, Georgia 30901
www.Marriott.com/AGSMC

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Exhibitor Set-Up/Registration/Check-in

10 a.m. – 12 noon

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP:

Understanding and using Tree Canopy and Impervious Surface Data

Dr. Liz Kramer, Director, Natural Resources Spatial Analysis Laboratory, School of Ecology, The University of Georgia

Part A

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Bike Ride along Augusta Canal Bike Trail

Tree Planting downtown (within walking distance of hotel)

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Liz Kramer workshop Part B

3:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Tree Board Roundtable (for all size communities) with Joan Scales, Georgia Forestry Commission

6:00 p.m.

Opening Reception – *A look back at 20 years of GUFC and Urban Forestry*

- Welcome from Augusta Mayor Deke Copenhaver
- Special remarks by Ed Macie, USDA Forest Service; Sharon Dolliver, Georgia Forestry Commission; and others
- A Toast to GUFC

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Opening General Session:

- Welcome from GUFC President Kris Thomas
- Announcement of Standards For Excellence Certification by Sarah Visser, GUFC Past-President

Keynote Speakers:

- Gary Moll, VP Urban Ecosystems Center, American Forests: *Understanding the Nature-Human Network to solve environmental problems*
- Turner Simkins, Program Dir., Hammond's Ferry Development: *Tree-lined Traditional Neighborhood Development stressing sustainability and a connection to the Savannah River*

9:30 – 10:00

Break with exhibitors/ load buses for tour

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Tour of North Augusta's Hammond's Ferry Development

12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

Annual Luncheon and Awards Ceremony

1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Break with exhibitors

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

- *Trees & Watersheds* – Christine Rodick, Coordinator, Initiative for Watershed Excellence: Upper Altamaha Pilot Project, RiverBasin Center, School of Ecology, The University of Georgia
- *Using GIS in Your Community: Roles & Responsibilities* – Dudley Hartel, USDA Forest Service Center Manager, Urban Forestry South
- *Trees, Air Quality, and Climate Change* – Robert O. Teskey, Distinguished Research Professor, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, The University of Georgia
- *New Issues of the Wildland – Urban Interface* with Gary White, Georgia Forestry Commission

3:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Break with exhibitors

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

- *Panel Discussion – The Importance of Landscape (Regional) Projects* with Ed Macie, USDA Forest Service; Gary Moll, American Forests; and Brad Calvert, Atlanta Regional Commission
- *Tree Board Roundtable for Tree Boards of larger communities* moderated by Joan Scales, Georgia Forestry Commission
- *Urban Forest Showcase – Products and Services for a Healthy Urban Forest*

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Relaxing boat tour down historic Augusta Canal

Thursday night is a free night for attendees. Enjoy the diverse restaurants within walking distance of the Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites, on the banks of the Savannah River.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Welcome/Announcements/Program

- Remarks from State Forester, Georgia Forestry Commission
- Manning, Selvage, & Lee Public Relations
 - *Communicating the Clean Water, Clean Air, Community Trees Message*

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Break with exhibitors

10:30 – Noon

"Arboritecture: Classic Design Pruning for Young Trees". Learn about the newest design criteria for pruning young trees including classic proportions, new crown pruning techniques, and how much to prune for healthy and structurally sound trees from Dr. Kim Coder, Professor of Tree Health Care, Warnell School, University of Georgia.

Noon

Seedling Giveaway/Adjourn

Georgia Urban Forest Council's 18th Annual Conference & Luncheon
Clean Water, Clean Air – Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem

CEUs for International Society of Arboriculture and Society of American Foresters available for this conference. Professional Development Certificates available for all.

Name _____ First Name for Name tag _____
 Business/Affiliation: _____ Title _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Conference Registration includes Wednesday Night Opening Reception, Thursday and Friday morning Continental Breakfasts, snacks, one ticket to Thursday Awards Luncheon, and tours.
 Please check all appropriate boxes:

Early Registration (received at GUFCC office before October 15)	AMOUNT PAID
<input type="checkbox"/> GUFCC member: \$150	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member: \$175	\$ _____

Late Registration (received at GUFCC office after October 15)	
<input type="checkbox"/> GUFCC member: \$200	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member: \$225	\$ _____

EXTRA ACTIVITIES: Please check appropriate boxes so that we have an accurate count of attendees for each event.

<input type="checkbox"/> Please sign me up for October 29 Bike Ride (bring your own bike!)	INCLUDED
<input type="checkbox"/> I will attend October 29th Pre-Conference Tree Canopy/Impervious Surface data workshop.	INCLUDED
<input type="checkbox"/> Please sign me up for October 29th Tree Board Roundtable.	INCLUDED
<input type="checkbox"/> I will attend October 29th evening opening reception.	INCLUDED
<input type="checkbox"/> I need _____ additional Awards Luncheon tickets at \$25 per ticket. <small>(check only if you need more than the one complimentary ticket provided to full conference registrants)</small>	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I will be taking boat tour of Augusta Canal.	INCLUDED

TOTAL PAID (registration fee plus extra luncheon tickets)	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I prefer a VEGETARIAN selection for lunch.	

PAYMENT INFORMATION: Please make checks payable to **Georgia Urban Forest Council**. GUFCC's FEI# is 58-2028386.

CHECK:
 Enclosed is a check for \$_____
 Agency/Company check for \$_____ will follow.

CREDIT CARD (VISA OR MASTERCARD. WE CANNOT TAKE AMEX OR DISCOVER.)
 Please charge my VISA MasterCard
 Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____
 Name as it appears on card _____
 Signature of card holder _____

Please return this form with payment to Georgia Urban Forest Council, 315 West Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 554, Decatur, GA 30030 or fax to 404-377-0480.
 Want to carpool with others? Call Mary Lynne Beckley at 800-994-4832 or e-mail her at gufcc@gufcc.org and she will connect you with other attendees in your area.

Reserve your hotel room at the Augusta Marriot	Sponsorships Available!
GUFCC has a room rate of \$129/single or double occupancy for this conference. To reserve your room, call 800-868-5354. Or you may make your room reservation on-line at www.marriott.com/agsmc - use group code URBURBA. Deadline for GUFCC room rate: October 8, 2008.	Call 800-994-4832 or visit www.gufcc.org for details.



**Clean Water, Clean Air -
Community Trees
and a Healthy Ecosystem**



At 2008 GUFC Annual Conference, Certified Arborists and Foresters can receive up to 14 CEUs!

The International Society of Arboriculture has approved Georgia Urban Forest Council's 18th Annual Conference & Awards Program at the Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites October 29-31 for Continuing Education Credits. Certified Arborists and Municipal Specialists can receive up to 14 hours, BCMA Management up to 12.5 hours, and BCMA Practice up to 1.5 hours. **The Society of American Foresters** has approved the GUFC Conference for up to 14 contact hours, also.

As always, a Professional Development Certificate will be provided for use with other certification programs.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to further explore the vital role community trees play in cleaning our air and water while improving the overall health of our ecosystem.

Scholarships are available for tree boards and nonprofits to attend GUFC's 18th Annual Conference and Awards Program in Augusta

- Application deadline: **October 6, 2008**
- Scholarship amount, \$350, may be applied to conference registration and costs of lodging or travel
- Open to all Tree Boards or nonprofit groups
- A maximum of 2 scholarships per organization (\$700 in total) may be awarded. Please submit a separate application for each attendee.
- Applicants must be a member of the Georgia Urban Forest Council or join upon scholarship application
- All expenses, including conference registration, must be paid for in advance. If scholarship is awarded, expenses will be reimbursed upon submission of receipts
- Applications can be faxed to **404-377-0480** or mailed to:

**Georgia Urban Forest Council
315 W. Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 554
Decatur, GA 30030**

- Applicants will be notified by **October 13**

Questions? Call **Mary Lynne Beckley** at **800-994-4832**

**For a scholarship application, go to
www.gufc.org or call 800-994-4832.**



The City of Dalton to present Liberty Tree Celebration in October

The City of Dalton, which planted a Liberty Tree at City Hall in the Fall of 2006, will be presenting a four-day **“Liberty Tree Celebration”** **October 16-19.**

Original Liberty Trees were used as meeting points for the Sons of Liberty revolutionaries who were working for independence from England. The Dalton Liberty Tree is a tulip poplar grown from the seeds of an original Liberty Tree that grew on the St. John's college campus in Annapolis, Maryland. This original tree was cut down in 1999 after it sustained damage from Hurricane Floyd. American Forests took the seeds and gave them to Providence Forum who grew the seedlings and gave them to each state that was one of the original thirteen colonies. Dalton was chosen to receive its Liberty Tree because of the outstanding work of its Tree Board, its dedication to maintenance and its accomplishments in urban forestry. Dalton's Liberty Tree was recently named to Georgia Urban Forest Council's Landmark & Historic Tree Register.

Dalton's Liberty Tree Celebration will include speakers from local government on Thursday, October 16; speakers from the Providence Forum and American Forests on Friday, October 17; a family celebration at Dalton Green Park with living history re-enactors, historic speeches from the Revolutionary period, music from the 8th Infantry Regimental Band, and an 8:45 p.m. fireworks show on Saturday, October 18; and an ecumenical picnic on Sunday, October 19.

For more information on Dalton's Liberty Tree Celebration, contact **Kris Thomas** at **706-537-2843.**



GUFC Membership Form

YES! I/WE WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE GEORGIA URBAN FOREST COUNCIL.

Name _____
 Organization _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax No. _____
 Cell Phone _____
 Home Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Please circle the appropriate category, complete this form and return with check made payable to Georgia Urban Forest Council or VISA/MC information.

- Students \$15
- Individuals \$25
- Tree Boards/Non-profits \$50
- Businesses \$100
- Cities & Counties \$150
- Lifetime \$1000

Payment:
 Check VISA MasterCard

Card No. _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Name as it appears on card _____
 Signature _____

Georgia Urban Forest Council
 315 W. Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 554 Decatur, GA 30030-2400
 FAX: 404-377-0480



Become a member of the Georgia Urban Forest Council.

Benefits of membership in the **Georgia Urban Forest Council** include:

- Grant Opportunities
- Discounts on educational programs
- CEUs
- Networking Opportunities
- Tree Talks newsletters
- Membership Directory
- E-mail updates on urban forestry news
- SHADE Magazine

Sign up today!



Clean Water, Clean Air - Community Trees and a Healthy Ecosystem

October 29-31, 2008
(closing at noon on October 31)

Augusta Marriot Hotel and Suites
Augusta, Georgia 30901

An exciting opportunity to further explore the vital role community trees play in cleaning our air and water while improving the overall health of our ecosystem.



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FALL 2008

Georgia Urban Forest Council, Inc.
315 W. Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite 554
Decatur, GA 30030

