



SPRING 2010



The Georgia Grove goes National!

GeorgiaGrove.org
THE GROVE
 plant your legacy

As a result of its popularity, the Georgia Grove, one

of the first social networking tree planting websites and a joint project of the GUFC and the Georgia Forestry Commission, is expanding into a National site with individual pages for the 13 Southern states as a start. New features of the updated and expanded Grove project include the ability to add additional trees to groves, blogging, an events area, and video upload, for example. Each state page will have the current tree selector, care and planting, tree benefits, and donation capabilities. The National Grove site will be launched in April.



The 2010 issue of SHADE magazine is now available.

This informative issue covers trees and traffic safety and creating livable streetscapes. Interviews include talks with **Kathleen Wolf**, Ph.D., of the University of Washington, and **Eric Dunbaugh**, Ph.D. of Texas A & M University about their enlightening research on these issues. Download your own copy at www.gufc.org, or call 800-994-4832.

GUFC TREES AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SET FOR APRIL 7

The Georgia Urban Forest Council has invited leaders in landscape architecture, development and engineering to lead a three-hour session on the vital role of trees and vegetation in proper stormwater management on April 7, 9 a.m. to noon at Gwinnett Technical College, 5150 Sugarloaf Parkway in Lawrenceville. The program will be held in the auditorium of Building 100. Engineers, planners, landscape architects, arborists, city and county personnel, and others will benefit from this information-packed session.



Photo courtesy of Hughes, Good, O'Leary & Ryan

Steve Sanchez, ASLA, and Principal at Hughes, Good, O'Leary & Ryan (HGOR) Landscape Architects

will present an overview of how trees contribute to stormwater management, demonstrate design principles, and discuss HGOR projects involving

these principles. **Michael Kidd, ASLA, LEED AP, of jB+a, inc., planning + landscape architecture and Gregg Bayard, Co-Executive Director, Parallel Housing** will discuss the Peter Street Project, an affordable housing development in Athens, Georgia. Topics covered will be the initial site plan, inventory and analysis, the revised site plan, ordinance requirements, tree protection measures, new trees, stormwater system (including rain gardens, vegetated bio-swales, cisterns, rain capture, impervious vs. pervious), and the re-zoning process. **Pete Wright, Stormwater Engineer, Gwinnett County**, will give an overview of the Gwinnett County Watershed Improvement Program, including issues, goals, and strategies, and a presentation and discussion on several projects that have been implemented using "natural" stream design and construction practices. He will lead a discussion of the benefit and use of vegetative stream buffer, plants and trees. Each attendee will receive a complimentary copy of **Stormwater** magazine and have the opportunity to participate in an optional field trip afterwards to view a Gwinnett stream restoration project.

Registration: \$30 members, \$40 non-members. Register at www.gufc.org. CEUs will be available. Morning refreshments will be provided.

President's Letter



The calendar might say that it is March, but the weather outside still feels too much like winter. I have noticed the jonquils trying their best to bloom and have actually seen a few Maple trees blooming as well. The appearance of the colorful Robins searching for worms hints that spring might be around the corner. While there have been a few days here and there of spring-like weather, there have been far too many days of bone chilling cold for me. Being a native Georgian, it makes me wonder if I am far enough South.

It looks like we have escaped a few close calls in regard to severe winter storms this year. While I think most of North Georgia received a pretty heavy snowfall (at least by Georgia standards anyway), recently we escaped yet again a major ice storm. I know that most tree care companies could have used the extra work in an already slow time, but I think we are fortunate that our trees avoided major damage. While on a recent trip to Western Kentucky late last year, it was apparent that their native trees had not been so lucky. Even though the damage on the ground had been cleaned up, you could still see broken limbs and disfigured trees everywhere you looked.

I am sure there were some companies that made lots of money performing the cleanup, but it makes one wonder if the long term damage to our native trees is worth the price.

Recently I was asked to participate in an **Arbor Day** event in Lilburn which celebrated the Centennial of the City of Lilburn, the Centennial of the Boy Scouts of America as well as Arbor Day. Along with flag ceremonies and a nature walk, the group of parents, scouts, dignitaries and gardening enthusiasts planted three donated Lacebark Elm trees in an open park area. These trees were graciously donated by Mr. Dan Whitehead of Moon's Tree Farm. Even though I have children of my own and I am involved with the Boy Scouts of America, it was not until the tree planting that I had a rekindled interest in teaching the youth of today to be the leaders of tomorrow. Many times at events such as these, you wonder if anyone actually absorbed the information that you shared, but I feel certain that there were at least a few children (and hopefully a few parents) that learned a little something about how to plant a tree.

For those of you that have the ability to share what you know with a youngster, I encourage you to do so. I think we all get swamped with our daily chores and tasks and might forget that if we don't stop and teach the younger generation and get them excited about trees, then who is going to take the torch when we are gone? Remember - one day they will be the foresters, the arborists, the county commissioners, the developers, and the tree enthusiasts that decide which trees will stay and which will go.

Rusty Lee

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, audiotape, 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

It's March 2 as I write this, and snowing in Georgia again, at least where my office sits. I know that we are all longing for the warmth and green of spring, and surely it's not too far away. After the winter we've had, I expect that spring celebrations will abound in this state! **ArborJam 2010** will no doubt prove to be a fun evening in support of two very good organizations and one very good cause: The Georgia Urban Forest Council, The Georgia Arborist Association, and a healthy urban forest. Join us on **April 27, 6-9 p.m.** at the **Sweetwater Brewery in Atlanta** for music, food and fun and help us raise funds for the statewide programs of GUF and GAA. Please choose ArborJam as one of the environmental events you'll support this season, and mark your calendar now. In fact, you can buy your tickets now at www.gufc.org. Advance online tickets (highly recommended) are \$35, and we'll have a limited number of at-the-door tickets for \$45. Thanks so much to **Atlanta Intown** media for their support as our official print sponsor. **Gotcha Design** and **The Beer Connoisseur** magazine are also donating much-appreciated in-kind support in our efforts to have a successful and enjoyable event. Thanks to all, and we hope to see everyone there.

Mary Lynne Beckley

Ed Macie Receives National Award for Urban and Community Forestry

Region 8 Urban Forester Ed Macie has been presented the **2009 Burnell Fischer Current Achievement Award for Urban Forestry** by the National Association of State Foresters (NASF). The award at the NASF Annual Meeting in Albuquerque last September recognizes urban and community forestry efforts at the national level that contribute to the protection and sustainable management of America's forests.

Ed was lauded for providing leadership for urban and community forestry programs at the regional and national levels for nearly 20 years. "He has closely studied the different aspects of how our natural human environment affects us economically, environmentally, and spiritually and how tree canopy affects our personal and our communities' health," the citation read. "His passion for urban and community forestry inspires professionals and citizens alike to take action and improve their community's quality of life through healthy, abundant tree cover."

Ed began his career in urban forestry in the mid-1980s and set out to influence local and community forestry programs in the South. He accepted a position as Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator for the US Forest Service in 1990, with a focus on helping communities and landowners address a broad spectrum of southern urban natural resource issues—from the city center to the national forests—with a focus on the human dimension.

Ed Macie has made his mark on urban and community forestry across America and he has been a strong partner of state foresters and the National Association of State Foresters.



(left to right): Wisconsin State Forester Paul DeLong, Ed Macie, former State Forester of Indiana Dr. Burnell C. Fischer, and former State Forester of Texas Jim Hull after presentation of the award in Albuquerque last September.

GUFC Second Quarterly Program

Forest Pests in 2010 - We're not in Kansas anymore!

May 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Chattahoochee Nature Center
9135 Willeo Road, Roswell

James Johnson, Interim Chief, Management Dept., Georgia Forestry Commission
Scott Griffin, Forest Health, Georgia Forestry Commission

Presentations at this program will include such highlighted pest issues as:

Laurel Wilt Disease - the demise of Lauraceae in the south

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid – small insect causing big problems

And threats on the horizon:

Asian longhorn beetle and **gypsy moth** (& Champion Tree Program)

Emerald Ash Borer and **Sirex Woodwasp** (& cogongrass)

Registration: \$30, members and \$40 non-members

Lunch will be included.

CEUs will be available.

Register for this program at www.gufc.org.

Georgia's Growing Green: Tree Planting for Green Job Creation and Ecosystem Restoration

The Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) and the US Forest Service will assist in the creation of green jobs in north Georgia as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) through tree planting projects designed to help stimulate the economy and restore ecosystems impacted by growth and urbanization. The project will help many north Georgia counties where the highest net changes in employment rates have occurred by creating and retaining green jobs in nurseries, tool and equipment sales, and landscape architecture, among others. These jobs will help sustain the health and diversity of north Georgia forests, which have been impacted by the pressures of growth and urbanization. Funding will be passed to local partner organizations and institutions which provide the mechanism and leverage needed to select tree planting sites and carry out the plantings. Urban forest professionals will guide the strategic placement of trees for economic and environmental benefits such as water and air quality, climate change, energy savings, greenhouse gases reduction, and mitigation of storm runoff.

Congratulations to the following recipient projects:

Utilizing Forestry Resources to Create Green Jobs and Restore Ecosystems

Funded Amount
\$344,758.98

Synopsis

Limestone Valley and Rolling Hills Resource Conservation and Development Councils will provide technical assistance to 47 Northwest Georgia community planting projects. Trees will be planted for a variety of environmental benefits in locations including school yards, parks and public rights of way.

Northeast Georgia Tree Planting for Ecosystem Restoration and Green Jobs

Funded Amount
\$225,669.12

Synopsis

The Chestatee-Chattahoochee, Upper Ocmulgee River and Oconee River Resource Conservation and Development Councils are working with local governments and the private sector to create and sustain green industry jobs by planting trees in Northeast Georgia. Trees will be planted for a variety of environmental benefits as part of 37 planting projects including school yards, parks and public rights of way.

Midtown Gainesville Multi-Use Trail

Funded Amount
\$10,000

Synopsis

The City of Gainesville proposes to restore part of the community forest in a portion of the urban core known as Midtown Gainesville. Specifically, the City will plant various native species of deciduous and evergreen trees along an abandoned railroad corridor that is a recently reclaimed Brownfield.

City of Hartwell Tree Project

Funded Amount
\$20,000

Synopsis

City of Hartwell will plant 50 street trees where they have been lost due to development or decline or in other open spaces. This planting will help to mitigate the urban heat island effect by providing shade and enhance storm drainage for the downtown area.

Trees Mean \$Green\$

Funded Amount
\$50,000

Synopsis

City of Jefferson will plant 110 canopy trees on city street rights-of-way, in parks, in parking lots and on city school campuses in high priority sites identified during the 2009 and 2010 tree inventories. These plantings will stimulate the local economy, create green jobs, increase tree canopy cover and restore the community forest ecosystem. Trees will be planted where their function and benefits are maximized.

City of Royston Tri-County Wellness Park

Funded Amount
\$20,000

Synopsis

City of Royston has purchased 43 acres to establish a Tri-County Wellness Park. The City will restore some of the canopy that has been lost in the community due to development by planting 100 trees in this park.

A Walk in the Shade: Creating Green Jobs in Toccoa

Funded Amount
\$25,787

Synopsis

Toccoa will improve the walkability of downtown and lower the city's heat index by planting 71 trees along downtown streets to replace those that have died or are in decline.

For questions about the Georgia's Growing Green Grants, please contact:

Sarah Visser
Georgia Forestry Commission
6835 James B. Rivers/Memorial Dr.
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
678-476-6228 office 478-538-8455 mobile svisser@gfc.state.ga.us

Save the date -

First GUFC College Campus Tree Canopy Conference Slated for September 28

College campuses have their own urban forest and these trees are important, as in any community, for environmental, health, and economic benefits. GUFC is now offering a unique opportunity for addressing urban forestry issues on college campuses. Public and private college and university physical plant managers, administrators, and personnel are encouraged to attend GUFC's "College Campus Tree Canopy Conference" scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Macon State College, 100 College Station Drive.

Topics covered at this unique conference will include liability (the cost of not having an inventory assessment of your trees), maintenance, grants and funding, the Tree Campus USA program, and more. Registration will be \$50 per person and will be open soon at www.gufc.org. Lunch will be included. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this conference.

For more information, call 800-994-4832.



Macon State College

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WHOLESALE TREE GROWER

Additional GUFC Education Programs scheduled:

July 8, 9 a.m. – noon

Tree Risk Assessment Workshop
 Macon Museum of Arts and Sciences
 Speaker: **Rob Swanson**, Certified Arborist
 \$30, members, \$40 non-members
 CEUs available.

August 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GUFC Third Quarterly Program
 Trees and Green Infrastructure
 Georgia Southern University Continuing Education Center
 Statesboro, GA
 Speaker: **Dudley Hartel**, USDA Forest Service
 \$30, members, \$40 non-members



Georgia Arbor Day Activities around the State

Georgia's 2010 Arbor Day was February 19, to coincide with proper tree planting time in our state. Here are photos from just a few of the many activities that celebrated Georgia's Arbor Day this year:



Tim Womick entertained kids and adults alike at the state Arbor Day event on Feb. 6 at Chattahoochee Nature Center with his "Trail of Trees" program – with a little help from Professor Arbor E. Tum.



The City of Dorville hosted their Arbor Day Event on Saturday, February 20. Pictured are (l-r) – Council members Donna Pittman, Bob Roche, Pam Fleming, Maria Alexander; Mayor Ray Jenkins; Tree Board members Susan Fraysse, Gordon Grant, future Tree Board member little Max Grant, Jennifer McLaurin of Fulton County Clean Water, Tree Board member Jimmy Cushman.



Georgia Forestry Commission Director Robert Farris congratulates Shakerria Evans of Pike County for being selected as the 2010 Arbor Day Poster contest winner at the state Arbor Day event at the Chattahoochee Nature Center on February 6.



Keep Cobb Beautiful's Arbor Day celebration included tree plantings and visits to three elementary schools: Dowell, Russell, and Keheley Elementary Schools in Cobb County.



Certified Arborist and GUFC President Rusty Lee led a "tree talk and walk" on the Lilburn Greenway and guided the plantings at Lilburn's February 20 Arbor Day Event.



Representatives from The City of Roswell proudly display their Tree City USA flag at the State Arbor Day Event. Pictured are (l-r) Georgia Forestry Commission urban forester Joe Burgess, Dr. Betty Price of the Roswell City Council, Roswell Mayor Jere Wood, and Robert Farris, Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission.



An Arbor Day Celebration was held in Amerson Water Works Park in Macon on February 20. The City of Macon received its 24-year Tree City Award and over 400 trees and seedlings were given to the public. Pictured are Georgia Forestry Commission Community Forester Beryl Budd; Karen Lambert, President of Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful Commission; Marie Jones, Assistant Director, Grounds, Macon-Bibb Parks and Recreation Department; Macon Tree Commission's Carol Salami-Goswick, Robert Reichert, Mayor of the City of Macon.

Tree Campus USA

Congratulations to the following Georgia educational institutions recognized as a **Tree Campus USA college!**

- **Gwinnett Technical College**
- **Albany Technical College**
- **Macon State College**
- **Georgia Tech**
- **Emory University**

U.S. colleges and universities can become recognized as a Tree Campus USA college by meeting five standards, which include having 1) a campus tree advisory committee, 2) a campus tree care plan, 3) a campus tree program with dedicated annual expenditures, 4) an Arbor Day observance, and 5) a service learning project. For more information on becoming a Tree Campus USA college, visit <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/about.cfm> at the National Arbor Day Foundation website.



Gwinnett Tech is a Tree Campus USA college.

Tree Line USA

The **National Arbor Day Foundation**, in partnership with the **National Association of State Foresters**, also recognizes public and private utility companies that follow best practices in utility arboriculture. The Tree Lines USA program has three standards: 1) quality tree care, 2) annual worker training, and 3) tree planting and public education. Two utility companies in Georgia have met these standards and are recognized as Tree Line USA companies:

- **Georgia Power**
- **Snapping Shoals EMC**

For more information on the Tree Line USA program, visit <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/about.cfm>.

Is Your Urban Forest Storm-Ready?

The **Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC)** is preparing for storm season by training the **Sustainable Community Forestry Program (SCFP)** staff to assist communities after a storm strikes as part of an organized Urban Forest Strike Team. First however, GFC can help get your community storm-ready by helping to write a community forest management plan. The UFST of certified arborists arrives about 6 weeks after the storm and analyzes each tree, street by street using your community management plan, a Risk Assessment Protocol, tree inventory and GIS. The data collected is used to assist FEMA with debris management. Contact your local GFC Forester for more information.

Do you know the criteria for becoming a Tree City USA?

Visit <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/standards.cfm> to learn the four standards established by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters.

There are over 125 Tree City USA's in Georgia. We'll list them all in the Summer issue of Tree Talks.

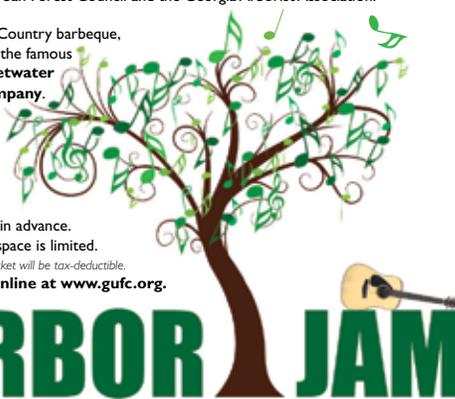
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