

Georgia Urban Forest Council
2017 Annual Conference
Callaway Gardens Lodge & Conference Center
Pine Mountain, Georgia
November 8 & 9



Soil Health and Sustainable Urban Tree Planting

Program Agenda

Day One, Wednesday, November 8

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet in Dining Room

General Session

8:00 – 8:10 a.m. **Welcome** – Derrick Catlett, President, Georgia Urban Forest Council
Mary Lynne Beckley, Executive Director

8:10 – 9:10 a.m. **Components of Soil Health: Essential Physical, Chemical and Microbial Conditions:** Larry Morris, Ph.D, Professor of Forest Soils, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia

9:10 – 10:10 a.m. **Sustainable Urban Tree Planting and the Benefits of Healthy Trees in our Cities:** Shane Carpani, Program Development Manager, GreenBlue Urban, Ontario, Canada.

10:10 – 10:30 a.m. Break with exhibitors - *Visit with and thank our conference sponsors!*

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions

- **Beneficial Insects** in the City – Entomology Faculty, University of Georgia
- **The Effects of Urban Soil Rehabilitation on Tree Growth and Long-Term Ecosystem Services:** Yujuan Chen, Ph.D., Visiting Research Scientist, Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, Virginia Tech
- **City Tree Selection:** Diversity vs. Efficiency: Panel discussion with Tim Thoms, Thoms Trees and Plants; and other area nursery owners, landscape architects, and arborists

11:30 – Noon

Break with exhibitors

Noon – 1:30 p.m. **EXCELLENCE IN URBAN FORESTRY AWARDS LUNCHEON**
In Ballroom

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Break

2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Tours and Activities –

- **The Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center:** 1,000 or more butterflies flutter freely about in one of North America’s largest tropical butterfly conservatories. The Day Butterfly Center is a living, dynamic, glass-enclosed environment in which a variety of tropical plants nourish the residents and new arrivals emerge from their chrysalides, dry their wings and begin their very first wing-beats. Every visit to the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified Day Butterfly Center is a new experience. The plant palette constantly matures and changes, and the butterfly population, comprising more than 50 species, fluctuates in diversity and density due to influences such as amount of available sunshine, season of the year, temperature and stability of the ecosystem.
- **What Would You Do?** Outdoors, hands-on practice at evaluating trees with certified arborists Derrick Catlett of Evergreen Tree Service, Savannah, and Dan Bauer, President of Arbor Equity, Inc.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Evening Reception

Day Two, Thursday, November 9

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet in Dining Room

General Session

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **The Legacy of Treecare at Callaway Gardens –**
Tim Banks, Director of Garden Services

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. ***Urban Forests: A Natural History of Trees and People in the American Cityscape***

Author and Historian **Jill Jonnes** will discuss her book, *Urban Forests*, a passionate, wide-ranging, and fascinating natural history of the tree in American cities over the course of the past two centuries. **A celebration of urban trees and the Americans**—presidents, plant explorers, visionaries, citizen activists, scientists, nurserymen, and tree nerds—whose arboreal passions have shaped and ornamented the nation’s cities, from Jefferson’s day to the present. Nature’s largest and longest-lived creations, trees play an extraordinarily important role in our cityscapes, living landmarks that define space, cool the air, soothe our psyches, and connect us to nature and our past.. Jonnes’s survey ranges from early sponsors for the Urban Tree Movement to the fascinating stories of particular species (including Washington, DC’s famed cherry

trees, and the American chestnut and elm, and the diseases that almost destroyed them) to the institution of Arbor Day to the most recent generation of tree evangelists who are identifying the best species to populate our cities' leafy canopies. The book examines such questions as the character of American urban forests and the effect that tree-rich landscaping might have on commerce, crime, and human well-being.

10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break with exhibitors

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions

- **Tree Ordinances:** Connie Head, Technical Forestry Services. The common decisions that communities face when developing or revising a tree ordinance, and factors to consider when reviewing options for important tree ordinance elements, will be presented using information from the GUFCA's new *Tree Ordinance Construction Zone* website. Also, decisions on the development process, goal setting, defining applicability, tree density measurement methodology, alternative compliance options, compliance with technical standards, and commitment of resources will be discussed.
- **Hiring tree professionals:** the value of a professional (from a non-profit and local government perspective) as opposed to relying on volunteers for tree care issues – Dorothy McDaniel, Executive Director, Trees Columbus; George Barker, Natural Resource Consulting, Inc.
- **How Do We Get Everyone on the Same Page? DPRC and Right Start:** Robert Seamans, Streets and Parks Division Superintendent for the City of Statesboro, will discuss his city's Development and Planning Review Committee (DPRC) and its "Right Start" program that asks business and development professionals and others to present their ideas and plans to a team of members from 12 different departments of the city for review and discussion. The proposed projects inevitably line up with city policies, from tree care to code enforcement, and all parties involved are informed and have a say in the planning.

11:30 – Noon Break with exhibitors

Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. *General Session*

The Ecology of Earthworms and Selected Fauna: their role in soils and interactions between native species and non-native species: Mac Callaham, Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service, Adjunct Professor, Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia

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