

**Georgia Urban Forest Council
Executive Director's Report 2018**



FIRST QUARTERLY PROGRAM

January 24, Richmond Hill
Cancelled due to low enrollment.

STATE ARBOR DAY EVENTS

February 15
3 events - Woodbine, Atlanta, Athens
Sponsored by Georgia Power Company

INVASIVES IN THE URBAN FOREST WORKSHOP

Milton City Hall
March 29
Dr. David Moorhead, Elizabeth Moss, Karan Rawlins, Rebekah Wallace, all of UGA and Steve Sanchez, LEED AP of HGOR.
50 in attendance

SECOND QUARTERLY PROGRAM

Natural History of Georgia Forests

Dr. Martin Cippolini of Berry College, Dr. Allison Bailey of University of North Georgia, and Rick Barnes of Downey Trees
April 25 – Rome ECO Center
30 attendees.

I-TREE BENEFITS CALCULATOR WORKSHOP

Presented by Davey Resource Group, US Forest Service, GFC, and GUFC
Chattahoochee National Recreation Area, Sandy Springs
35 attendees.

THIRD QUARTERLY PROGRAM

Continuing the Conversation: Trees as Green Stormwater Infrastructure

Joe Burgess (GFC), Bill Hodgins (Center for Watershed Protection), David Dechant (Arboguard)
75 registered.

COLLEGE CANOPY CONFERENCE

September 11, Clayton State University, Morrow GA
Changing Landscapes and Human Health; Preventing Mosquito-borne Illnesses, Campus Success Stories, Tree Risk; Right Tree in the Right Place, Creating a campus arboretum and butterfly/pollinator garden.

Dr. Graeme Lockaby, Auburn University; Rosmarie Kelly, GA Dept. Public Health; Susan Kidd, Agnes Scott College; Allison Bailey, University of North Georgia, others
69 registered.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS PROGRAM

November 14-15, 2018
Jekyll Island Club Resort
Creating Resilient Community Forests
Sea Level Rise and Community Trees, Light Pollution, Biophilia, Ecology of Live Oaks, breakouts

Dr. Kim Coder, Dr. Puneet Dwivedi of UGA; Dan Slone of Vertical Vision, others

131 for conference sessions plus 23 more for awards luncheon = 154 total

9 **awards** presented to individuals and organizations at 26th annual awards program.

7 scholarships awarded for nonprofits and tree boards to attend annual conference (Marietta, Augusta, Savannah Tree Foundation, Briarlake Community Forest Alliance, Rome)

ARBORIST REVIEW CLASSES:

January 17-18, Washington GA: 12 out of 17 in attendance (inclement weather)

May 8-9, Gwinnett Tech: 33 in attendance

June 26, Milton, GA: 11 in attendance

RAMBLE: Mill Creek Nature Preserve, Buford GA - 15 registered.

GEORGIA RELEAF grants distributed to Georgia communities for tree planting in 2018:

One grant of **\$2816 awarded to Thomasville Landmarks, Inc.** on January 3, 2018.

One grant of **\$2315 awarded to City of Fort Oglethorpe** on December 13, 2018.

One grant of **\$2315 awarded to Camden County** on December 13, 2018.

Other programming and projects:

- Annual issue of **Shade magazine - electronic – final issue**
- GUFCA continues to manage the nation-wide **American Grove** website, including administration, upgrading, troubleshooting, hosting, and domain renewal. GUFCA presented the fourth annual “Great American Tree Competition” on American Grove.
- GUFCA continues to work with GFC on the **Community Forestry Assistance Program** (circuit rider arborists) and **Energy Savings Trees** program.

Fundraising efforts:

- Raised \$700 for GUFCA operations on Georgia Gives Day.
- Raised \$3,000 in corporate donations (**Georgia Power**) for Georgia ReLeaf in 2018
- Raised \$17,500 in operational support: \$12,500 in year-round sponsors, and \$5000 in conference exhibitor fees (\$2500 from Bartlett still outstanding at time of report.)
- Raised \$10,151 in membership dollars
- Raised \$4724.76 for Georgia ReLeaf

Other:

Firespring, Inc. hired for marketing survey, organizational rebranding, and website design. **Project to be completed in 2019.**

GUFCA continues to maintain its **Standards For Excellence** certification and achieved the **Platinum Seal of Transparency** from **Guidestar**.