



north carolina urban forest council

Protecting, Sustaining, Advocacy

November 2021



North Carolina
Urban Forest Council
P.O. Box 37416
Raleigh, NC 27627



CONNECTIONS:

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Hey y'all,

I just wanted to take a minute to let members and friends know that the Board of Directors met over near Asheboro last week for our annual Strategic Planning Retreat. The retreat was very productive and went smoothly, other than that board member doing a trust fall the wrong direction and not getting caught. I'm kidding of course. Honest. No mishaps were had but we nailed down the initial plans for upcoming in-person Carolina Canopy workshops, Community Forestry Webinars, The Great NC Tree Conference and the urban forestry track for the Green and Growin' show this winter. In addition to



our usual Certified Arborist prep course, we are also working on offering training for Certified Tree Safety Professional (CTSP). There might have been a bunch of other great stuff we came up with but you'll have to stay tuned to upcoming newsletters to learn more. My memory is a little hazy after that trust fall. Don't forget to renew your Council membership....or become a member! Have a great month.

Mark Foster

*Board Chair, NC Urban Forest Council
City Arborist, City of Asheville*

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COUNCIL EVENTS

WORKSHOPS

Certified Arborist Prep Course & Review

Guilford County Extension Center

December 15th-16th

Optional Exam on December 17th (must register through ISA)

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

PARTNER EVENTS

Partners in Community Forestry Conference

Hosted by Arbor Day Foundation

November 17-18, 2021

Louisville, KY

[More Information](#)

2022 Green & Growin' Show

Hosted by NC Nursery & Landscape Association

January 10-14, 2022
Greensboro, NC
Registration Now Open

[Registration & Information](#)

Green Communities Leadership Institute

January 17 - March 10

Online and In-Person Sessions

[More Info](#)

COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



NOVEMBER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Mark Madsen, Hendersonville Tree Board

Mark is a retired arborist, having spent over 40 years in commercial and municipal tree care or landscape design/management. However, he hasn't let retirement keep him from being involved in his town's community tree program. He currently serves on the Hendersonville Tree Board as an ISA Certified Arborist and conducts periodic tree walks within the city for interested citizens. He believes strongly that just because you are retired, you don't stop giving back to the tree care industry....."your accumulated knowledge and experience can be invaluable for those still finding their way in the horticultural world."

He thinks managing urban trees is important because they are subject to stresses that forest trees often do not encounter, including soil compaction, grade changes (often from development), and mechanical injuries from vehicles or people. Urban trees can suffer or die when these challenges aren't addressed adequately.

Mr. Madsen has been a member of NCUFC for approximately six years, ever since he began serving on Hendersonville's tree board. He enjoys the relevance that NCUFC has for those working with trees in an urban setting. "Many of the problems and situations that we confront regularly are common in the industry, yet proper solutions aren't always employed. NCUFC helps bring solutions to the fore so that we can put them to use quickly."

Mark's favorite tree is the sourwood. This native beauty produces abundant drooping white flowers in mid-summer, no messy fruits, has glorious red fall color, and is a pollinator tree. It grows slowly, however and often is multi-stemmed, making it perhaps hard to find in the nursery trade for use as a street tree. It also is famous as the source for sourwood honey!

COUNCIL NEWS



TAKING CARE OF OUR TREES **Fall Pruning Tips**

Fall is officially here in North Carolina with cooler temperatures, shorter days, and one of my favorites, fall color on the trees! As we move into the month of November, we are closer and closer to the Thanksgiving Holiday and this is many times viewed as a season to give thanks and give back. Have you ever considered how we can give back to our urban trees? Well, as we move into the even colder months to come, it is time to start planning for extra care for our tree canopies with late winter/early spring pruning to help improve their shape and structure as we move into the next growing period.

One of our first pruning goals is to always remove branches that could cause harm to the tree or anything below it (humans, structures, animals, etc.). Any branches that are dead, damaged, diseased, or are rubbing against each other should be removed from the tree. Each time we make pruning cuts, we are wounding the tree. These open wounds allow for easy entry for pests such as diseases and insects. By delaying pruning from autumn until the late winter/early spring, it allows us to avoid creating open wounds on the tree at a time when decay fungi are developing reproductive

spores.

Pruning deciduous trees during the late winter allows us to see the branches and the shape of the tree much easier than when leaves are present. Pruning during the dormant season for deciduous trees is the perfect time to direct growth on young plants, but should be kept to a minimum. If too much pruning is done in the dormant season, there is the chance that new growth could be stimulated and if a hard freeze was to occur, the new soft and succulent growth would be damaged. For some of our broadleaf evergreen trees, they will respond very well with their production of growth if pruned in the late winter just prior to spring.

I hope that you all have a nice Thanksgiving!

Liz Riley
Department Head, Horticulture Technology
Alamance Community College

References:

Pruning Trees and Shrubs

Pruning Reminders for Late Winter

General Pruning Techniques

NCUFC MEMBER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE!

Members of the NC Urban Forest Council can apply for a member education scholarship which will help cover costs (registration, travel, hotel) for attending a professional workshop, conference, or tradeshow. As events begin to return to an in-person format, members should keep in mind this benefit of maintaining an annual Council membership. Be sure to complete a scholarship application in advance. You can request an application by emailing Leslie Moorman at ncufc1@gmail.com.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - SB 105

As many of you know, we have been keeping an eye on a tree ordinance bill that has been making its way through state legislature since this past spring. Originally introduced as HB 496, the Property Owners' Rights/Tree Ordinances Bill was stalled in the Senate but was then rolled into the Appropriations Bill, SB 105. SB 105 has been in Conference Committee for the last few weeks with the House and Senate working on compromises to pass the Appropriations Bill. **SB 105** has made it out of Conference and is on the General Assembly calendar for vote on November 17th. It looks as though the tree ordinance language from HB 496 has been removed from SB 105, which is great news! We will continue to keep an eye on legislative efforts related to tree protection and management. Thank you to everyone that helped bring concerns about HB 496 and SB 105 to the attention of their representatives.

Economic Impact Study of Urban & Community Forestry in the South

NC State University has partnered with several state forestry agencies and universities to perform an economic analysis of urban and community forestry in the southern states. As part of this analysis, we are conducting **a survey of public and private sector enterprises involved in growing and managing urban trees**. Your response is critical as they gather information that will guide future efforts to support urban and community forestry enterprises.

We invite the person in your organization most familiar with your urban forestry operations to complete our brief voluntary survey, which will take 5-10 minutes. All responses to this survey are confidential and no personally identifying information will be recorded. Information collected from this survey will be aggregated with other respondents for analysis and will not be reported in any way that may reveal the identity of you or your organization. By completing this survey, you consent to participate in our study.

Follow this link to the Survey:

[**Take the Survey**](#)

NATIONAL NEWS



History of Insect Invasions Offer Insight into the Future

Over the past two centuries, thousands of non-native insects have hitchhiked to the United States in packing material, on live plants, and in passenger baggage. Scientists with two **U.S. Department of Agriculture** (USDA) agencies and their partners used the history of live plant imports and invasion by a common group of insects to estimate the rate at which new insects are arriving and how many new insect species may yet be in store for U.S. forests and agricultural fields.

Findings suggest that efforts to reduce biological hitchhiking on live plant imports, often referred to as "biosecurity," are

working. However, more than a century of invasion by Hemiptera insects also suggests that increased trade might offset the effects of improved biosecurity. As many as 25 percent of invading Hemiptera insects may have yet to be detected in the nation's forests and agricultural fields.

[LINK TO THE FULL STUDY](#)



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