



# north carolina urban forest council

*Protecting, Sustaining, Advocacy*

October 2021



## CONNECTIONS:

### COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

“Teamwork Makes the Dream Work”  
That’s what they say right? If “They” say it (especially if it’s on the internet) then it must be true, right? But in all seriousness, ask yourself this - are the citizen tree advocates, non-profit groups and municipal tree management staff in your community living by that maxim? Or are the parties passionately struggling to make things better for the urban forest along parallel or maybe divergent tracks? Sure, everyone sees the forest from different points of view. Sometimes that view may be down among the trees and sometimes it may be from 40 thousand feet. The danger of working along different tracks, is that there are only so many

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people and resources (time, money, equipment, political will) in a community to focus on urban forest needs. If the citizen advocates, non-profits and staff don't sit down to lay all those different needs on the table, take a long hard look at the impact the combined team can realistically make on them and agree to focus their combined resources on a few reachable outcomes, then all parties are held back by their limited capacities. It is great to see more people at the table of urban forestry, but working together, clear communication, and strong partnerships are the key to moving urban forest management forward. Thanks for your attention and I hope y'all have a good month.

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

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## COUNCIL EVENTS

### WORKSHOPS

**Carolina Canopy Workshop**  
**Urban Soils - Supporting Trees from the Start**  
Reedy Creek Park - Charlotte, NC  
*9:00 am - 2:00 pm, November 8th*

[Register Here](#)

**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

More Information Coming Soon

## Green Communities Leadership Institute

January 17 - March 10

Online and In-Person Sessions

[More Info](#)

## COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### OCTOBER 2021 NCUFC

### COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

### Chris Crum, City of Raleigh

Chris is a Development Forester with the City of Raleigh. He oversees a team of plan reviewers and inspectors that help developers and builders comply with the City of Raleigh's tree conservation and street tree ordinances. The tree conservation ordinances in the City of Raleigh are focused on the preservation of existing trees within environmentally sensitive areas and the perimeter of a site. The street tree regulations require new trees along new streets and help protect the existing street trees. Chris says "as a supervisor there isn't a lot of "hands on" work with trees. The trees I deal with daily are dots on a plan, but they represent an existing living organism or the one to come. The decisions I get to make on a day-to-day basis help those that are working

directly with the trees and ultimately help to shape the future canopy of the city.”

When he joined the City of Raleigh Parks Division about 6 years ago, he became a member of the NC Urban Forest Council under their Platinum Leaf membership. This allows all their staff to take advantage of the many membership benefits including reduced rates to great education material and networking opportunities. Chris’ favorite part of being a NCUFC member is the amount of quality presentations the Council offers. He appreciated our quick transition to virtual when needed, but it was so nice to see everyone again last month at the 2021 Great NC Tree Conference in Durham. Being a forester as well as an arborist, he appreciates that the NCUFC goes out of the way to obtain education credits whenever possible.

Chris has noticed that people within the urban forestry profession in NC are very knowledgeable about all aspects of trees. He feels we have the opportunity each day to help educate someone about biology, tree benefits, or proper tree care. “Keep a positive attitude and let your enthusiasm about trees overflow to those you encounter each day.”

## COUNCIL NEWS



## SCARY TREE STORIES

With Halloween coming up this month it seems like a good time to talk about scary tree stuff. I know I’ve seen plenty over the last 20 plus years in my current gig. You probably have too. If we had a comment section like on YouTube, I would ask you to share your experiences. You’re just gonna have to pretend.

The scary biotic stuff like root rot fungi that keep dumping my mature oaks on the ground is a source of excitement all year round. The domestic insects like Ips and Southern pine beetles are pretty fiendish. And the villains from across the sea like emerald ash borer have really given us a fright lately with how quickly they make dead trees too brittle and unsafe to climb for removal. Homo sapiens are another biotic cause

of much terror among the trees. The damage is commonly classed as abiotic though, which makes me think some folks are in denial about Homo sapiens being an animal too. The ones that carry out construction without using any (or laughably inadequate) tree protection fencing turn trees into the walking (ok, standing) dead. And the subspecies that goes around breaking the low limbs or shucking the bark off the trees downtown with big hunting knives (you can't make this stuff up) give me a case of the screams. The ones that can't keep their motor vehicles on the road should terrify everyone - not just the trees they run over when they leave the road while texting.

It can definitely be a scary world out there for the trees, so do what you can to protect yours from monsters. You can go to our [Trees and Construction](#) page to get some protection tips. Happy Halloween y'all.

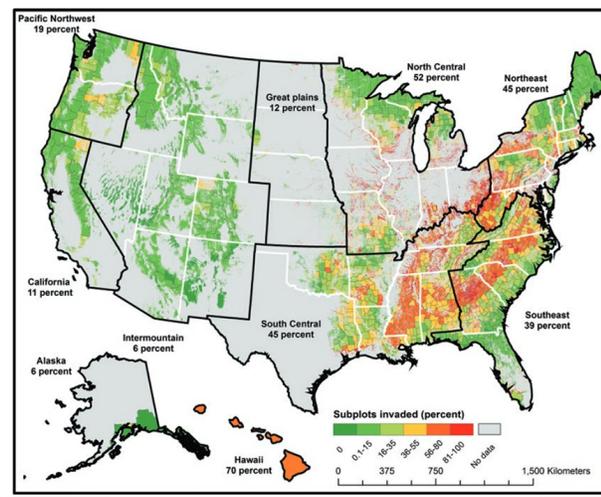
Mark Foster  
City Arborist  
City of Asheville

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## NCUFC MEMBER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS 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. For example, scholarships are available for partial reimbursement to those NCUFC members who attend the upcoming Partners in Community Forestry Conference in Louisville, KY. Be sure to complete a scholarship application in advance. You can request an application by emailing Leslie Moorman at [ncufc1@gmail.com](mailto:ncufc1@gmail.com).

## NATIONAL NEWS



## NEW FOREST SERVICE ASSESSMENT

## DELIVERS RESEARCH ON INVASIVE SPECIES

**USDA Forest Service** scientists have delivered a new comprehensive assessment of the invasive species that confront America's forests and grasslands, from new arrivals to some that invaded so long ago that people are surprised to learn they are invasive.

The assessment, titled "Invasive Species in Forests and Rangelands of the United States: A Comprehensive Science Synthesis for the United States Forest Sector", serves as a one-stop resource for land managers who are looking for information on the invasive species that are already affecting the landscape, the species that may threaten the landscape, and what is known about control of invasive species.

[\*\*LINK TO THE FULL STUDY\*\*](#)

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## ABILITY OF URBAN TREES, SOILS TO MAINTAIN CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

If you're a tree, country life is much easier than city living. Rural trees—which can live long, productive lives of sometimes more than 100 years—draw on vast resources of an extensive forest network of nearby trees. In urban areas, friendly, neighboring trees can be few and far between. Heat island effects and variation in nutrient levels leave urban trees more vulnerable to natural environmental pressures. The consequences are depressed growth and an early death.

But underneath the tree lies an ally—**soil**, which provides the tree a welcome anchor for its roots, nutrients for growth and a vast array of **soil microbes**. In return, **trees** modify the soil microbial community (SMC), establishing and nourishing crucial bacterial and fungal life below the surface.

[\*\*LINK TO THE FULL ARTICLE\*\*](#)

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<http://www.ncufc.org>

