



Beryl Budd
City Arborist
City of Oxford









Yarbrough Oak Seedling Project

- Collected acorns and sent to Georgia Forestry Commission Flint River Nursery
- 2000 Seedlings – 1500 given out and planted at Arbor Day events
- 500 were containerized and sold the following year



Oxford Tree Board established 1997

- Yarbrough Oak seedling projects
- Urban & Community Forestry Grants
- Community Forester Connie Head hired for cities 1st tree inventory
- Community Forest management began – tree planting, pruning, hazard tree removals – Connie Head was hired as City Arborist
- Turkey Creek Nature trails started
- William Murdy Arboretum established
- Dot Grid canopy study (Oxford 60% canopy cover)
- Tree Ordinance redeveloped into canopy ordinance-tree care guidelines developed
- Multiple Community meetings and training programs
- Connie retired in 2013

Turkey Creek Trails



William Murdy Arboretum

- Developed on the George St ROW
- Walking trails
- Expanded with homeowner easements

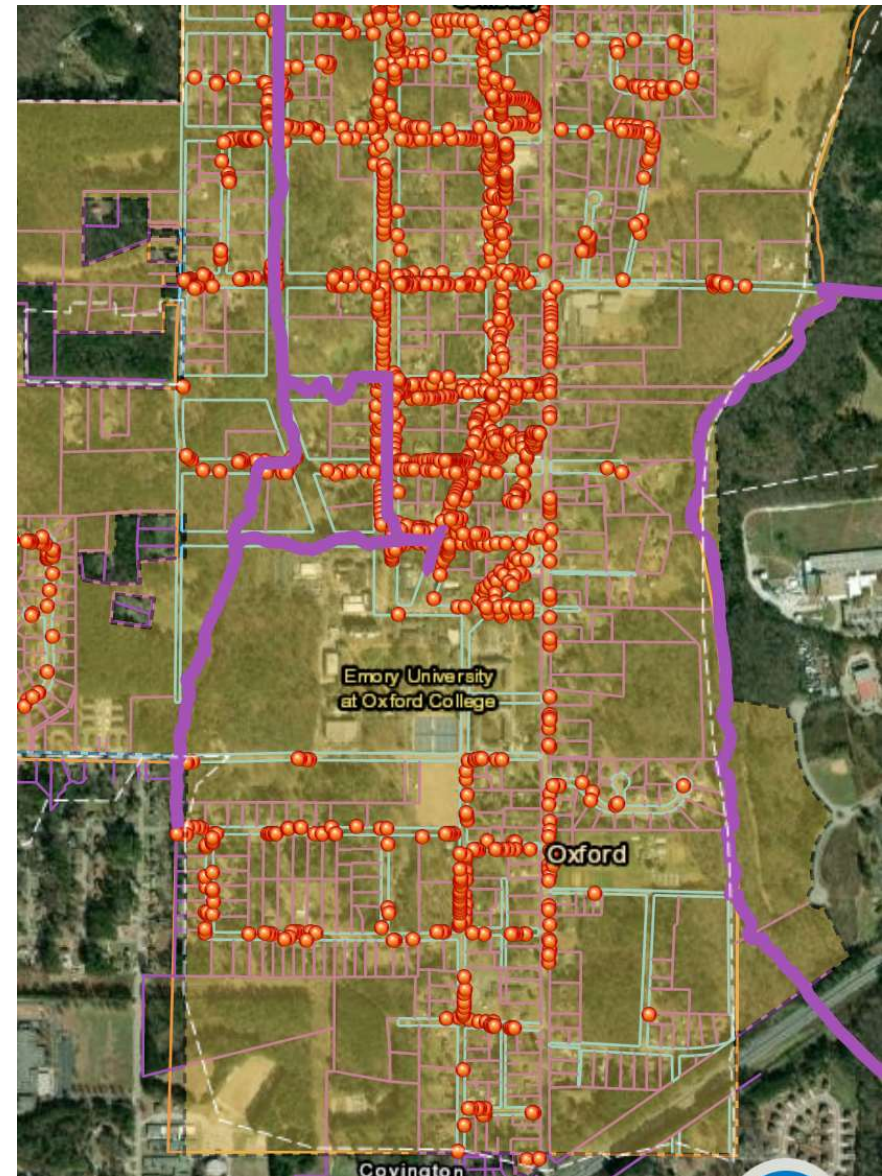


Oxford Trees, Parks, and Recreation Board

- 2013 Connie retired and I came to be the City Arborist
- TPR Board members lobby City Council to increase funding
- Annual tree planting, maintenance, pruning contracts and hazard tree removals – 2025 budgeted funding for tree care is approximately \$54,000 and \$44,000 for power line clearance
- TPR Board Chairperson heads up the Asbury Park Committee
- 2022-23 Tree inventory completed with assistance from student intern provided by Oxford College.
- Private property tree planting program created for Emory St.
- I tree canopy cover – Oxford has 65% canopy cover
- Georgia ReLeaf Grants for tree giveaways and tree planting projects
- City begins invasive species removal projects which have continued with the help of a Trees Across Georgia (TAG) Grant (Turkey Creek) in 2024 and TAG Grant (Dried Indian Creek) in 2025
- Bradford Pear tree removal program – all 18 trees on City ROW removed last year. Planning to start a Bradford Pear bounty removal program for homeowners
- City Council and community leaders provide tremendous support for the TPR Board

Oxford Tree Inventory

- Completed in summer of 2022/23 with help of student intern provided by Oxford College
- Newton County GIS Department provides software and support
- 1600 trees
- 58 species
- Top 5 species:
 - Crape myrtle 177
 - Water oak 118
 - Willow oak 100
 - Dogwood 68
 - White oak 58





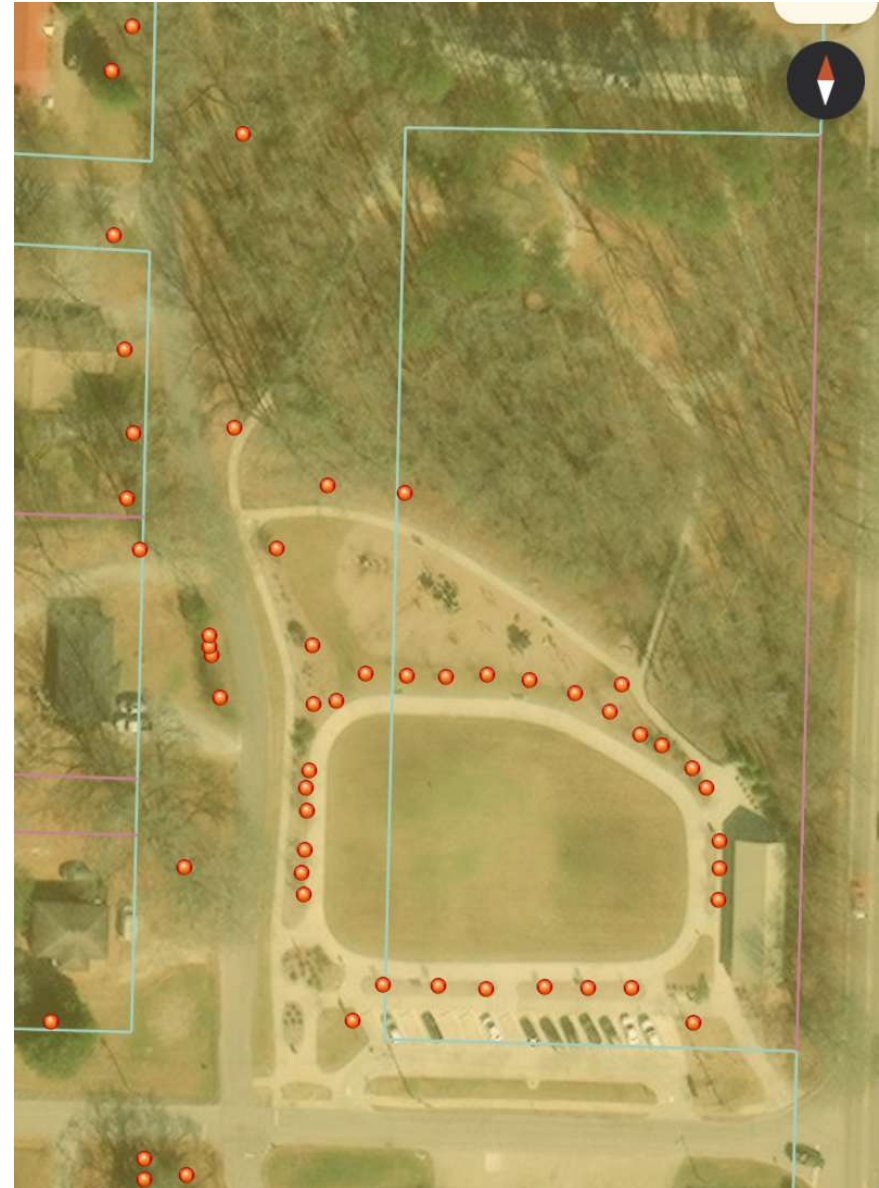
Wide Street Right of Ways

Great for Tree City!

- Wesley St. - 165 Ft.
- Asbury St. - 132 Ft to 141 Ft.
- Soule St. – 99 Ft.
- Fletcher St. 165 Ft.
- Clark St. 99 Ft.

Asbury St. Park

- City acquired several properties to develop Park
- Created the Asbury Park Committee
- About 5 acres
- Walking path and wooded trail paths
- Playground & Field
- Pavilion



Dried Indian Creek

- City of Oxford acquired 8 wooded lots along the creek totaling about 12 acres
- Oxford has grant funding to construct a north-south trail along the creek
- A trail will also be constructed east-west bridging the creek and connecting with the City of Covington
- A Trees Across Georgia (TAG) Grant began this month to remove invasive species along the creek riparian areas. Funding is provided by the US Forest Service through the Georgia Tree Council and Georgia Forestry Commission







Oxford College is a great partner and Tree Campus

- Planting trees
- Tree Care projects
- Invasive removal projects
- Arbor Day

