

The Georgia Tree Council presents
The 29th Annual
GEORGIA TREE CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW
Stone Mountain Marriott Evergreen Conference Center
November 7-8, 2019



A GREENER PATH FOR ALL: Trees and Equity, Community Collaboration, and Building the Future Workforce

PROGRAM AGENDA

Pre-conference Activity, Wednesday, November 6

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Tree Board Roundtable Discussion: *You're a Tree City USA – Now What? Building Your Urban Forestry Program. Moderated by Mark Wiles and Susan Russell, Community Forestry Assistance Program.*

Day One, Thursday, November 7

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 – 10:00 am. GENERAL SESSION:

- Welcome and Announcements (8 – 8:15 a.m.)
- Speaker on Trees and Equity – Getting diverse populations and students involved in urban forestry – Sarah Anderson, American Forests (45 minutes) (8:15 – 9:00 a.m.)
- “Green Infrastructure to Green Jobs” Initiative: creating nurseries out of brownfields and involving and teaching students – Nick Deffley, Sustainability Director, City of Savannah (25 minutes) (9:00 - 9:25 a.m.)
- Greening Youth Foundation: Tree Care Management Program – Dr. Daniel Jones, Program Manager, Urban Youth Corps, Greening Youth Foundation (25 minutes) (9:25 – 9:50 a.m.)

10 minute break

- Panel Discussion: Attracting new industry employees: Invited Caitlyn Pollihan, ISA Executive Director to moderate, with panelists Sarah

Anderson, Nick Deffley, and Dr. Daniel Jones (45 minutes) (10:00 – 10:45 a.m.)

10:45 – 11:15 a.m. Break – VISIT EXHIBITORS

11:15 – noon BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- “Shade: Don't Throw it. Grow it.” The Trees Columbus Canopy Restoration Project – Dorothy McDaniel and George Barker, Trees Columbus
- “Soil Moisture and Newly Planted Trees” – Dan Whitehead, HortSource
- Trees and Utilities: Bill Haws, Georgia Power Company

15 minute Break - VISIT EXHIBITORS

12:15 – 1:30 p.m. EXCELLENCE IN URBAN FORESTRY AWARDS LUNCHEON

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Break - VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES:

Tour 1 - Tour King's Trail to view unique tree habitat, review tree ID, and learn about successes and issues of caring for an urban forest while also hosting high numbers of visitors every year. This $\frac{3}{4}$ mile loop walk will be led by Bill Lott of the Thompson Mill State Arboretum and Stone Mountain Memorial Association (SMMA) staff.

Tour 2 - Get a guided tour of Stone Mountain Park's landmark trees: the live oak, cedar, and cypress trees along the lake, the oak at Historic Square, the champion Osage-orange, and then the hemlocks at the Harold Cox Nature Garden. This tour, led by Naomi Thompson of the SMMA, is a bus tour and includes an optional short, easy hike through the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile loop Harold Cox Nature Garden.

Tour 3 – For those who crave more ambitious afternoon exercise, SMMA staff will lead a hike up Stone Mountain to talk about succession at a few weathering pits, see the Georgia Oaks along the way, review some unique forested sections, and say hello to the Old Man Cedar. In the interest of time, the group will only hike up and take the Skyride down. Tour starts with a quick introduction in the geology and ecology museum.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Evening Reception

Day Two, Friday, November 8

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 – 10:00 a.m. GENERAL SESSION ROOM:

- Welcome and Announcements
- Invited Paula Randler, Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager, US Forest Service to give updates from national level
- “Leveraging Community Engagement” with marketing expert Charlotte King

- Working with local churches to plant trees, create orchards, and tackle water issues: Invited Christa Edwards, Geographic Information Systems Specialist, US Forest Service

10 – 10:30 a.m. Break - VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.: BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- ROI of Healthy Urban Trees – Matthew Werle, GreenBlue Urban
- What attracts a student to be on a Tree Board? Susan Kidd, Agnes Scott College (moderator) with Susan Daniels, Middle Georgia State University and Allison Bailey, University of North Georgia
- Creating a Park in a Small Municipality: It's all about Partnerships – Paula Stinnett, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fort Oglethorpe and Nancy Lovingood, AICP, Certified Arborist

11:30 – Noon Break - VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. GENERAL SESSION: SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE

- Urban Forestry's outlook moving forward - and the new Warnell School/University of Georgia urban forestry emphasis – Jason Gordon/Kim Coder, Ph.D, Warnell School of Forestry, UGA
- Cassandra Johnson Gaither, Research Social Scientist, US Forest Service: The Importance of Urban Nature

ADJOURN