

Campus Tree Symposium



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UGA Griffin Campus SLC Room 115, Griffin, GA

September 9, 2026

10 am - 2 pm

Agenda

10:00 Welcome and Announcements

Melanie Sparrow, *Executive Director, Georgia Tree Council*
Georgia Tree Council Board Member

10:15 City of Griffin Tree Program & Greenspaces

Marcus Chaney, *Special Projects Supervisor*
Mariza Eller, *Director, City of Griffin Public Works*

10:30 UGA Griffin Campus Community Forest Projects

Dr. Mark Czarnota, *UGA Griffin Campus Associate Professor of Horticulture*

11:00 Tree Prescriptions for Community Enhancement

Edward Morrow, *ISA Arborist & Author*

12:05 Lunch catered by Honeywood Farms

1:00 The Wesleyan College Arboretum: A Forest Resource for Education, Conservation, and Outreach in Macon, Georgia

Dr. James Ferrari, *Wesleyan College Arboretum Director & Professor of Biology*

1:30 Community Forests & Wildlife Habitat

Joe Burnam, *Georgia Department of Natural Resources Senior Wildlife Biologist*

SAF CEUs: 2.5 Cat. 1; ISA CEUs: 2.75

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Topic Descriptions and Speaker Bios

Griffin's Tree Program and Greenspaces

Mark Chaney

City Of Griffin

Special Projects Supervisor

Learn about Griffin's tree program, recent tree study, and plans for trees and greenspaces from Griffin's Special Projects Supervisor.

Mark Chaney was born and raised in the City of Griffin. His dad worked at the City of Griffin Street Department for many years, and now Mark is working there to improve the community he grew up in. He has been with the City of Griffin for over 4 years and enjoys working with the trees and green spaces throughout Griffin.

Tree Prescriptions for Community Enhancement

Edward Morrow

Arborist and Author

Learn five simple tree prescriptions to preserve more trees in your community and gain a new perspective on urban forestry and the role of professional arborists.

Edward Morrow develops engaging urban-forestry programs for communities and organizations. As an ISA Certified Arborist and author, he created TREE S.T.A.R.S, an outdoor-adventure series to inspire the next generation of arborists.

The Wesleyan College Arboretum: A Forest Resource for Education, Conservation, and Outreach

Jim Ferrari, Ph.D

Wesleyan College

Professor, Biology Department Chair

Learn about the history of the Wesleyan College Arboretum and how Wesleyan faculty, staff, and students use the arboretum for teaching, research, conservation, and outreach to the Macon community.

Jim Ferrari is a Professor and Chair of Biology at Wesleyan College, in Macon, Georgia. His Ph.D. is in Ecology from the University of Minnesota, and his undergraduate degree in Biology is from Middlebury College, Vermont. At Wesleyan, Jim teaches Ecology, Evolution, Conservation Biology, Field Biology, and related courses. He is also the Director of the Wesleyan College Arboretum, a Level-II accredited arboretum. Jim's research interests include

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forest ecology, fruit-eating and seed dispersal by birds, and behavior of birds at water sources. Jim is the past-president of both the Ocmulgee Audubon Society and the Georgia Ornithological Society (GOS); in addition, he is the editor of The Oriole, the scientific journal of GOS.

Community Forests & Wildlife Habitat

Joe Burnam

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Senior Wildlife Biologist

Joe Burnam is a Senior Wildlife Biologist with the Wildlife Conservation Section of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Joe earned a BS in Education and MS in Wildlife Ecology and Management from the University of Georgia. With DNR since 2008, he works primarily with the threatened red-cockaded woodpecker and other birds of conservation concern on state and private land in South Georgia. He also helps burn and manage upland pine habitat on southwest Georgia Wildlife Management Areas. Joe lives in Cairo with his wife Molly, two almost grown kids, and an old bird dog.



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