



The Council Quarterly

Quarterly Newsletter of the Florida Urban Forestry Council

2015 Issue Two

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IMPROVING ON NATIVES: UNDERUTILIZED CULTIVARS OF NATIVE TREES FOR NORTH AND CENTRAL FLORIDA

Jason A. Smith, Associate Professor – University of Florida - School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Most of us in the business of helping create and maintain healthy urban forests in Florida recognize the urgent need to diversify our palette of trees that are planted. The benefits of diversification are realized both immediately and in the future. We now know about the dire consequences of homogenous urban forests as we see how exotic diseases and pests can decimate monoculture urban forests (for example, Dutch elm disease, emerald ash borer and so on) in little time. Greater diversity leads to greater resilience, increased wildlife habitat and simply more interesting landscapes. Curiously, Florida seems to suffer from rampant use of the same old, same old – leading to urban forests that are significantly lacking in diversity (seen enough gall-riddled ‘Cathedral’ live oaks yet?).

We are blessed to live in a climate that is conducive to the growth of a huge range of tree species, yet for the most part, they are never seen. If we focus on one group, in this case cultivars of native trees, it is a curious, but also correctable problem. It is very strange how one must travel to Georgia to find nurseries that grow great cultivars of Florida native trees! The goal of this article is to raise awareness of this problem and introduce a few of these gems that should be grown more. I am not suggesting that we should rely on cultivars. It is worthwhile to consider using seedlings when possible, but if cultivars are needed, then let’s discuss the vast diversity that is waiting to be used.

This article is the first in a series. The plan is to whet your appetite a bit, to help

increase awareness and demand. Perhaps this will get the ball rolling in changing what we plant.

The following cultivars I present all represent selections of our native trees with various superior attributes. These are not selections from the University of Florida, nor have they been widely tested here. They are based on my personal observations by visiting nurseries, scouring botanical gardens and staying connected with the southeastern horticultural community. Please keep in mind that they are merely suggestions--to create a little buzz and get the discussion started. For commercial sources, I suggest doing a Google search.



Harvest Moon® Southern Sugar Maple (www.boldspring.com)

But, if that doesn’t work, feel free to contact me.

Acer saccharum x barbatum ‘Sandersville’ (Harvest Moon® Southern sugar maple) – Many people think red maple (*Acer rubrum*) is the only maple that we can grow in the Sunshine State. That is incorrect, our native “southern sugar maples” (*A. barbatum*) make good landscape trees, but their fall color is nothing to write home about. However, this exciting new maple from Georgia combines heat tolerance of our native *A. barbatum* with fall color traits from *A. saccharum*. This southern sugar maple hybrid produces screaming red-orange fall color in southern GA. It is worth trialing here and even if fall color disappoints, its nice upright form and adaptability make it a great addition to Florida urban landscapes.

continues on pg. 2

INSIDE:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Improving on Natives: Underutilized Cultivars of Native Trees for North and Central Florida..... | 1, 3-6 |
| President’s Message..... | 2 |
| Request For Articles..... | 2 |
| Stump the Forester..... | 8 |
| Tree City USA Update..... | 9 |
| Welcome New FUFC Executive Committee Members..... | 10-11 |
| ACTrees Interview: Dave Nowak on Urban Forests for Better Air Quality..... | 12 |
| Managing Community Spotlight - Town of Davie..... | 13 |
| Underutilized Trees for Central Florida Landscapes..... | 14-15 |
| Tree of the Quarter..... | 16 |
| Underutilized Subtropical Hardwood Hammock Specimen in the Urban Landscapes..... | 18-19 |
| 2014 Friends of Our Urban Forest Awards Program Winners..... | 20-22 |
| Membership..... | 22 |

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings FUFUC Members,

Like many of you, I work with trees professionally as a consulting arborist. Also like many of you, I also spend a great deal of my own personal time advocating for healthy urban forests in my own community and others. I love to talk to people about trees. As our urban forests face new threats such as an ever-expanding list of exotic pests, exponential population growth and climate change, it is important to me that we all do what we can to leave them in better condition

for our children. This is why I have always felt that the FUFUC, with its focus on education, outreach and advocacy, is the perfect organization for me.

This year, I have the honor of serving as your FUFUC President. I will be following in the footsteps of so many of our state's urban forestry leaders, most recently Ken Lacasse. Ken worked diligently over the past year to further the FUFUC mission and to raise the level of professionalism and accountability within our Executive Committee. He has helped us move the question from WHY trees are important to HOW we can more effectively manage our urban forests. Like those that served before him, Ken is leaving the FUFUC in better shape than it was when he started. It is my intention to do the same.

2015 has been a special year for the FUFUC so far. For the past three years we have held our annual Urban Forestry Institute in March at one of Florida's prestigious universities that have earned the Tree Campus USA designation. Last year's UFI at Nova Southeastern University was a huge success and the feedback we received from you was all positive. This year we had the unique opportunity to partner with the International Society of Arboriculture to host the Cost of Not Maintaining Trees Symposium at the Patel College of Global Sustainability at USF in Tampa in March 2015. It featured some of the top speakers from around the world. As always, it was an engaging exchange of information and ideas between urban foresters, arborists, academics, planners, landscape architects, engineers, and other professionals.

We also held the first of many regional workshops in Miami-Dade County in April. The topic was Conducting GPS Tree Inventories and we had more than 40 people in attendance. Look for upcoming workshop dates and topics for Orlando and Tampa on our website.

The topic for this quarter's newsletter is **New Cultivars and Underutilized Trees in the Landscape**. We have highlighted some of the great, underused species in north, central and south Florida, as well as some interesting new cultivars. We also highlight a Managing Community in South Florida--the Town of Davie--that I have had the privilege of working with in the past. Please read the articles and provide us with any feedback. This newsletter is your resource; we want it to provide value to your urban forestry program.

2015 is going to be a year of reaching out and bringing more and more people into the discussion about how to manage our trees for the future generations, and I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Justin Freedman

Justin Freedman
FUFUC 2015 President

REQUEST FOR ARTICLES

Please let us know what urban forestry projects you have going on in your neck of the woods. The Florida Urban Forestry Council would greatly appreciate the opportunity to share your information in our newsletter. These articles can include:

- New trends in the industry
- News about tree advocacy groups
- Volunteer projects
- City tree programs
- Letters to the Editor
- Questions for "Stump the Forester"

We look forward to hearing from you on this or any other interesting topic related to the urban forestry industry and profession. Please send any articles or ideas to Jerry Renick, FUFUC newsletter editor, at Jerry.Renick@wantmangroup.com.

Thanks for contributing!



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'City Slicker' river birch

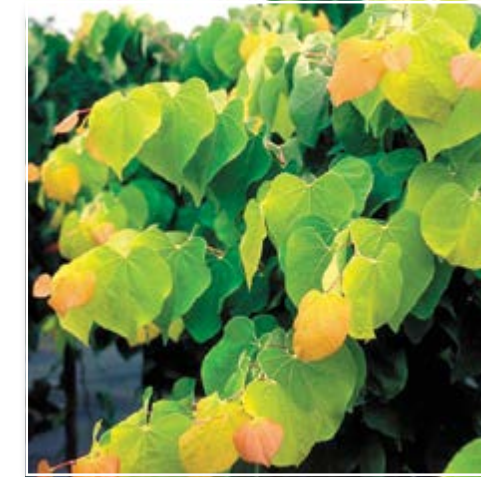
Betula nigra 'City Slicker' – River birch is native to as far south as Levy County in Florida and planted specimens (when given the right location) do well to at least Orlando. The key to success with river birch in Florida is a combination of good genetics and proper siting. The species is native as far north as Wisconsin, so making sure the seed-source is from the Deep South is essential. Being riparian species in the south, they must be given ample moisture (and full sun) or they will fail to perform. This selection, 'City Slicker,' is performing very well in Gainesville. It has much whiter bark than the typical species and the foliage remains healthy all summer. It gives a "northern look" to landscapes, as it looks more like a white birch than most river birches.



Betula nigra 'Summer Cascade'

Betula nigra 'Summer Cascade' – This is a dramatically weeping form that is performing well in Florida. For example, it is used effectively near water on the UNF campus in Jacksonville. It should be considered

as a good alternative to weeping willow. An added bonus is you can enjoy the nice exfoliating pink bark during the dormant season.



Cercis canadensis 'The Rising Sun'
(www.boldspring.com)

Cercis canadensis "The Rising Sun" – This is a brilliant gold foliated form of our native redbud. The new gold leaves emerge as the pink flowers are finishing up. The gold foliage holds up well in the heat in the south. It can be expected to grow a bit slower than the species. Good moist soil and full sun is best for the species.



Cercis canadensis 'Ruby Falls'
(www.boldspring.com)

Cercis canadensis 'Ruby Falls' – An incredible weeping selection, with dark burgundy leaves, made from a breeding program at NCSU. This selection has a vigorous form that resembles a flowing fountain. It stays small and provides interest year round. It could be used in smaller landscapes as a feature specimen – perhaps next to a fountain.



Chionanthus virginicus 'Emerald Knight' – Our native fringe trees are truly gems in the landscape when in bloom. However, often they look less attractive during the rest of the season. This new selection has particularly glossy dark green leaves, burgundy leafless stems and a more dense branching structure--giving it more year-round appeal.



Juniperus silicicola 'Brodie'
(www.ponsetilandscaping.com)

Juniperus silicicola 'Brodie' – The Italian cypress has always been needlessly planted

continues on pg. 4

in Florida (where it is very homesick for its Mediterranean home) where landscapers seek a vertical accent. Here is one of several alternatives I suggest using. 'Brodie' is a narrow, columnar selection of our native southern red cedar (*Juniperus silicola*). It is fast growing, easy to propagate and gives that same vertical accent as Italian cypress, but is resistant to the many pests and diseases that plague that tree.



Liquidambar styraciflua 'Slender Silhouette' in summer and fall

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Slender Silhouette' – Narrow, tall trees are increasingly more useful in urban landscapes. They fit in tight spaces and require less maintenance. Plus, they just look cool when their vertical form can accentuate urban features. This selection of our native sweetgum is just amazing. The original tree was 60' tall and about 4' wide. It grows into a perfect column of dense foliage. It gets decent fall color even in north Florida and is perfectly happy in our climate. Not only that, but it rarely produces "gum balls," so it is quite clean and carefree in urban settings.

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Oconee' – Here is another amazing selection of our native sweetgum. This one grows into a perfect round ball. It matures as a small tree and is perfect for small landscapes (especially under overhead utility lines). It is also less likely to produce "gum balls" and some years fall color is outstanding, even in the Deep South!



Liquidambar styraciflua 'Oconee' in summer and fall

Liriodendron tulipifera 'Arnold' – This columnar selection of our native tulip tree is similar to 'Slender Silhouette' sweetgum, but a little wider growing. The beautifully shaped leaves are glossy green in summer and flutter pleasingly in the breeze. It gets the same pretty yellow "tulip" flowers as the species in early summer and can have yellow fall color. There are some nice specimens growing in Jacksonville and Gainesville areas, but it definitely needs to be planted more widely in the region.



Liriodendron tulipifera 'Arnold' (www.boldspring.com)

Liriodendron tulipifera 'Little Volunteer' – How about a dwarf tulip tree? This selection (also known under the cultivar name of 'Ardis') grows to about one-third the size of the typical species. The leaves are even one-third the size. There are nice specimens growing at the UF TREE nursery plots in Gainesville. It seems very happy here and perfect for smaller gardens where the species would be too large at maturity.



Liriodendron tulipifera 'Little Volunteer' (www.boldspring.com)



Nyssa sylvatica 'Gable' – Our native black gum is underutilized in landscapes as a species. It is tough, adaptable and long-lived. Horticulturalists are catching on and several new cultivars have emerged lately. This selection has a very symmetrical pyramidal form and gets nice red fall color. It would be perfect for lining a boulevard or adding diversity to retention pond plantings.



Nyssa sylvatica 'Gable' in summer and fall

Pinus serotina 'Witch's Broom' – Witch's brooms are dense growths of stems on woody plants that can originate from genetic mutations or due to pathogens. Those that are caused by mutations can be propagated to create dwarf selections of the parent species. These are popularly collected and propagated in conifers worldwide with many dwarf conifers available in the trade that originated this way. However, for some reason there has been little interest in these in our native pines. It's not due to scarcity, as they are quite common. Recently, some of these have been propagated from several of our native pines. Perhaps one of the nicest was selected from pond pine (*Pinus serotina*) in central Florida. They make nice dwarf trees when grafted on a standard (as pictured in my garden). Look for more of these to come in the future--we have found some nice brooms in bald cypress, pond cypress, longleaf pine and more!



Pinus serotina (unnamed witch's broom) grafted on a slash pine standard

Populus deltoides 'Purple Tower' – Most people don't realize that eastern cottonwood is native as far south as Brooksville area. Most horticulturalists wouldn't think of it as a tree to plant here. However, I beg to differ. It is a very fast growing, easily propagated and fairly long-lived tree here. They can be started from hardwood cuttings--stuck directly into the ground in winter. They can grow as much as 15' per year if given a good site (plenty of water, full sun). That said, they do need plenty of room (for crown and roots) and aren't for the smaller gardens. However, in big parks, golf courses, next to canals or along highways, they add something different. Their fluttering leaves not only look great, but they sound wonderful (almost cooling--like water flowing) in summer. This selection is very new to the trade, but it gets dark burgundy foliage that fades to a very dark green late in summer, with some yellow hints in fall. It has grown incredibly fast in Gainesville. It is also being offered in the trade under the name 'Fuego.'



Populus deltoides 'Purple Tower'



Taxodium distichum 'Cascade Falls'

Taxodium distichum 'Cascade Falls' – There are two weeping forms of bald cypress that should be used in Florida. This one and 'Falling Waters' are both dramatically weeping trees that have the form of a waterfall. They make great substitutes for weeping willows and look best next to water or as an accent plant in the landscape. They are staked for height and each one has its own 'character.'



Taxodium distichum 'Peve Minaret'

Taxodium distichum 'Peve Minaret' – Here is another smaller growing bald cypress that is gaining in popularity. It has a form that is upright with sparser branching. Its growth rate is about one-third of the species and it can be used as an accent plant or even pruned and treated as an espalier.



'Lindsey's Skyward'

Taxodium distichum 'Lindsey's Skyward' – This is a relatively new columnar form of bald cypress. Its branches all point upward and it seems to be shorter in stature than the straight species.



Taxodium distichum 'Cave Hill'

Taxodium distichum 'Cave Hill' – How about a miniature bald cypress? This one makes a very small tree, with dense, luxuriant foliage in summer and architectural branching in winter. It originated as a witch's broom on a mature tree.



Ulmus alata 'Lace Parasol' in summer.

Ulmus alata 'Lace Parasol' – Our native winged elm is growing in popularity in northern and central Florida. It is tough, dependable and makes a nice shade tree with vase-shaped crown at maturity. The "winged" twigs and branches make it interesting when it is leafless. This weeping form of winged elm makes a dome of weeping branches with all the same attributes of the species. It gives us one more interesting weeping tree for Florida and would make a great accent plant in modern landscapes.

Jason A. Smith, Associate Professor – University of Florida - School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida, 212 Newins-Ziegler Hall, Gainesville, FL 32611-0410; jasons@ufl.edu

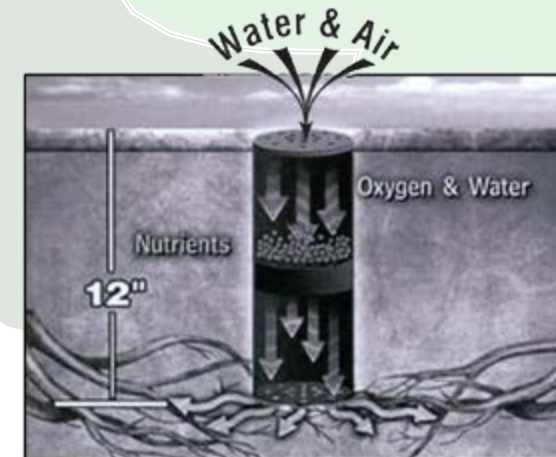
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STUMP THE FORESTER



QUESTION: I found this oak climbing another tree within a small clump of trees, along a city right-of-way, in Jacksonville. Can you explain this?

ANSWER: Yes, though rare, I have seen this before. Every time I've come across this in northern Florida, an oak will appear to be wrestling with a palm. This is an important clue to the puzzle. Things aren't always what they seem at first glance. Another important clue is that the oak may not have been climbing up. It may have been climbing down the palm. When this struggle began, many years ago, the palm trunk would have appeared very different than the smooth, column-like trunk seen today. For this phenomenon to occur, the palm trunk would have appeared armored with the base of dead fronds commonly known as "bootjacks" or "boots" for short. The basket-weave of boots will create pockets where water and organic material--to include acorns--will collect. If the conditions are right, an acorn may germinate. The transition between stem and root tissue, or the location of the root flare, can be confusing as the sapling oak meanders its way through the palm boots toward more fertile ground. Chances are

good that the ground will never be within reach. The odds are against the acorn nut ever completing its journey. The palm will be the oak's cradle and grave, but not always. In time, if nourished by the earth, the oak will gain girth, the palm boots will fall off, and the visible path of an earlier struggle will remain.

Answer provided by Joe Anderson - Utility Forester with JEA



If you would like to 'stump the forester,' see page 2 for information on submitting your question!



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Sumter Electric Cooperative:

- was named a *Tree Line USA* utility for the fourth consecutive year by *The National Arbor Day Foundation*. Employee arboriculture training, public education, and maintaining abundant, healthy trees in SECO's service area are common practices.
- installs osprey nesting dishes atop of the utility pole cross arms as needed for these magnificent birds.
- places squirrel guards atop the transformers to protect a variety of animals from danger, particularly squirrels.
- offers net metering to members interested in renewable generation such as photovoltaic systems.
- recycles retired power equipment, scrap steel, aluminum, copper, porcelain, fluorescent lights, ink printer and copier cartridges, plus much more.
- researches and writes *Nature's Reflections*, a special column in the members' newsletter developed to educate the community on the flora and fauna of Florida with eco-friendly topics like xeriscaping and conservation.



TREE CITY USA UPDATE

Lou Shepherd, Urban Forestry Programs Coordinator – Florida Forest Service

Most of us are familiar with the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA Program and its many benefits to Florida's communities. Looking ahead, the exciting news to share is that **2016 marks the 40th anniversary of the Tree City USA program**. In recognition of this milestone, we encourage all 166 Florida Tree City USA communities to make a special effort to connect with next year's celebration.

Florida's Tree City USA communities can prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary now by developing and implementing measures designed to foster community involvement. The key to community awareness is timely public service announcements and outreach.

Tree City USA is a powerful force that has caught the excitement and support of citizens nationwide. The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and National Association of State Foresters, provides direction, technical assistance, public attention and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs.

Tree City USA communities benefit from increased greenery and economic dividends such as increased tourism. Other benefits that well-managed community forests provide are shaded streets, community pride and a peace of mind that all can enjoy. In his book, *Great Streets*, Allan B. Jacobs wrote: "...for many people trees are the most important single characteristic of a good street." Trees add beauty and function. Trees make any street better.

If your community is interested in becoming a Tree City USA community, now is a great time to join. By signing up now, your community receives the benefits and recognition of becoming a Tree City USA and can take part in next year's 40th anniversary festivities.

The heartwood of the Tree City USA program has four basic requirements. Each recognized community must meet the following requirements:

- Have a tree board or department
- Have a tree care ordinance
- Have an annual community forestry program backed by an expenditure of at least \$2 per capita for trees and tree care
- Host an annual Arbor Day observance.

These standards are set so that every qualifying community may have a viable tree management plan or program. All communities that meet the four basic requirements are eligible, regardless of size.

We are proud of Florida's historical pattern of managing forest resources in its growing communities. This requires a combined effort between volunteer organizations, civic leaders, staff and citizens. The preservation of Florida's natural beauty is a long-standing value that the Florida Urban Forestry Council continues to embrace and support.

Ultimately, though, it is through the work of individuals that makes a world of difference. Volunteers strengthen social bonds within the community and advocate for tree programs. Individual actions serve as a valuable source of ideas and inspiration to others.

If your city is interested in working with the Florida Forest Service to become a Tree City USA community, contact: Lou.Shepherd@FreshFromFlorida.com or visit the Florida Urban Forestry Council website.



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To Subscribe to the RPG Times Newsletter or to request copies of the Tree Grading, Planting or Pruning Cue Cards contact an RPG member or visit www.rootsplusgrowers.org

WELCOME NEW FUFU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS!



Joseph S. Anderson
Member-at-Large

Joe is a native of Central New York and has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Resource Management, from the College of Environmental Science & Forestry (ESF) at Syracuse, NY. In the 20 years that followed graduation Joe hiked, camped, canoed, and swam through the forests, lakes, and rivers of New York, Minnesota, Missouri, and South Carolina, serving and pursuing a career as a park ranger.

The pursuit culminated in nine years of service as the Park Manager of The Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area within the SC State Park Service. Joe also served as a Commissioned Officer and Arborist with the SC State Park Service.

In the last 3 years, Joe has applied his knowledge and skills to utility arboriculture serving as an ISA certified Arborist and Forester with JEA – Jacksonville Utility. Joe is married to Leslie Seay Anderson of Charleston and has two daughters, Bailey Rose Anderson (*student of University of Florida's Engineering Honors Program*) and Eliza Kate Anderson (*student of Duval County's Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*).



Jody Buyas
Member-at-Large

Jody Buyas graduated from Southwest Missouri State University with a BS in Environmental Studies and a minor in

Agriculture. She has been in the position of Keep Orlando Beautiful (KOB) Coordinator for the City of Orlando since 2007 and enjoys educating the Orlando community about their local environment and how they can take greater responsibility in the areas of litter prevention and waste reduction, recycling and through beautification efforts.

Jody has increased KOB's volunteer base over the last seven years from hundreds to thousands and created successful partnerships with government programs and the private sector in order to meet elected official's goals, program goals and the goals of the different communities in Orlando.

She looks forward to bringing fresh new ideas on ways to educate communities as it continues to become more and more of a challenge with rapid changing technology and daily overload of information.



Steve Edgar
Society of American Foresters Representative

Steve, President of Long Leaf Forest Service Inc., graduated from the University of Minnesota's College of Forestry in Forest Management. He has over 25 years of professional forest management experience with considerable experience in timber sales, timber marketing, timber appraisal, effective permitting, and governmental and interagency skills. In addition to managing private land, he has also managed municipal forest lands.

Steve is a member of the Society of American Foresters, Florida Forestry Association and International Society of Arboriculture. He is an ISA Certified Arborist, Florida Certified Control Burn Specialist, licensed Pesticide Applicator, and licensed Florida Real Estate Broker. He was recognized as "Community Hero" by the City of Port Orange for his outstanding service during the 1998 fire storm.



John Harris
Advisory

John has been working in the Green Industry for over 30 years and is excited for the opportunity to support FUFU as part of the Executive Committee. He is an educator and mentor for many urban foresters and FUFU members.

Currently, John is the Principal of Landscape Economics LLC, an expert company for assessing and valuing landscapes and land improvements for conditions, maintenance, damages or current values. He is also President of Earth Advisors, Inc., an independent Green Industry consulting, education, and project management company doing environmental, arboricultural and landscape projects. John's work experience reaches across the United States and Canada, through the Caribbean, and in Brazil.

His qualifications as an expert include being an ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist, SAF Certified Forester, ISA Certified Arborist, ISA-Florida Registered Nursery Tree Grader, Certified Landscape Inspector, Registered Professional Mangrove Trimmer, Certified Xeriscape Contractor, and trained Tree and Landscape Appraiser. He was inducted into Lambda Alpha International Honorary Land Economics Society in 1997 for his dedicated work determining and defending tree and landscape values. John wants to share with everyone that the FUFU does more than promote and teach us how to preserve and maintain urban forests, it promotes and teaches us why to preserve and maintain urban forests.



Karen Stauderman
Cooperative Extension Representative

Karen Stauderman grew up in Oregon where she received a dual BS in Horticulture and Plant Pathology from Oregon State University and later a MS in Entomology from the University of Florida. She's been a resident of Florida since 1988 and worked as a research scientist for the University of Florida for over 11 years. Then along with her husband and daughter they started their own business--Oak Haven Farms & Winery--a U-pick Strawberry farm, vineyard and an onsite winery in Sorrento.

Throughout that time, she taught high school science for six years before returning back to the University of Florida in extension where she has been the Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent for Volusia County. She also is also the UF/IFAS Volusia County Pesticide Applicator Trainer.

Karen has been hosting *Gardeners Hotline* (WDSC-PBS channel 15) for over eight seasons which is a live gardening call-in show. Since 2007, Karen continues to write the Plant Lady byline for the *Daytona Beach News Journal*.



Michael Schulte
Florida Chapter ASLA Representative

Mike is a Florida Registered Landscape Architect and ISA Certified Arborist with over 20 years of professional experience. He graduated from the University of Florida (UF) with a Bachelor of Landscape

Architecture degree in 1994. Mike has been active in transportation landscape architecture, urban design, land planning, construction observation, commercial site design, and various aspects of the approval process with a strong emphasis on roadway design and implementation. Mike has significant and unique experience in FDOT Highway Beautification projects as a designer, as the District Landscape Architect for FDOT District 1 and as a CEI Landscape Inspector and Resident Engineer.

For the past eight years Mike has been the District Landscape Architect for FDOT District 1 in Bartow. He managed all design, construction, and maintenance activities related to landscape architecture within FDOT District 1. He also participated on many committees within FDOT and assisted in the advances made in the Department's Landscape program.

Mike is involved with the Boy Scouts of America and local youth sports in Plant City and looks forward to assisting the Florida Urban Forestry Council in whatever capacity is needed.



Mayor Matthew Surrency
Florida League of Cities Representative

Matt is a native of Hawthorne, Florida. His family followed the turpentine industry from southeast Georgia to Florida. Matt married his high school sweetheart and they are raising three boys. He was the Head Baseball Coach at Hawthorne High School before getting into local government.

He was first elected to the commission in 2009 and has been Mayor since 2011. Matt has been the President of Alachua County League of Cities and has served on multiple statewide committees. He currently serves as the First Vice-President of the Florida League of Cities.

ACTREES INTERVIEW: DAVE NOWAK ON URBAN FORESTS FOR BETTER AIR QUALITY



Washington, DC - Dave Nowak, Project Leader with the USDA Forest Service, shares his recent research, *Trees and forest effects on air quality and human health in the United States*, a study that explored county-by-county canopy effects on residents' health.

Data gleaned from this study will help practitioners build the case for planting and maintaining trees to build healthy communities. Read ACTrees' interview below:

ACTrees: What's your role and area of expertise as a researcher with the U.S. Forest Service?

Dave Nowak: I'm currently Project Leader of a unit within the Northern Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service. Our mission is to investigate the effects of urban forests on human health. My area of expertise is assessing urban forests and their ecosystem services—particularly related to air quality and climate change.

ACTrees: Your most recent research is on urban trees and air quality, your second on this topic. How did current findings differ from the earlier study?

Dave Nowak: This is the first research we've done on human health, but the second on a national assessment of air pollution removal by trees in urban forests. About 10 years ago, we conducted a national assessment of pollution removal by urban forests across the U.S. This new study uses newer technologies and evaluates the entire U.S. rather than just urban areas.

This recent research updates the earlier study with current weather and pollution data, an expanded study range that includes rural areas, and data on changes in pollution concentration. What's new in this study are the tree effects of pollution concentrations on consequently the local health of the people around those forests. We linked to the EPA's BenMap [Environmental Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program] which looks at how changes in air quality affect various human health metrics based on population data.

ACTrees: Could you talk about a few examples of health factors the EPA's BenMap takes into consideration?



Dave Nowak: The big one is mortality—not in terms of impact, but in terms of value. We had to run the BenMAP model for the whole country along with the i-Tree Model and bridge the two together. It was a year of work just getting the BenMap functioning for every U.S. county based on population data and then linking results to our model.

The health metrics are tied to changes in concentration, population, and age-class distribution of the population. For example, how many people are young and old in the city, and how many people are in the city. If there's nobody in the city, or in the area to receive the benefits, then there are no health benefits to be received.

ACTrees: You mentioned that you spent a year doing prep work gathering data from each county in America. How was that captured?

Dave Nowak: The scale of the research was county-based, divided into urban and rural areas. To scale up, it was additive. We added the data from each county to make state estimates, but the scale of the study was within the county itself. You really can't subdivide within the rural or urban areas of the counties because we don't have that kind of fine scale variation. All the urban lands have a different population base, concentration base, and tree cover than the rural lands.

ACTrees: As more people move to urban areas and population density gets higher, overdevelopment and loss of canopy is a serious concern for human health. Are those of us working in urban forestry adding enough trees to keep up?

Dave Nowak: In a different study, we looked at 20 cities across the U.S., and 17 had a statistically significant decline in canopy

cover, and 16 had statistically significant increases in impervious cover. So from those 20 cities we can see that canopy and impervious cover are shifting. Nationwide we estimate about 4 million trees being lost per year in urban areas. If you focus on impacts to human health, the impact per tree is greatest in densely population areas, such as Manhattan, because there are more people receiving the impacts.

ACTrees: What can local practitioners take away from this study?

Dave Nowak: Beyond the health benefits trees provide, the key to healthy canopy is having healthy leaf surface area, which drives gas exchange and allows particle uptake. Also, we need to figure out how to stabilize canopy cover, ensuring that when trees die from storms and other stressors, more are replenished. Using future modeling applications like i-Tree and methods like Right Tree, Right Place helps us be strategic in maximizing the services performed by the trees, and ensuring long-term survival.

Dave Nowak is Program Leader and Researcher with the USDA Forest Service. His work explores what environmental or ecosystem services urban vegetation provides to local and regional populations. Currently, Dave models local assessments of urban forest structure and functions like air pollution removal; carbon storage and sequestration, and biogenic emissions. Dave earned his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, and is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Society of American Foresters.



MANAGING COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT – TOWN OF DAVIE Increasing Interest and Trees for the Urban Forest in the Town of Davie

John Harris, President – Earth Advisors, Inc.

In South Florida there is a town that does not want to be a city. The Town of Davie preserves and promotes a rural lifestyle and character for the community. Even the Town Hall maintains the rural wood side façade and wrap around porches of old Florida style. Trees and urban greenspaces are a key component to maintaining the rural characteristics of Davie. In their urban forest management efforts, the Town of Davie is continuing to be a great example for the Tree City USA program.

In 2014, there were youth education programs, updates to the urban tree inventory database and a substantial tree preservation and relocation project completed. Through efforts of Town staff and volunteers, Arbor Day and Earth Day events brought planting projects and cleanup projects that involved local school students and vocational training for challenged youth. Over 600 students were involved with learning about Florida

Friendly Landscapes, urban forests and how to do landscaping by doing it with Town staff and adult volunteers in public properties throughout the town.

In the Town of Davie, urban forestry and improving greenspaces is led from the Mayor's office, includes Town officials and involves staff from many different Town departments. They all participate in events and volunteer days to be "green partners in the greening of Davie" as quoted by one volunteer from a local environmental consulting company.

The Urban Forester, Tim Lee, and Landscape Inspector, Joseph Jimenez, are at the forefront of the efforts by the Town of Davie for managing and protecting trees and landscapes throughout the public and private properties in the town. One project highlighting the current desires of many municipalities to preserve specimen or mature tree canopy is the requirement

to relocate 72 mature trees and palms from large development sites to public properties providing future generations with publicly available canopy instead of waiting for newly installed trees to grow. Another project updated the urban tree inventory database providing key statistics for the town--103 tree species with no one species over 25% of the total population. This diversity helps reduce the potential for catastrophic losses from diseases or insects as has occurred for many communities across the United States in recent years.

The town's mission includes the statement "treasure our preserved natural setting." We applaud the Town of Davie for living up to their mission and for continuing to improve and preserve their urban forest. Look to this town to continue being green by managing their urban forest canopy--the living green of any community.



UNDERUTILIZED TREES FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA LANDSCAPES

Eric Schmidt, Botanic Records Specialist – Harry P. Leu Gardens

Trees are an important component of Central Florida landscapes. Some are used for their colorful flowers, others for shade or accents. Too often the same trees are used over and over and many times in the wrong spot. The climate of Central Florida allows for a wide range of trees to be used. Here are a dozen specimens that deserve wider use in Central Florida.



Cassia leptophylla, Gold Medallion Tree, is a small tree that grows 20 to 25 feet tall. It flowers from late spring to early summer. The flowers are a golden yellow and are found in large terminal clusters. Gold Medallion Tree is fast growing and fairly drought tolerant once established. It has an open growth habit and makes a nice specimen or street tree. *Cassia leptophylla* is native to southern Brazil and is hardy in zones 9b-11.

The Floss Silk Tree, *Ceiba speciosa*, is a spectacular flowering specimen for the warmer parts of central Florida. It is a large, fast growing tree, reaching 30-60 feet tall. It bears large pink flowers in large numbers in fall. The flowers are variable from almost white to deep pink. The trunk of this tree is usually covered in large spines but smooth-trunked specimens exist. It is native from Brazil to Peru and was formerly known as *Chorisia speciosa*. It is hardy in zones 9b-11.



Ancahuita, *Cordia boissieri*, is also known as the Wild Olive or Texas Olive. It is an evergreen or partially evergreen tree that grows 10-20 feet tall. Ancahuita is very drought tolerant and needs full sun and a well-drained soil. It bears white flowers with a yellow throat almost year-round, but blooms heaviest during the warmer months. Don't be discouraged when selecting this tree from a nursery. Container grown specimens often look spindly, but quickly grow and fill in once it is planted in the ground. *Cordia boissieri* is hardy in zones 9-11 and is native to southern Texas and northern Mexico.



Ficus macrophylla, Moreton Bay Fig, is a fast growing, evergreen tree reaching 60-80 feet tall. It has a wide spreading canopy that develops a large buttress and aerial roots. It does need room to grow so is best suited for very large yards and parks. The leathery leaves are glossy and dark green. Moreton Bay Fig Tree is one of the hardier "banyan" type trees. It is hardy in zones 9b-11 and is native to eastern Australia.



Handroanthus umbellatus is the Yellow Trumpet Tree and until recently was known as *Tabebuia umbellata*. Though this tree is common in the older neighborhoods of Orlando it is rarely grown in the nursery trade. The Yellow Trumpet Tree grows 10 to 20 feet tall. It often grows as a flat topped shaped tree. It is covered with bright yellow, trumpet shaped flowers in late winter or early spring. It is drought tolerant and fairly cold hardy, surviving temperatures in the lower 20s. *Handroanthus umbellatus* is native to Brazil and is hardy in the warmest sections of zone 9a-11.



Lagerstroemia fauriei, Japanese or Copperbark Crepe Myrtle is a tall growing tree that can reach 30 to 50 feet tall. It is deciduous and bears small clusters of white flowers during the summer. The trunks are very attractive as they exfoliate several times a year revealing a dark reddish brown bark. This is especially appealing during winter when the tree is bare of leaves. Japanese Crepe Myrtle has been used in breeding with the common *Lagerstroemia*



indica and several dozen hybrids have been released, most named after Native American tribes. *Lagerstroemia fauriei* is resistant to powdery mildew and this trait has been passed on to the hybrids. It is hardy in zones 7-10 and is native to southern Japan.



Magnolia virginiana var. *australis*, Southern Sweetbay Magnolia, is a native tree, growing wild in the southeastern U.S. This is a fast growing, evergreen tree with a narrow growth form. It can reach 30 to 60 feet tall. The shiny, dark green leaves are silvery underneath. It bears white, lemon scented flowers during late spring and summer. Southern Sweetbay Magnolia prefers moist soils and can also grow in wet or swampy locations. It is hardy in zones 7b-11.



Nageia nagi, Nagi or Broadleaf Podocarpus Tree, is an evergreen conifer reaching 30-40 feet tall. It was formerly named *Podocarpus nagi*. This tree was common decades ago, but has disappeared from the nursery trade. It has broad, leathery foliage that is dark green. It will grow in full sun or deep shade

and is also very wind resistant. At Leu Gardens, Nagi Trees held up the best during the three hurricanes that struck in 2004. They suffered no damage and even had few leaves that were blown off. It is native to southern China, southern Japan and Taiwan and is hardy in zones 8b-11.



Snowflake Tree, *Trevesia palmata*, is a slender evergreen tree that bears large, lobed, palmate leaves that have a snowflake shape. It can reach 10-20 feet tall and grows in sun or shade. The small size and unusual leaves make this tree a great accent specimen. It is hardy in zones 9b-11 and is native to southeastern Asia.



Neolitsea sericea, Japanese Silver Tree, is an evergreen tree growing 20-25 feet tall. The leaves are glossy green on top and silver on the undersides. The new growth is bronze colored and covered with silky hairs. It bears small yellow flowers in late fall and early winter. *Neolitsea sericea* forms a dense canopy and has a moderate rate of growth. It is native to southern China and southern Japan and is hardy in zones 8-11.



Quercus geminata, the Sand Live Oak, is an evergreen tree growing 20-30 feet tall. It looks very similar to the common Southern Live Oak (*Q. virginiana*), but just on a smaller scale. Too often Southern Live Oaks are planted in locations too small for their large size. The Sand Live Oak is a great replacement. It is very drought and wind tolerant and has good salt tolerance. It is native to the southeastern U.S. and is hardy in zones 7b-11.



Mirror Leaf Viburnum, *Viburnum odoratissimum* var. *awabuki* is often grown as a large shrub. Unpruned, it naturally grows as an attractive tree 15-20 feet tall. It is evergreen with large, shiny leaves and is fast growing. It flowers in spring with clusters of small white flowers followed by red berries. The berries form on pendulant stalks and the bright red color really contrasts with the dark green glossy leaves. Mirror Leaf Viburnum is native to southern Japan and Taiwan and is hardy in zones 8-11.

Tree of the Quarter

TULIP POPLAR
(*Liriodendrum tulipifera*)

The *Liriodendrum tulipifera* is known as the tulip tree, American tulip tree, tuliptree, tulip poplar, whitewood, fiddle-tree, and yellow poplar and is one of the largest native trees in the Eastern United States, ranging from Southern Ontario and Illinois eastward to Connecticut and southern New York, then south to central Florida and Louisiana. It can grow to more than 165' in virgin cove forests of the Appalachian Mountains, often with no limbs until it reaches 80-100 feet in height, making it a very valuable timber tree. It is fast-growing, without the common problems of weak wood strength and short lifespan often seen in fast-growing species. April marks the start of the flowering period in the southern USA; trees at the northern limit of cultivation begin to flower in June. The tulip tree is the state tree of Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

Leaves: Some people think the leaf shape resembles the outline of a tulip. The leaf is 4 to 7 inches long, light green in the summer and showy yellow in the fall. The leaf is alternate, simple, lobed, and deciduous.



Bark: The bark is light gray and slightly roughened when young, becoming furrowed with deep brown crevices and tan or white flat topped ridges as it grows older. Trunks become massive in old age, becoming deeply furrowed with thick bark. Bark on the young trees is thin and easily damaged.

Roots: Tulip-Poplar could be used as a specimen tree in large landscapes if provided plenty of soil for root growth.

Flower: The tree gets its name from the distinctive cup-shaped flowers which really resemble tulips. The flowers appear in late spring and early summer but are not as ornamental as those of other flowering trees because they are far from view. The flowers are 2-3" long, pale green or yellow (rarely white), with an orange band on the petals; they yield large quantities of nectar.

Habit: The tulip poplar can reach the height of 190 feet, with a trunk 10 feet in diameter but its ordinary height is 70 to 100 feet and 25 to 40 feet width. It retains a fairly narrow oval crown, even as it grows older. The tree maintains a straight trunk and generally does not form double or multiple leaders.

Growth Rate: The Tulip poplar has a moderate to rapid (on good sites) growth rate at first, but slows down with age.

Fruit and Seed: Narrow light brown cone, formed by many samara-like carpels which fall, leaving the axis persistent all winter. Fruiting late summer to early fall.

Environment: Tulip Poplars grow best in full sun to partial shade and prefers well-drained, acid soil. Drought conditions in summer can cause premature defoliation of interior leaves which turn bright yellow and fall to the ground, especially on newly-transplanted trees.

Usage: The wood from the tulip poplar has been commercially used for a variety of purposes, including lumber, plywood, pulpwood, and veneer for furniture.

Little Known Facts: The soft wood reportedly is subject to storm damage, but the trees held up remarkably well in the south during hurricane 'Hugo.' It is probably stronger than given credit for. The largest trees in the east are in the Joyce Kilmer Forest in NC, some reaching more than 150 feet with seven-foot diameter trunks. The tulip poplar can live up to 300 years, but may have a shorter life span in warmer climates.



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UNDERUTILIZED SUBTROPICAL HARDWOOD HAMMOCK SPECIMENS IN THE URBAN LANDSCAPE

by Brian Schuster

When I go for a walk down a major roadway and analyze the diversity of the planted trees, I always feel that the given roadway could be more diverse. I see a huge preference for Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*). The road that I am using as an example is the road that I ride my bicycle down every day. It is Yamato Road between Military Trail and I-95. It is as if I am living in England, where the diversity is limited and a whole forest may consist of a handful of tree species. This is not the case in the subtropical hardwood hammocks of Southern Florida. We know that there are 100+ tree species found in the native landscape. When I go for a walk in my neighborhood, I see a better diversity of native trees specimens compared to the major roadway. I see Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Gumbo Limbo (*Bursera simaruba*), West-Indian Mahogany (Swietenia mahagoni), and Sea Grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*). In both situations the variation in species is limited as compared to the subtropical hardwood hammocks. Why is this?

The subtropical hardwood hammocks are the gems of Southern Florida. They hug the Southeast coast from Brevard County to Key West, and exist on the Southwestern coast from Flamingo (inside the Everglades National Park) to just North of Sarasota. In the center of the peninsula, we find subtropical hardwood hammocks that are either isolated tree islands in the Everglades, or are found below the frost-free line, such as Camp Owaissa Bauer in the Redlands.

These hammocks are gems because of the biodiversity of the flora. An analysis of two hammocks will contain different tree species; many rare species are local to specific hammocks. This is in contrast to the pine flatwoods and cypress swamps which are dominated by a single species of tree. The hammock understory has very little grass and has shade-tolerant ferns. Most of the species are large trees, small trees, shrubs, ferns, and epiphytes. The canopy ranges from 30–50 feet and provides adequate shade from the sweltering South Florida sun.

There are over 100 species of trees found in South Florida subtropical hardwood

hammock, where most of the diversity is found in the Florida Keys. We will look at four large tree species. These are Paradise Trees (*Simarouba glauca*), Mastics (*Sideroxylon foetidissimum*), Wild Tamarinds (*Lysiloma latisiliquum*), and Jamaican Dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*). Where are these species in the urban landscape? They are largely absent. Once in a while I will see a rare planting of these specimens, but for the most part they are absent from the urban landscape. I know of only one commercial site in Deerfield Beach, the North County Courthouse on Hillsboro Boulevard just west of the Tri-Rail

tracks, where Jamaican Dogwoods (*Piscidia piscipula*) are planted. Why? These are fast growing trees that provide adequate shade throughout the year. They are absent from our parks, our homes, our parking lots, and our roadsides. Why is this? Why do we only selectively plant certain tree species?

“Where are these species in the urban landscape? They are largely absent. Once in a while I will see a rare planting of these specimens, but for the most part they are absent from the urban landscape.”

Paradise Tree (*Simarouba glauca*) – A relatively slow growing tree. Once it gets to be a large tree it has a beautiful array of rainbow colors in its leaves.

Jamaican Dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*) – This is an extremely fast-growing tree. It grows much faster than Live Oak and West-Indian Mahogany. An excellent climbing tree as it tends to grow leaning and its limb structure can be varied. It is a Faboid legume in the Fabaceae.

Mastic (*Sideroxylon foetidissimum*) – Excellent food source for mammals as it is small, fleshy yellow fruits.

Wild Tamarind (*Lysiloma latisiliquum*) – Large tree that is also fast-growing. It is a Mimosoid legume in the Fabaceae.

Nurseries can easily grow these four tree species, but they are only found in specific native plant nurseries. They are completely absent from the general South Florida nursery. Sometimes we come across a plant that grows very well in a natural environment, but does not grow well in a nursery. This is the case for many of the species found in the xeric Florida Scrub landscape. Species such as Tarflower (*Bejaria racemosa*), Coastalplain Staggerbush (*Lyonia fruticosa*), and Shiny Blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*) would fall into this category. Species that grow in a xeric environment are hard to cultivate in a nursery due to the excessive watering from the irrigation systems. The above mentioned species do not fall into this category; they can tolerate excessive watering, so why do the nurseries not grow them? Is Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*) used more commonly than all other tropical hardwood hammock species because it can be grown in nurseries from Florida to Virginia?

I have outlined features of these four species (in box below).

Another underutilized family of native plants found in tropical hardwood hammocks are the native members of the Myrtaceae. These can be a small tree that is between 20–30 feet tall, or can be trimmed into a hedge. This includes the following genera: *Eugenia*, *Myrcianthes*, and *Calytranthes*. *Eugenia* has four native species, *Calytranthes* has two native species, and *Myrcianthes* has one native species.

- 1. White Stopper** (*Eugenia axillaris*) – found in wetter sites
- 2. Red Stopper** (*Eugenia rhombea*) – extremely rare
- 3. Redberry Stopper** (*Eugenia confusa*) – rare, but locally common in preserves south of Downtown Miami like Alice Wainwright, Vizcaya, The Barnacle, and Matheson Hammock.
- 4. Spanish Stopper** (*Eugenia foetida*) – very common along the remnant coastal hammocks from Brevard County through Key West; also found along the Southwest coast
- 5. Spicewood** (*Calytranthes pallens*) – found in rockland hammocks, also locally common in preserved sites
- 6. Myrtle-of-the-River** (*Calytranthes zuzygium*) – extremely rare
- 7. Simpson’s Stopper** (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) – found in wetter sites

Historically, Spanish Stopper (*Eugenia foetida*) was found along every coastal hammock site from the Kennedy Space Center all the way South to Key West (also found along the Southwest coast).

Let us take a look at the historical landscape that has provided South Florida with its tropical hardwood hammock flora. The coastal tropical hardwood hammock community can be sub-divided into two main categories.

1. One category is the plant community that lives on sandy soil, like the soil found along the I-95, Dixie Highway, US-1, A1A corridor. These communities are found from Brevard County to Broward County. The official end of this plant community ends at the Miami-Dade/Broward county line near Dolphin’s stadium. On the Southwest coast, this community runs along US-41. Much of this plant community existed within several hundred yards of the ocean, just inland of the sand dunes.
2. The second category is the plant community that exists on rock outcroppings formed from ancient coral reefs. These communities are found only in Miami-Dade, Monroe and eastern Collier counties. In Miami-Dade the rockland hardwood hammocks were found along the Miami Rock ridge which runs from Northeast Miami (North Miami Beach/Greynolds Park) to Southwest Miami (Redlands/Everglades National Park). Areas of Miami-Dade that are not on this rock ridge such as the Miami Airport, Miami Springs, Virginia Gardens, and Hialeah typically had more wetlands flora. All upland areas on the Florida Keys are hardwood hammocks with the exception of the rockland pinelands on Big Pine Key.

These coastal hammocks are typically high and dry and less likely to flood than the low-lying areas that surround it. It is an extremely common plant found in the entire Florida Keys. But again it is a plant that in a subdivision of 1000 homes, it may be entirely absent or may be found in 1 or 2 native plant gardens within the 1000 homes. What is the reason for this? I would expect that the frequency of a plant in the native landscape should reflect the frequency of a plant in the urban landscape. We commonly use Coco Plum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*) as a small tree/tall hedge/small hedge; why not use Spanish Stopper (*Eugenia foetida*) for a similar effect?

White Stopper (*Eugenia axillaris*) and Simpson’s Stopper (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) are typically found in wetter sites and are not usually mixed in with populations of Spanish Stopper (*Eugenia foetida*). They are found in the wetter hammocks within the Big Cypress National Preserve and the wetter hammocks in the Everglades National Park. Simpson’s Stopper (*Myrcianthes fragrans*) has a beautiful reddish peeling bark that has a dramatic effect when the lower limbs are pruned.

Redberry Stopper (*Eugenia confusa*) has a very attractive shiny leaf whose tip is tapered to a point. It has the most attractive leaf compared to all other stoppers. It is locally common in every preserve surrounding Downtown Miami, Coconut Grove, and Coral Gables. If we look at all of the homes and businesses in this locale, we will see that this species is virtually absent from these locations. We know

that this species is slow growing, but that does not mean that it should be completely excluded from all plantings.

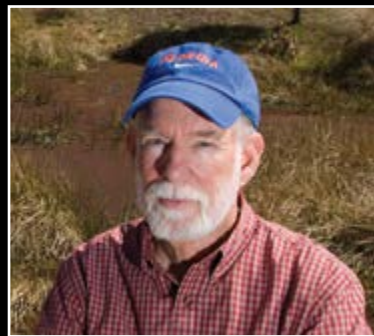
“Let us be a little more patient with our landscapes and we will see that choosing slower growing specimens has advantages.”

Let us be a little more patient with our landscapes and we will see that choosing slower growing specimens has advantages. They require less trimming, you can watch them grow into the landscape rather than stuffing a full grown specimen into a place that it does not fit.

Our urban landscape will never be identical to the historical landscape, but it should be more closely related than it is now. An urban landscape with more biodiversity reflects a thriving community, a community that appreciates the subtler qualities of life. It is like Florence, Italy during the Renaissance. The more that Florence studied art and science, the more the society flourished. Let us flourish by studying and improving the biodiversity of our urban landscape. Let us think twice before we plant a native specimen, if we are going to plant a Live Oak, then maybe we should reconsider and plant a Paradise Tree (*Simarouba glauca*), Wild Tamarind (*Lysiloma latisiliquum*), Jamaican Dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*), or Mastic (*Sideroxylon foetidissimum*). If we are going to plant a Coco Plum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*), then maybe we should reconsider and plant one of native Stoppers (*Eugenia*, *Myrcianthes*, or *Calytranthes*).

2014 FRIENDS OF OUR URBAN FOREST AWARDS PROGRAM WINNERS

ROBERT "ROB" NORTHROP
OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL



Robert "Rob" Northrop arrived in Tampa over 10 years ago as the then new Extension Forester for the University of Florida/IFAS Hillsborough County Extension office. He brought with him an incredible background in Forest Conservation, working as the technical watershed forestry leader in the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Program and Director of the Governor's Executive Committee on Trees and Forests in the State of Maryland.

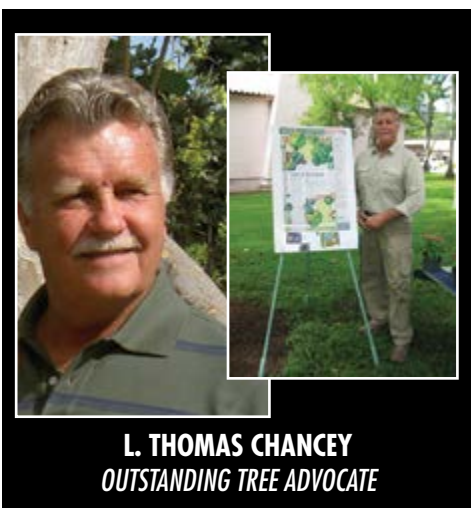
From the time Rob entered the Tampa Bay region, he reached out to local municipalities and industry professionals to provide a new dimension of urban forestry for the area. He has and continues to provide exceptional educational programs and resources for Tampa Bay's urbanizing forest.

Rob was one of the creators of the Tampa Bay Forest Working Group, a collaborative that allows people, agencies and organizations interested in trees, woodlands and forests within the Tampa Bay watershed to work together to solve common problems, resolve conflicts and build partnerships for a sustainable urban forest. The collaborative involves over 6 counties representing over a 2.4 million population.

He recreated the Hillsborough County Extension Tree and Landscape short course by bringing timely topics and speakers to audiences of over 300 industry professionals for low cost educational programs, in addition to the countless other educational programs he has been instrumental in developing. His reputation and extensive background has served the State and local

communities in providing outstanding speakers and programs not easily available without his influence.

A visionary, educator, mentor and researcher describe his character and passion for Urban Forestry. Rob Northrop has been a guiding light for the industry in Florida for over 10 years.



L. THOMAS CHANCEY
OUTSTANDING TREE ADVOCATE

L. Thomas Chancey, one of the first registered Landscape Architects and Certified Arborists in South Florida, has led by example. Well known and respected in his field as a tree preservationist, he has shared his expertise through lectures, radio and television appearances, and community events and has been an active youth gardening leader. He has organized and presented Arbor Days every year since the 1980s.

He has been instrumental in planning and executing innovative strategies to achieve objectives for environmental improvements. He has consulted for tree preservation on development projects in order to ensure preservation of large canopy trees. He founded "Tree Bank," a non-profit tree preservation and relocation bank, and the Fort Lauderdale Great Historic Tree Hunt, which helped to identify and protect specimen trees in the City. He was instrumental in saving the Historic Annie Beck Tree from development. Her blooms continue to be the harbinger of spring on Las Olas each year.

He is a member of Naturescape Broward and the National Wildlife Federation. His property Softscapes, is registered as a

National Backyard Wildlife Habitat. As a spiritual man, he credits his achievements to a higher authority.

TRAVELING TREE WALK
UF/IFAS PINELLAS COUNTY EXTENSION
OUTSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM



The Traveling Tree Walk is an innovative and unique project designed to increase participants knowledge of ecosystem services, increase the value participants place on trees, and increase the number of trees participants plant in their yards (if applicable).

Common trees throughout the county were identified for the sign-making process. Signs were designed in the shape of a large price tag to emphasize the ecosystem services component of this project. Signs include specific tree statistics from the National Tree Benefits Calculator (www.treebenefits.com) as well as tree pictures and a QR code linking to a factsheet of the particular tree species participants are viewing.

Specifically, the signs highlight how trees prevent soil erosion, reduce energy costs, improve air quality, increase property value and reduce carbon dioxide. Various sites reserve the signs for a three month period through an online EventBrite registration page. The Traveling Tree Walk is accompanied by a brochure defining and explaining ecosystem services. Participants use these brochures to identify the positive impacts trees have on the environment.

The Traveling Tree Walk has been adopted by at least three other locations throughout

the state and has now been presented at the national and international level for potential application throughout the world. The Traveling Tree Walk was specifically designed for easy adaptation and use in other locations to help educate the public about the value and importance of urban trees.

WILDCAT PLAYGROUND AND BORN LEARNING TRAIL
OUTSTANDING URBAN FORESTRY PROJECT



Coehadjoe Park is a 91.1 acre resource-based park located just outside of the City limits of Ocala. The park includes opportunities for both active and passive recreational use. A large portion of the park is forested which is where the "Wildcat" play area and Born Learning Trail is located. Coehadjoe means "Wildcat." The Park was named after this Indian Chief. Prior to the installation of the "Wildcat" play area, senior staff determined that Coehadjoe Park was an ideal location for a natural play area, a location where children could use their imagination and gain a sense of playing in nature. Hence the "Wildcat" play area was designed and installed.

During our design process, the Department was approached by the Born Learning Coalition to provide an area that could be used as a Born Learning Trail. A partnership was born and the trail was established adjacent to the "Wildcat" play area. The Born Learning Trail provides an opportunity for children to begin and enhance their reading skills on animal characters that may be found in the woods.

The use of the park has increased and more pavilion reservations are requested to be in the area by the playground. In addition, Audubon conducts monthly guided walks taking the participants through the area which leads to the walking trail. The project is unique and greatly appreciated by the users of the park as it is not the "norm."



The year 2014 was an "outstanding" year for the Town of Davie's Urban Forestry program. Davie received the Tree City USA award for the 26th year, along with the Tree City USA Growth Award for the seventh consecutive year.

Davie planted over 500 trees on Town property and developed several great partnerships to help achieve the goals of the landscape division. The majority of trees planted came from the Town's very own tree nursery and they provided a diverse supply of native trees to broaden the number of species growing in Town, which ultimately serves to buffer the canopy from potentially large scale insect and disease damage.

The trees have been maintained in the nursery through a partnership with a local EBD (Emotional Behavioral Disability) school. The landscaping of several Town buildings was renovated with the assistance of students, volunteers and Town staff.

The Town also utilized significant funding to preserve and relocate seventy-two trees that otherwise would have been destroyed during large construction projects. The trees were moved and replanted in Town parks and at the local rodeo arena.

The forestry program was able to purchase a brand new bucket truck this year, which will significantly benefit the tree trimming crew, and to provide for better pruning of the Town's tree resources. The division also was awarded a grant from the Florida Forest Service for a new hydraulic stump grinder to prepare sites before replanting trees.



As a local government serving a community of 5,000, Newberry's City Commission leads its residents with vision and foresight through a green initiative that emphasizes community partnerships and educational outreach with a focus on today's youth...tomorrow's leaders.

Newberry's own high school kids in 2009, initiated/inspired the current Urban Forestry Program, complete with Tree Board, Tree Ordinance, and first designation as "Tree City USA" in 2010. Working with local schools/after-school programs, City-sponsored activities include: Forestry, conservation, tourism, and recreation grant-funded informational publications/videos, tree plantings for Olympic Development Training Center/Sports complex entrance; "4th Grade Forester Arbor Day Event" (tree planting/instruction, take-home seedlings, conservation talks, historic schoolhouse tours, ice cream), "All-day Green Celebration" (conservation workshops/demos), "Tree-Planting Celebration Day"...

Additional activities/policies of note: significance that City places on citizen input—evident through Commission-appointed advisory groups, e.g., beautification, tree protection, and recreation/open space; ongoing support for public involvement in planning/design of City parks and related events; active and responsive tree maintenance; regular development plan/regulations review; four years designated as "Tree City USA" (year 5 application in process).

continues on pg. 22



DAVID MCLEAN
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

There is probably not a more recognizable name to anyone even remotely connected to the world of plants in South Florida than David McLean. Mentor, teacher, advisor, educator (*not necessarily the same as a teacher*), plant nut, in-demand speaker, Florida State inspector, writer, consultant, photographer, naturalist, landscape designer; all terms that were part of his life's passion with living things. Especially plants.

Many phone calls for assistance came from friends in all walks of life including plant nurseries, entomologists and pest control operators, newspaper columnists, retail shops, and homeowners. It was always amusing when, because of his knowledge of the area, he could tell someone what the soil conditions were merely by having someone give him their address.

His generosity with his time and knowledge was unmatched. If there was a tree in distress he was willing to help—and anger was reserved for those who hat-racked, or butchered trees (*including Saturday specialists and the power company crews*).

David spent nearly 40 years as an instructor at Broward College (then BCC). The Landscape Technology program launched many careers in both the public and private sector. He was always proud that many students surpassed the teacher and that was validation for his choice to teach.

MEMBERSHIP



New and renewed members through April 30, 2015. Please let us know if we fail to mention your name.

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John Tamsberg.....(1996-1998)
Mike Conner.....(1998-1999)
Julie Iooss.....(1999-2000)
Anna Dooley.....(2000-2001)
Howard Jeffries.....(2001-2002)
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Mike Robinson.....(2004 and 2005)
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(Dues are effective for the calendar year of January 1 - December 31)

Make check or money order payable to FUFUC and mail to:
Post Office Box 547993, Orlando, FL 32854-7993

Categories (please check one):

- Professional @ \$25.00
(Professional membership is open to anyone who is actively working in the profession of Urban Forestry or any related profession.)
- Tree Advocate @ \$20.00
(Tree Advocate membership is granted to those volunteers who are members of a tree board, beautification committee or other Urban Forestry volunteer group.)
- Supporting @ \$200.00
(Supporting membership is granted to those individuals, groups or other entities expressing a desire for a strong supportive role in the Council. Membership will be granted for up to five individuals of an organization or business.)
- Government/Non-Profit Agency @ \$100.00
(Government/Non-Profit Agency membership is granted to those individuals, groups or other entities actively working in the profession of Urban Forestry or any related profession. Membership will be granted for up to five individuals within the agency.)
- Student @ \$10.00
(Student membership is granted to anyone who is actively enrolled as a full-time student and who is considering pursuing a career in Urban Forestry.)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Firm: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

FAX: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Would you be interested in further information regarding serving on a Council subcommittee? Yes No

Area of interest: _____



FLORIDA URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
 Post Office Box 547993
 Orlando, FL 32854-7993



For more information or change of address,
 please contact the FUFUC:

Phone: (407) 872-1738
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Leah Hoffman
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 Park Association
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Ken Lacasse
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Jody Buyas, *Elected Position*
 Member-at-Large
 Green Up Orlando

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 FNGLA
 Cherry Lake Tree Farm

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 Long Leaf Forest Service, Inc.

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 City of Orlando

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Mark Miller, *Elected Position*
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Scott Souder, *Appointed Position*
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John Springer, *Elected Position*
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David Watford, *Elected Position*
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 SECO Energy

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