



north carolina urban forest council

November/December 2024

NCUFC eNews

Protecting. Sustaining. Advocating.

Comments from the Chair



Dear Industry Friends,

As this year's Chairman, I want to take a moment to acknowledge our 2024 Board of Directors and all their hard work. From teaching at our events, to organizing our annual conference, to serving on committees, every Director stepped up to help this year as our Council staff transitioned.

We're all so pleased to have brought Kim Strazisar on as our new Executive Director in May. She hit the ground running to help us execute this year's programs and take over all Council administrative duties. As she continues her first year with the Council, she'll continue to learn and serve the membership while we strategize new ways to connect our community. To help Kim, we're hiring a new Program Coordinator. Scroll down to find application information.

Speaking of transitions, the November election will change our federal and state legislative administrations. Our membership in the North Carolina Green Industry Council (NC GIC) helps us keep an eye on any legislation that affects our urban forests. See below for an update on the state's recent Disaster Relief Bill and how it affects tree ordinances.

If you're still looking for learning opportunities, registration is still open for our final education events of the year:

- **December 9-10:** ISA Certified Arborist Prep Course
- **December 11:** NC Community Trees Webinar

Finally, our 2025 membership drive is open! Now is the time to renew your NCUFC Membership to receive member benefits and stay connected to our industry community. **Everyone who renews before December 20 will be entered to win a free 2025 Great NC Tree Conference Registration (\$150 value!).**

Please contact the NCUFC if you have any questions and keep reading for more helpful information.

Happy New Year!
Mark

Mark Livingston
Arboguard Tree Specialists, Charlotte
BCMA/TRAQ/WRRQ/CTSP
NCUFC Board Chair

Event News

Carolina Canopy Workshops Continue to Focus on Relevant Topics

Our November Carolina Canopy Workshop in Charlotte titled, "Managing Tree & Landscape Pests" discussed an update on the spotted lanternfly, new pest research, and IMP with a plant walk at the Bartlett Tree Lab. Special thanks to our speakers - Caitlin Littlejohn, Isabel Marez, and Casey Paulk with Bartlett, and Andrew Allen with Rainbow Ecoscience - and event host Bartlett Tree Lab.

Thanks to member feedback, we will host four Carolina Canopy Workshops in 2025 focusing on topics including: basic urban forestry maintenance, community building, soil, storms, and utilities. Dates and details will be available after the new year.



2025 NCUFC Membership Drive

THANK YOU to all our valued 2024 Members! Your commitment to the Council helps us provide educational programs to industry professionals; engage with industry communities and leaders; stay up to date with industry research; and plant trees.

In return, you receive [member benefits](#) including networking opportunities, access to research, financial discounts, and more.

Most importantly, the Council keeps you connected to our industry. It takes many voices to protect and maintain the trees where we live, work, and play. It's important to work together as we deal with continuous issues affecting our urban forests, including storms, development, legislation, and industry changes. Please, renew your membership today and stay connected in 2025.

Everyone who renews or joins before December 20 will be entered to win a free 2025 Great NC Tree Conference Registration (\$150 value!).

[CLICK HERE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP](#)



**STAY
CONNECTED
IN 2025.**



**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!**

Upcoming Events

There is still time to register for our December events! Click on the buttons below for more details.

**WINTER
2024**



CERTIFIED ARBORIST PREP COURSE & REVIEW

GREENSBORO, NC

Dec. 9, 8:30a-5p **Course**
Dec. 10, 8:30a-5p **Course**

Dec. 11, 9a-12:30p **Exam (Optional)**



funding
provided
by:



**Lunch
Provided!**



**CEUs
Available!**



[CLICK HERE FOR FULL AGENDA AND REGISTRATION](#)

Wednesday, December 11
3:00-4:00 p.m.



Presenter: Dr. Keith O'Herrin, NCSU Extension
How to Build School Partnerships to
Introduce Children to Nature as a Career Path

REGISTER NOW

ncufc.org

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL AGENDA AND REGISTRATION](#)

Other News, Events, and Resources

News: We're Hiring!

We're looking for a new Project Coordinator to help assist our Executive Director and Board with program logistics and administration, social media, and community outreach.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a description of this full-time, remote position.

Applicants must send a resume, highlighting experience related to the job description, and the names and contacts for 3 professional references to Kim Strazisar (ncufc1@gmail.com) by December 20, 2024 to be considered.

Events: 2025 Bradford Pear Bounty Events

Three Bradford Pear Bounty Events are scheduled for the Spring:

Wilson, NC - March 22, 2025

Wilkesboro, NC - March 29, 2025

Elizabeth City, NC - April 5, 2025

Registration opens in January. Visit the website for more information.

Website: <https://www.treebountyinc.com/>

News: NC Disaster Relief Bill Affects Tree Ordinances

NC Senate Bill 382 - a Disaster Relief Bill - includes a section about tree ordinances:

TREE ORDINANCE RESTRICTION IN DISASTER DECLARED COUNTIES

SECTION 1D.8.(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 160D, Article 6 of Chapter 153A, or Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes or any local act of the General Assembly, no local government in the affected area may enforce any ordinance regulating the removal, replacement, and preservation of trees on private property, including tree removal, trimming, or maintenance activities, or require a permit for those activities, on the portion of any private property that is more than 10 feet from the property boundary.

SECTION 1D.8.(b) This section shall not apply to any of the following: (1) An imminent threat to public safety, as determined by a certified arborist or other local authority. (2) Areas where tree removal or maintenance activities are prohibited by State or federal law, including endangered species habitats, riparian buffers, and wetlands. This section expires March 1, 2025.

Bill Status: The bill was passed by the NC Senate Nov. 20, Governor Cooper vetoed the bill Nov. 26, the supermajority of Republicans in the state Senate overrode the veto Dec. 2, and sent it to the NC House of Representatives. The House is scheduled to next consider the legislation Dec. 9. If a two-thirds majority vote is reached in the house, the bill will become a law.

Website: <https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2023/S382>

Resource: NC Disaster Information Center

NC State Extension has pulled information, resources, and tools together in one website location to assist in continued Hurricane Helene Recovery.

Website: <https://ncdisaster.ces.ncsu.edu/>

Resource: NCUFC - Trees & Storms

Now is a great time to educate crews, communities, and clients about the benefits of caring for trees year round to help prevent and minimize tree damage during storms. Basic steps can save homeowners and taxpayers money *and* promote the health of North Carolina's urban forests and the many benefits they provide.

You can find brochures, videos, and a webinar for homeowners, tree care professionals, and municipalities on our website.

Website: <https://www.ncufc.org/NC-Trees-Storms.php>

Resource: Urban Forest Connections Webinar Series

This webinar series from the USDA Forest Service creates a stage for experts to share the latest science, practice, and policy on urban and community forestry. While focused primarily on the needs of local advocates and practitioners, participants range from state and federal government to nonprofit, municipal, university, private industry and public health leaders.

Several recorded webinars from throughout the year are now available online.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Thank You NCUFC Annual Partners



North Carolina Urban Forest Council
P.O. Box 37416 | Raleigh, NC 27627
(252) 653-6277 | www.ncufc.org

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ncufc1@gmail.com

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