north carolina urban forest council

April 2024 NCUFC eNews

Protecting. Sustaining. Advocating.



Comments from the Chair

Hello, everyone!

April has been a Tree-mendous month with many Arbor Day and Earth Day Celebrations. I hope that everyone was able to get out and enjoy the blooming dogwoods and azaleas that symbolize spring in North Carolina. Everyone should be very proud of their profession and enjoy the celebrations as it focuses attention to the hard work and dedication that you all give every day. Thank you for all you do for trees.

Please join the council today if you haven't already. It comes with some great discounts on the best educational programs in the state. It also supports the council so that we can continue to provide more programs all across the state. Being a member also gives you great networking opportunities with industry professionals at all of our inperson events. Don't forget about our webinars for those of you who cannot make it out to our Carolina Canopy workshops or our Annual NC Great Tree Conference in Hickory, which will be September 26-27 this year.

Let us know what you think about our website by taking the survey below in the newsletter. We value your opinion and want to improve how we deliver the council news and information. Please take a few minutes and take the survey to help us out.

Thank you all!

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

Council News

Annual Conference Sponsors and Exhibitors

With our annual conference coming up in September, we are now accepting sponsorships and exhibitors. Please use the link below to complete the application. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Liz Riley at ncufc2@gmail.com

Click here to access the sponsor/exhibitor form.

Partial Scholarship Opportunity for Training

In partner with the Urban & Community Forestry Program of the NC Forest Service, the Council is proud to offer a partial scholarship to NCUFC members or those that work for a municipality. These partial scholarships can be used for different training and workshop opportunities, such as the Certified Arborist Prep Course and exam offered through NCUFC. To apply, submit a scholarship application form (insert link here). Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until funds are fully allocated. Contact ncufc2@gmail with any questions.

NCUFC Website Use Survey

The NCUFC website is being evaluated by a student at NCSU. She is working on gathering information about how our website is utilized. Based on the information provided, she will help provide us with a plan to improve the website. We would love for you all to complete the survey below to let us know how you use out website the most! Please try and complete the survey by ASAP!

Click here to complete the NCUFC Website Use Survey

Green Industry Impact Survey Details

Greetings from NC State University. You may have recently received an economic impact survey from a couple of my colleagues entitled – "2024 North Carolina Green Industry Survey".

Let's go through the possible options:

1. You received the survey and felt it did not apply to you because you are a city employee, I get why you did not want to fill it out. However, there still may be some valuable information that you can provide that will help garner support for urban forestry across the land (OKAY, maybe just within the North Carolina legislature). These legislators do not likely know what urban forestry is, so completing the survey (some or just what you can stretch to pertain to you) might give them at least a glimpse into our profession, and later when we want their support on a bill, they may say- hmm... So, I encourage you to fill out what you can, knowing full well that it is about 30 minutes of your life you will never get back.

2. You may not have received the survey, and if that is the case, then you can use the link provided here to complete it, or the NCUFC can send you a paper copy directly, with information on how to return it. If you are involved in arboriculture/urban forestry as a commercial business, then it is even more important for you to fill out the survey! Why? I will get to that in a few more sentences... <u>Click here to access the survey!</u>

3. You are in the business of urban forestry or arboriculture and received the survey and said "Poo poo, I do not want these people knowing my business". I get that totally. As a researcher I have done such surveys, and the information is kept STRICTLY PRIVATE". No one will know who you are or could figure it out if they tried. Honestly!

So, here is the why of it all. The researchers, at the request of the Green Industry Council (of which NCUFC is a member), have asked for this economic impact study to be sure that our contribution to the economics of the great state of North Carolina is recognized. There is lots of data out there on traditional agriculture, but not as much on the green industry- of which you are a key constituent! When the last study was done in 2005, the green industry was worth about \$8.6 BILLION. That is no small potatoes, and likely did not really include our industry. The GIC used that study to speak the language that state legislators understood- money. It helped to position the green industry in a favorable light with our state government, and when we needed them to help support some legislation crucial to our industry they listened. Did it mean they agreed? No, but at least we had an ear. Keeping a positive and impactful relationship with legislators is important to our industry, and to do so we need to supply some information- thus the survey.

The survey can also illustrate how the industry has changed over the years, how our practices have evolved, and how we work to protect our natural resources with a high level of professionalism. Additionally, it shows how much our industry is growing, and that means economically as well as socially. We employ a lot of good folks in this state and that means we help keep the wheels on the trucks.

So, I respectfully request that you spend the time and complete the survey (as much as you can, if not all). It will be good for our industry at large. If you have questions, you can contact me or the researchers directly.

Thanks for listening- Barb Fair, NC State University Extension

Upcoming Events

NC Urbane Wood Group Open House at Carolina Urban Lumber

• Saturday, May 4 from 1 to 4 pm

• Register now by clicking <u>here</u>!

Certified Arborist Prep Course & Review

- We will run a Certified Arborist Prep Course & Review in the summer and the winter. We are still working on locations and dates, but those will be posted soon!
 - Registration is now open for the Summer Prep Course
 - June 12-13, 2024 in Greenville, NC.
 - Register now by clicking <u>here</u>!
 - December 9-10, 2024 in Greensboro, NC.
 - Registration will open soon!

The Great NC Tree Conference

- We are still finalizing our plans and location for The Great NC Tree Conference, but we have the dates selected so you can mark it on your calendar. More details will be coming out very soon!
 - September 26 & September 27, 2024
 - Registration will open soon!

Registration for all events

Not an NCUFC member?

Explore benefits online.

If you join or renew today, your membership will expire on 31 December 2024!

Annual Partners of NCUFC



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Program Manager Have a story for eNews? Contact me!



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