

Who We Are

The Mississippi Urban Forest Council is a nonprofit organization formed in 1991. Our mission is "to foster and promote

proper management of urban forests for social, economic and environmental benefits to people through innovation, leadership, communication and educational services."



Trees can provide food, cover, and homes for wildlife. Just one acre of trees produces enough oxygen for 18 people each day.

Benefits from our Urban Forest

Trees are one of the most prevalent parts of our urban forests. While trees provide beauty and help define the aesthetic qualities of a place, their role in the urban forest and the environment is very critical. A single tree can absorb 26 pounds of carbon dioxide a year while an acre of trees can absorb over 2.5 million pounds of carbon dioxide, replacing it with life-giving oxygen. They provide shade which helps reduce temperatures and helps conserve energy. They also play important roles as habitat for birds and wildlife which are adversely affected as mankind continues to deplete our natural resources. Trees provide privacy, protect open spaces from soil erosion and damaging high winds and absorb and filter storm water.



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Trees add beauty to a landscape. They can increase real estate values by as much as 20%.

Goals of the Mississippi Urban Forest Council

- Foster interaction between professionals and individuals involved in the management and care of the urban forest
- Identify needs at the State level to promote the proper planning, selection, planting, management, and protection of the urban forest
- Stimulate citizen interest and action in the urban forest resource,
- Provide support and counsel to the Mississippi Forestry Commission in the development of an urban forestry program that meets the needs of the public and strives to provide services to the various interest groups.

MISSISSIPPI URBAN FOREST COUNCIL

You & Your Community

We are all concerned with the environment, but don't know how we can make a difference. It's amazing how much trees and natural areas can do for the environment and for people. The areas that need the most help are urban areas. Trees can clean the air, filter storm water, help conserve energy and beautify any city or community. The Mississippi Urban Forest Council strives to improve and care for our urban forests. You can help by taking part in the Mississippi Urban Forest Council.

Stands of trees absorb noise from a busy highway and absorb and filter water runoff before it flows into a storm sewer or a stream.

Defining Urban Forestry

Urban forests are located in the cities and communities we live in and where wildland and urban areas meet. The task of those involved in urban forestry is to help balance and manage these resources and to assist in making our communities a better place to live, work and play. The word urban may bring up ideas of large cities, but urban forestry is also called community forestry which may include trees in smaller towns and in individual yards.



Trees give us forest products including lumber, paper, mulches, oils, gums, syrups, and fruits, to name a few.

Making An Impact

The Council is concerned with the future of our urban forests and understands the important balance it must have to survive. Just as trees are planted for tomorrow, we sponsor youth programs that increase awareness of trees and the need for managing our natural resources in urban areas. Constantly working to find ways to improve stewardship, emphasis is placed on training professionals and volunteers in tree care, management and protection of our urban forest resources. Scholarships are offered to members for continuing education and training.



Activities To Get Involved In

The MUFC, along with numerous other partners and sponsors, hosts an annual urban forestry/arbiculture conference providing an opportunity for education and information sharing. We also have an annual awards program to recognize outstanding achievements in urban and community forestry by individuals, groups, municipalities and more. The Governor's Tree City USA award is presented to the Tree City USA with the most notable accomplishments in the previous year.

The MUFC is a strong proponent of the Tree City USA program and works closely with the Mississippi Forestry Commission and the National Arbor Day Foundation to promote and support a community's participation

Benefits of Membership

- Access to educational programs and informational services.
- Networking opportunities with other groups and individuals interested in urban forestry.
- Assistance and information on Federal, State and Local funding programs and fund-raising ideas for community projects.
- Opportunities to initiate and participate in vital urban forestry projects statewide.

The Mississippi Urban Forest Council functions through its members. Leadership teams, made up of members plan and carry out the organization's activities. Membership is open to anyone concerned with the conservation of our urban natural resources. Participation includes volunteers, professionals, managers and caretakers of the urban forest. We invite you to join us as advocates and protectors of trees through membership.

Urban and community forests are integral parts of the urban and suburban ecosystems in which great numbers of our population reside. The task of those involved in urban forestry is to help balance and manage these resources and to assist in making our communities a better place to live, work and play.



MISSISSIPPI URBAN FOREST COUNCIL

I Would Like To Become A Member

Name

Agency or Organization

Address

Telephone

FAX

E-mail

Categories of Membership

- Individual \$20.00
- Bronze (municipalities, small businesses) \$100.00
- Silver (Sponsorship) \$200.00
- Gold (Corporate) \$500.00
- Platinum (Partnership) \$1,000.00 or more

I would like to volunteer to serve on a Leadership Team.

Area of Interest