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Project Partners

- City of Tampa
 - Kathy Beck
 - Rob Irving
 - Cathy Coyle
- University of Florida
 - Michael Andreu
 - Andrew Koeser
 - Rob Northrop
- University of South Florida
 - Shawn Landry
 - Christian Wells
 - Barbara Donerly
 - students
- Florida Forest Service
 - Charlie Marcus
- The "crowd"









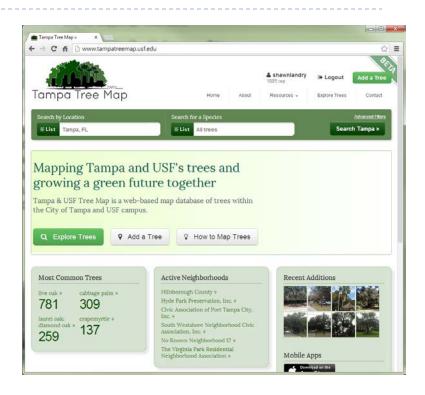






Outline

- Introduction
- Choice of Open Tree Map
- Implementation strategy and challenges
- System overview
- User experiences
 - Neighborhood Street Tree Mapping
 - Push-Route Sampling
 - Risk Assessment
 - Some lessons learned
- Future Plans
- Demonstration





Introduction: Urban Forest Partnership in Tampa

Tree Ordinance:

...conduct a tree canopy study every five
 (5) years... (Ord. No. 2006-74, § 9, 3-23-06)

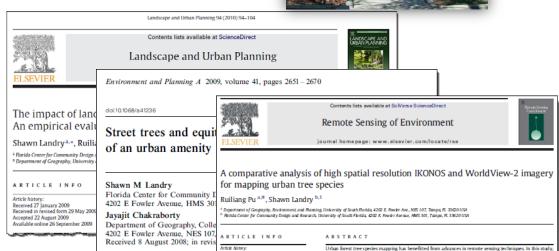
Comprehensive Plan:

Policy 32.3.2...implement the recommendations from the Tree Canopy Analysis to serve as a valuable management tool...









Introduction: Matching the Need with the Resources

- Tampa needed a tree inventory system
- Wanted to encourage neighborhood stewardship
- Lacked support to manage urban forest website and mapping
- USF and UF had experience to develop an inventory system
- Florida Forest Service, Tampa, UF / HC Extension and USF provided funding



Implementation

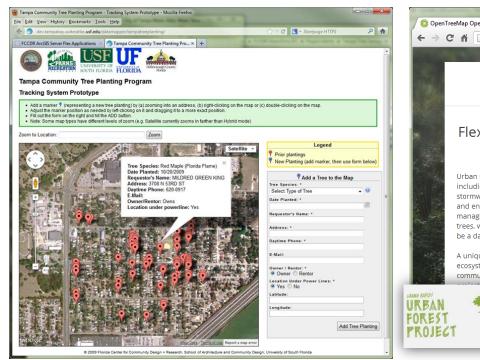
- ► Total cost: @ \$20k
- Implement Open Tree Map code
- Develop master tree list and tree key
- Test with students (3-rounds)
- Test with foresters
- Modify, customize, troubleshoot
- Develop training materials (ongoing)

Challenges

- Unique development platform
- Undocumented open-source code
- Someone else's design
- Modifications are very difficult

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The Choice: Develop New or Adopt Existing

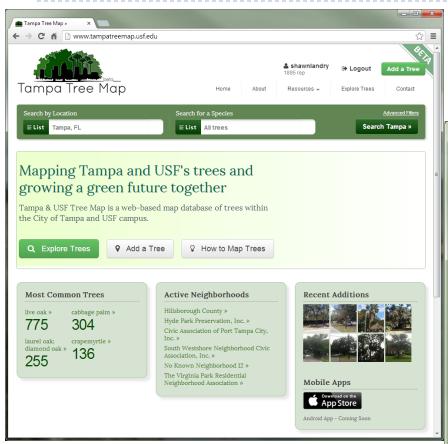


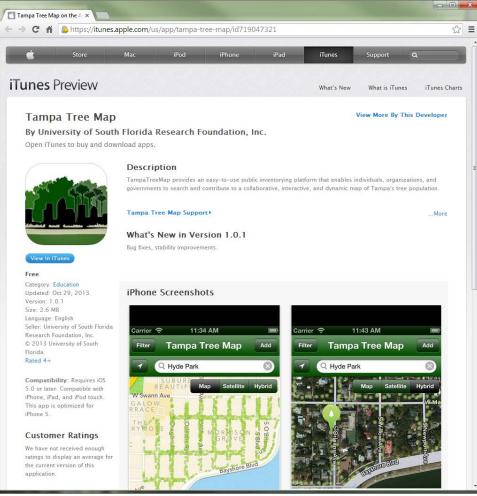


- Choice of development platform
- Licensing opportunity
- Control functionality and design

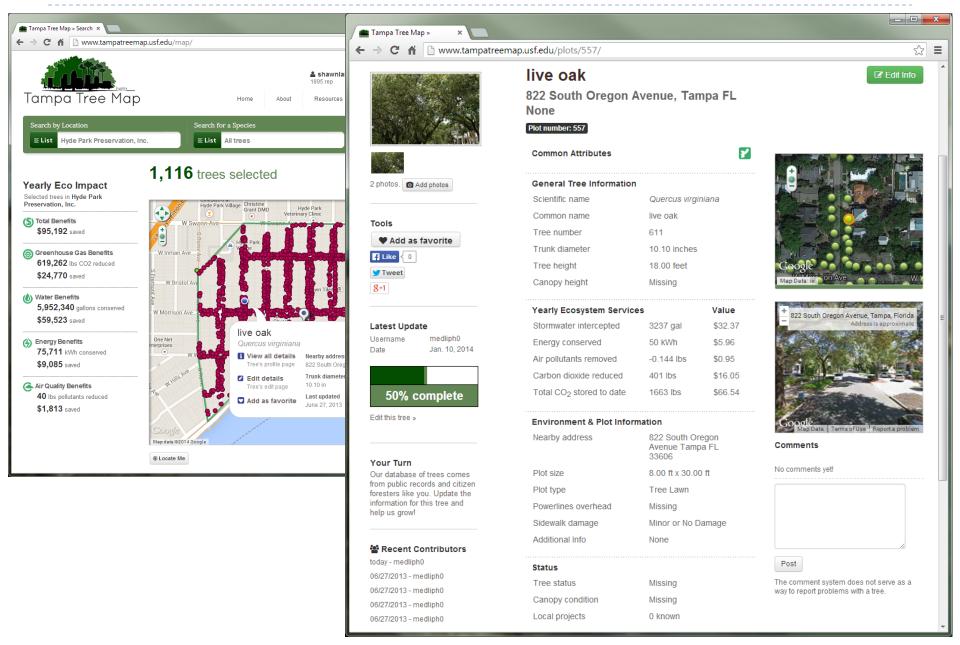
- Less development time
- Share the cost of upgrades
- Part of a larger community

System Overview

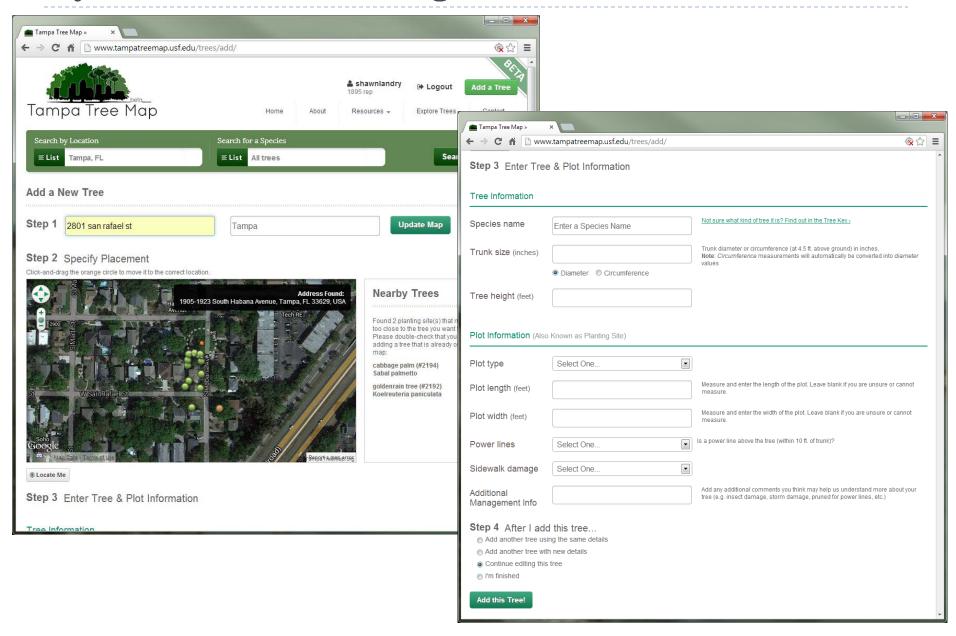




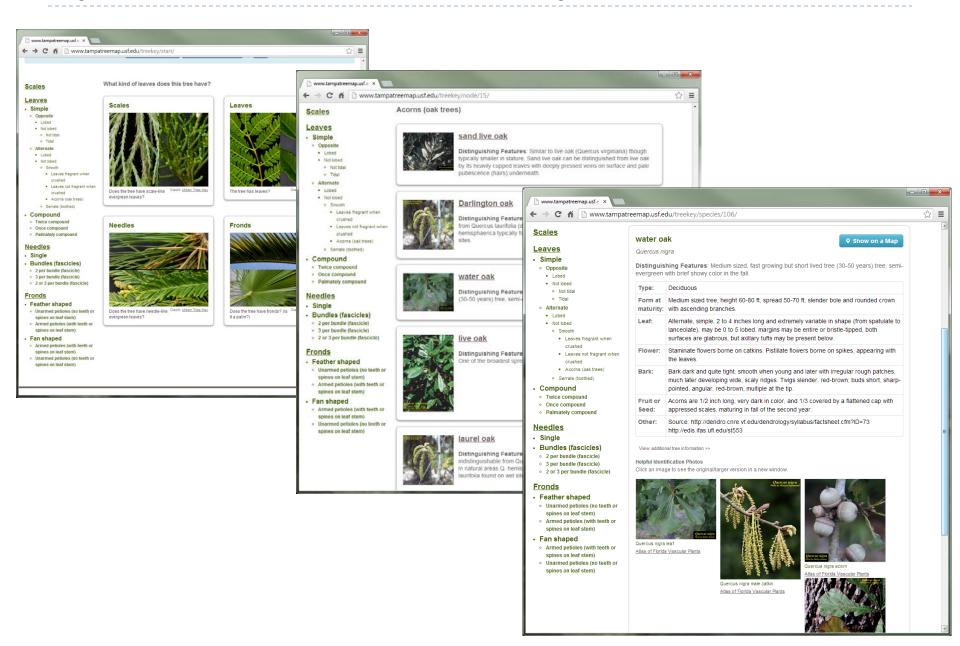
System Overview: Viewing the details



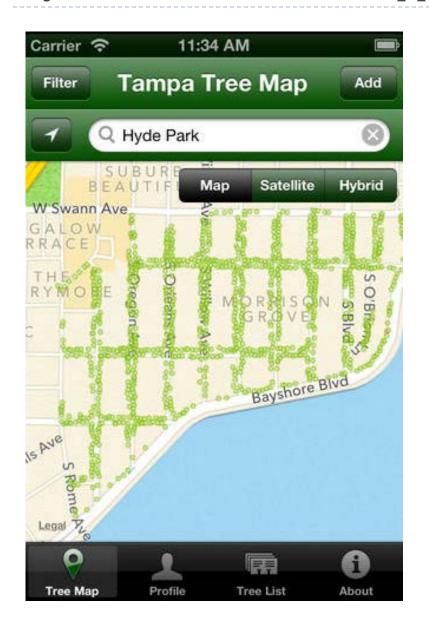
System Overview: Adding Trees

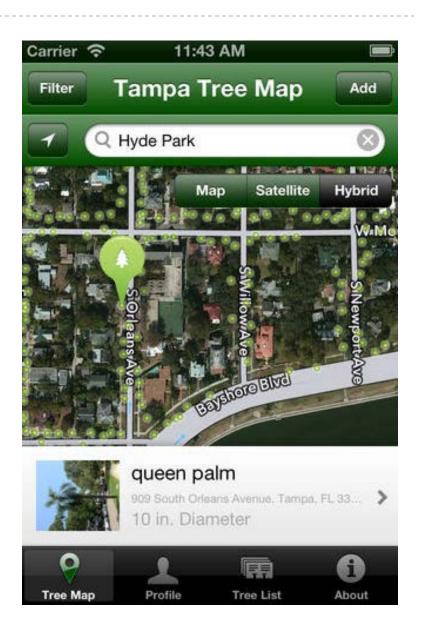


System Overview: Interactive Key

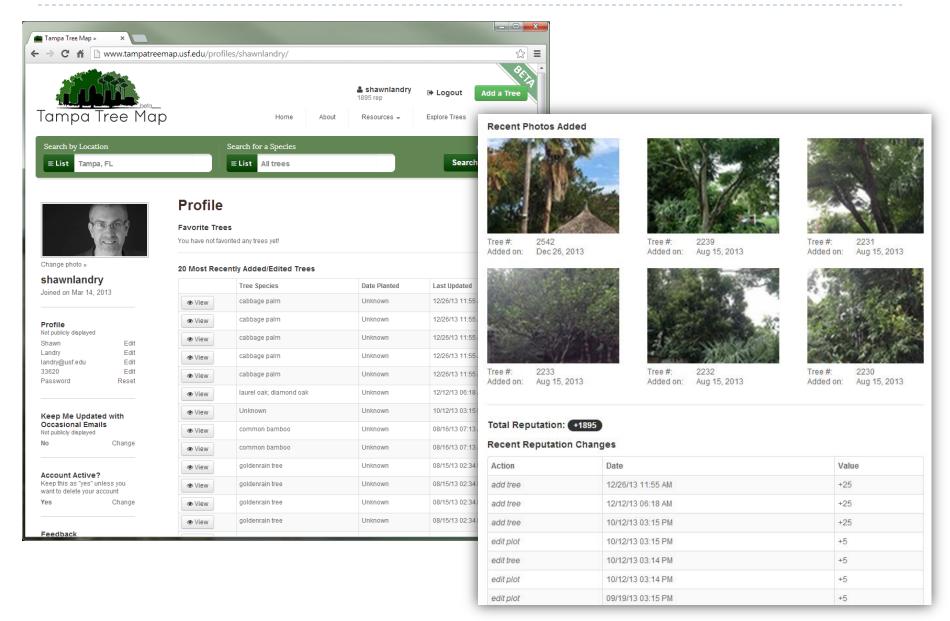


System Overview: iOS App





System Overview: Users and Reputation Points

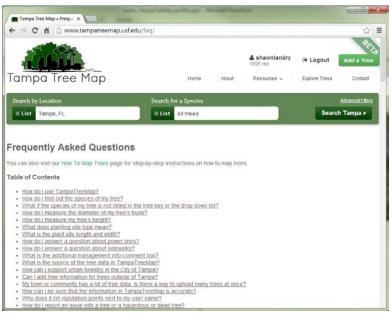


User Experience: Student Testing

- Students untrained in forestry tested the system and field approach
 - Feedback about "bugs" in the system
 - Suggestions about training materials
- Three phase approach
 - Cycle of mapping, focus groups, and website modifications
- Very useful approach

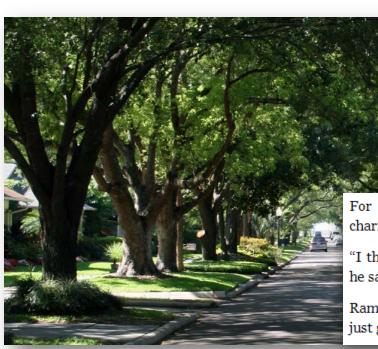






User Experience: Neighborhood Street Tree Mapping

- Wealthy, historic, treed neighborhood
- Trees in decline (laurel oaks)
 - 62 trees removed since 2012
 - > 20 more tree removals pending
- Residents want replanting plan
 - And, willing to pay @ \$22k to plant 62 larger trees
- City wants to inventory what exists



Hyde Park's dying laurel oaks replaced



The city is removing between 100 dead and dying laurel oak trees from the Hyde Park area. The neighborhood assocation's board recently allocated \$15,000 to buy more mature oak trees to replace the ones that have to come down. CLIFF MCBRIDE/STAFF

1 1 of 2 ▶

By ELIZABETH BEHRMAN

Published: October 28, 2013

TAMPA — In Old Hyde Park, as in many of Tampa's older neighborhoods, the canopy of mature trees is a point of pride for residents.

For Hyde Park residents, the trees help give the historic neighborhood the "southern charm" for which it is known, Walker said.

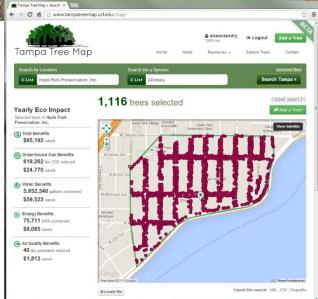
"I think anybody from Tampa knows that this is Tampa when they come to Hyde Park," he said. "It's kind of a unique neighborhood."

Ramm agreed: "The trees are important because it's the character of the neighborhood. It just gives a nice, quiet feeling in a very urban area."

Neighborhood Street Tree Mapping



- Neighborhood is test location for Tree Map
- Forestry intern works with City Forester
- A moderately painful experience
- iPad was used with still evolving website
 - Initial bugs in the system
 - Adding photos in the field was costly for the data plan
 - Screen can be difficult to see in bright sun
- I,II6 trees surveyed



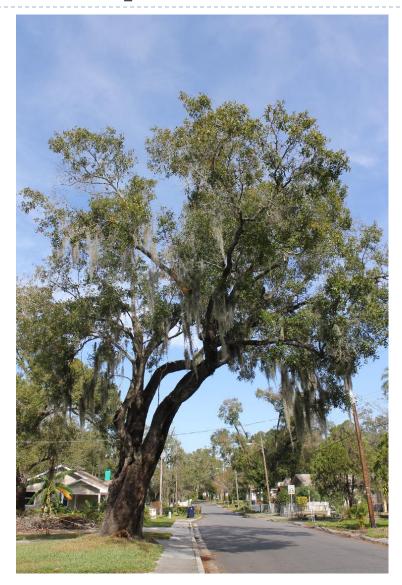


User Experience: Push-Route Sampling

- ▶ First routes to be opened up after a storm to critical facilities
- Inventory the routes to mitigate risk from unhealthy trees



User Experience: Push-Route Sampling

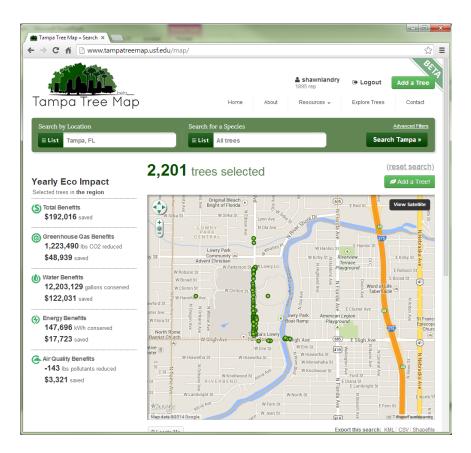




Push-Route Sampling (led by Andrew Koeser at UF)

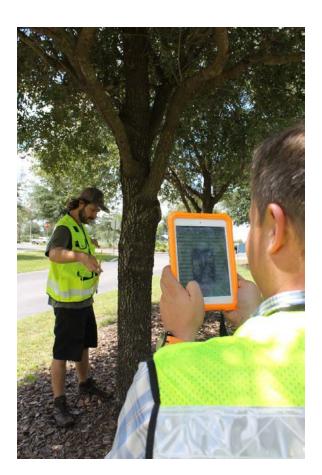
- Estimate of tree condition on push routes (sample of the total 321 miles)
- Quantify storm debris potential in order to validate debris models after a storm
- Sampling follows the i-tree storm protocol
- Estimating tree risk using the USDA Community Tree Risk Evaluation Form
- Estimating tree health using an FOA assessment criteria modified for urban tree





Push-Route Sampling

- Tampa Tree Map and custom tree risk and health field data collection forms
- Data will be used to model factors that impact risk and health ratings
- Baseline for growth and longevity related research (e.g., pruning cycle optimization)
- Storm damage and debris prediction modeling (after Tampa is hit by a future storm)







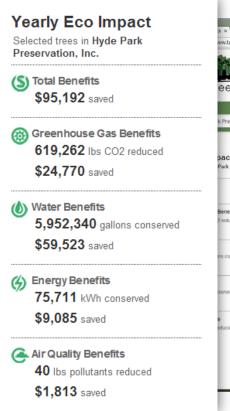
Additional Lessons Learned and Concerns

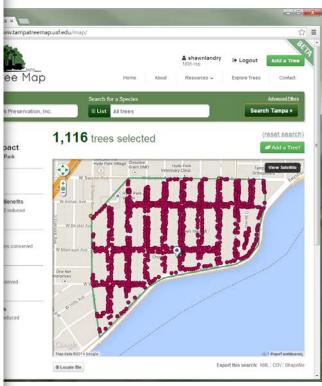
Usage

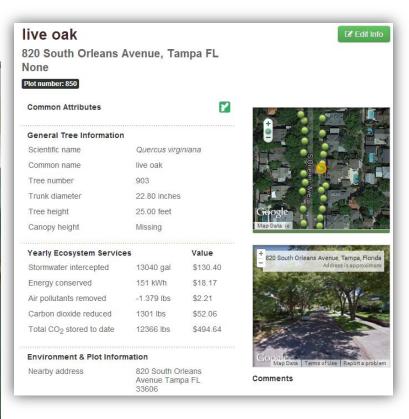
- GPS accuracy (depending on system)
- Aerial images usually 2-3 years old
- Small screen is always difficult to use
- Data plan limitations
- Challenges/Concerns for use by City Staff
 - Quality of user-submitted data
 - Cannot "lock-down" tree data entered by staff
 - Does marking a tree as "poor condition" make the City liable?
- Future plans to implement newer version of Open Tree Map
- Develop customized entry forms for City usage
- Continued financial support

Future Plans: Neighborhood Sampling

- Highlights neighborhood and single tree benefits
- Can be used to "sell" urban forest program / stewardship
- Identify tree health / risks in Tampa's neighborhoods
- Tracking tool for new planting







Neighborhood Sampling

- Training for residents and groups
- Inventory and Stewardship

1st Five-Year Urban Forest Management Plan (2014-2019)

The first 5-year management plan represents the initial alternatives for action needed to lay the foundation for a comprehensive urban forest management. Alternatives for action chosen for implementation in the first 5-year Urban Forest Management Plan had to lead to no net increases in operational or capitol costs. These actions have to do with the processes, procedures, ordinances and education to support the institutional, community and technical capacities needed to move the management of the urban forest forward. (see Appendix for the complete list of Alternatives for Action)

Preferred Alternatives of Action for the 1st Five-Year Urban Forest Management Plan are arranged by category. Each action is preceded by the year in which it is intended to be initiated or completed. The specific criteria addressed by each action are then listed (see next section). Finally, the responsible or lead City department is indicated.

Education

Year 1-Prepare and implement the Neighborhood Tree Stewardship program to educate residents on tree care and the urban forest.

Criteria: Vegetation (Veg) - 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

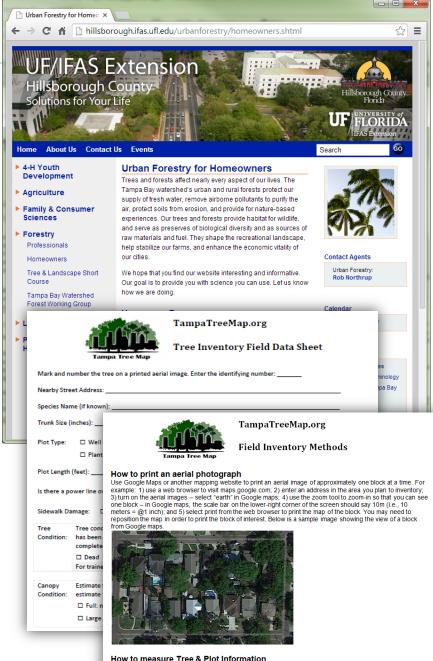
Resource Manage. (RM) - 6, 11, 12, 13, 14

Community Framework (CF) - 1, 2, 4

Responsible Department: Dept. of Planning and Development and Parks and Recreation Dept.

Year 1-Prepare and maintain an interactive urban forest website for City of Tampa's residents.

Responsible Department: Dept. of Planning and Development and Parks and Recreation Dept.



How to measure Tree & Plot Information

Species name: Enter either the scientific or common name of the tree. Pick your tree from the drop down list of trees that appear. Still not sure... follow the link to the right which will take you to the illustrated tree key to help you identify your tree. The tree key will walk you through the process of determining a tree species based on leaf structure. If you cannot definitively determine your tree species, you can still add your tree to TampaTreeMap. If

Demonstration

- First...Questions?
 - Email: Landry@usf.edu

Demonstration

App Store: search for "Tampa Tree Map"

▶ User: SGSF Password: temp



