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## **Orlando, Florida MFRA is Released**

*Central Florida Community Tree Guide Is In the Works*

The Municipal Forest Resource Analysis (MFRA) for Orlando, FL has been released. The grand total for all benefits provided by Orlando's forest, of mostly live and laurel oaks, is nearly \$4 million each year. After subtracting maintenance costs, the city nets \$1.8 million in services, or a return on their investment of \$1.87 for every \$1 spent on tree care.

[View the Orlando MFRA online](#)

The Northern California Coast Community Tree Guide will soon be released, followed shortly by the next Tree Guide in the series, Central Florida.

## **What Are We Up To?**

*Taking the Pulse of California One Tree at a Time*

CUFR is conducting a comprehensive health assessment of California's urban forests to determine the level of risk posed by pests and disease to trees. Examining tree inventories reveals species diversity and identifies trees which are poorly adapted to cope with regional pests and diseases. Establishing this baseline condition will allow future changes to be detected, and can guide decision making about the health of these urban forests. The two-year study is funded by the USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection.

## **How to Plant a Million Trees in Your City**

*Take a Lesson from Millions of Other Plantings*

Urban Tree Planting Initiatives with goals in the millions of trees have sprouted across the nation. Naturally, some planting programs grow faster than others do. To find out why, CUFR teamed up with University of Oregon Professor of Environmental Policy Dr. Robert Young. Interviews with people in these programs from New York City to Seattle are being conducted and compiled. Expected outcomes are; lessons learned, pitfalls to avoid, effectiveness assessment, and tips to succeed. Whether in a small town or major city this research will help your tree planting initiative succeed. To make sure you get the research results when they are released.

[Email us about your tree planting initiative](#)

## **The California Elm Trial**

### *Dutch Elm Disease Resistant Trees Have Been Evaluated*

The University of California, Davis is one of 18 locations around the United States where researchers and extension specialists have been testing new Dutch Elm Disease resistant cultivars. The varieties are evaluated for horticultural performance, maintenance level, and susceptibility to disease and pests.

*Read the Western Arborist article on the initial results:*

[Fall 2009 issue \(vol. 35, no. 3\).](#)

*For more information visit:*

[National Elm Trial website.](#)

## **ecoSmart Has New Partners**

### *Development is Moving Forward*

CUFR has been seeking partners to develop and disseminate a sustainable sites evaluation tool. That investigation has led to discussions with TreePeople, EcoLayers, UC Davis, and the US EPA Office of Water. These entities share the desire to develop technologies that will guide and support residents, agencies, and other institutions as they retrofit existing landscapes and design new sites for more sustainable performance. We anticipate that the partnership will grow as this project evolves.

[ecoSmart website](#)

## **Partners Needed for CUFR's Street Tree Simulator (STS)**

### *With ecoSmart Moving Ahead, STS Gets Its Turn*

CUFR is currently seeking partners to assist with completing the necessary programming on STS. STS takes i-Tree Streets to the next level; it allows tree managers to examine scenarios for different levels of service such as pruning cycle by dbh class, or planting and replacement cycles. A tree population can be grown into the future for forty or more years to examine the structure and functional value resulting from management choices. STS can use a Streets project file, an excel inventory, or an access inventory to get started. *STS has been through another round of testing and we are looking for partners to finish the program.*

[Click Here to Inquire About Partnering With CUFR on the STS Program](#)

## **Errata- Irving, TX**

In our last Newsletter the City of Irving, TX was referred to as Irvine, which is in CA (and probably other places as well). We offer our apologies, and hope no one was confounded by this error.

## Who Is Listening?

### *The Sustainable Sites Initiative*

The Sustainable Sites Initiative is a rating system for landscapes that is expected to be incorporated into future versions of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification system. CUFR research is referenced in The Initiative's *Benchmarks and Performance Standards* to inform site design for achieving sundry credits in The Initiative's rating system.

[Download the 2009 Draft Benchmarks and Performance Standards](#)

### *The Institute for Chartered Foresters (ICF), UK*

Our partners across the pond pay attention to *i-Tree* in their winter 2009 member magazine with a reprint of an article in the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station's Fall 2008 Science Perspectives. In this article Jim Kling and Greg McPherson explain STRATUM (*i-Tree Streets*) and cost-benefit management of urban forests with *i-Tree*.

[Read Greg's article in Chartered Forester](#)

*If urban forestry in the UK interests you go to:*

[Institute for Chartered Foresters.](#)

### *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

The EPA has released the *Water Quality Scorecard*; CUFR's Greg McPherson served as an external reviewer for this new tool that helps cities protect water quality. It leads users through a systematic review of policies, codes, and standards with the aim of encouraging use of green infrastructure. Tree protection, street trees, and shaded parking lots are part of the equation that solves for water protection. CUFR provides resources which explain the ecosystem services produced by trees and urban forests concerning water protection and other ecological and environmental goals.

[CUFR water research](#)

[View online: Where Are all the Cool Parking Lots?](#)

[View online: Is all Your Rain Going Down the Drain?](#)

## Where We Are Speaking

***February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010***

ProGreen Expo, Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO

*9:15-10:15am: An Inside Look at the Tree Carbon Calculator and Carbon Protocol*

*1:00-2:00 pm: Disposable to Sustainable Urban Forests: Arborists and High-Performing Urban Forests*

[ProGreen Expo](#)

**February 25th, 2010**

International Conference on Urban Forests and Biodiversity, India International Center, New Delhi, India

*3:00-3:15 pm: Quantifying Urban Forest Structure, Function, and Value: Tools and Models*

[icub@aravalifoundation.in](mailto:icub@aravalifoundation.in)

[Aravali Foundation](#)

[Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#)

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Workshop on Vegetation and Near Road Air Quality, EPA Campus, Research Triangle Park, NC

*8:45-9:15 am: Overview of Urban Forestry Programs*

**April 28<sup>th</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

Western Chapter ISA 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Tradeshow, Doubletree Hotel Tucson, AZ

*1:30 pm: Tree Growth: Planting for Benefits*  
*Conference Information: (1) (866)-785-8960*

[Western Chapter ISA](#)

**May 13th, 2010**

Climate Change Forum

*City Council Chambers, Davis, CA, 7:30-8:00 pm: Disposable to Sustainable Urban Forests*

[Climate Change Forum](#)

**June 3rd-4th, 2010**

Municipal Tree Planting Initiatives Workshop, Kyoto Grand Hotel, Los Angeles, CA

*Initial Results: What Your Mayor Should Know Before Launching a Tree Planting Initiative*

## Other Conferences

*June 20th-23rd, 2010*

Elsevier's International Conference, Boston, MA

*Urban Environmental Pollution 2010 - Overcoming Obstacles to Sustainability and Quality of Life.*

[Elsevier's International Conference](#)

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