

USDA Forest Service

# URBANFOREST CONNECTIONS

*webinar series*

Second Wednesdays | 1:00 – 2:15 pm ET

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Forest Service  
Urban Natural Resources Stewardship

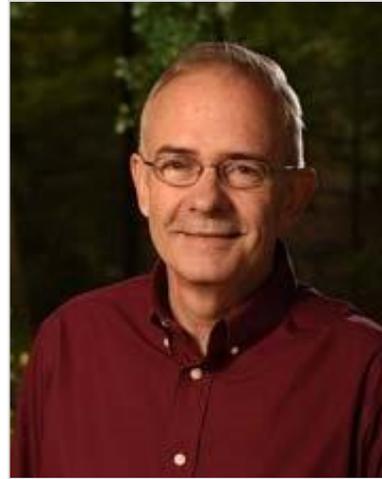


# NUCFAC HIGHLIGHTS: CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES



**Lance Davisson**

*Chair  
National Urban and Community  
Forestry Advisory Council*



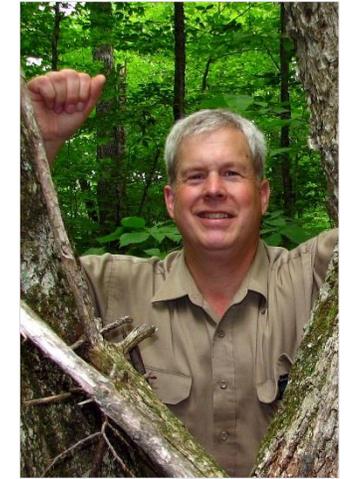
**Graeme Lockaby**

*Associate Dean, School of  
Forestry and Wildlife Sciences  
Auburn University*



**Wayne Zipperer**

*Research Forester  
USDA Forest Service*



**Andy Whitman**

*Director, Sustainable  
Economies Program  
Manomet*

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# NATIONAL URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

STEWARDING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE



# NUCFAC (COUNCIL) PURPOSE

## 1990 Farm Bill

- Address the present health & future preservation of our nation's Urban & Community Forests (UCF)

## Council synthesizes full spectrum of views for UCF

- *Advises Secretary of Agriculture on UCF Program & its service to UCF community*
- Foundation for practical UCF policy



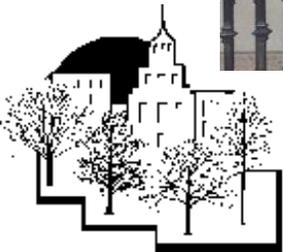
Photo credit: Amigos de los Rios



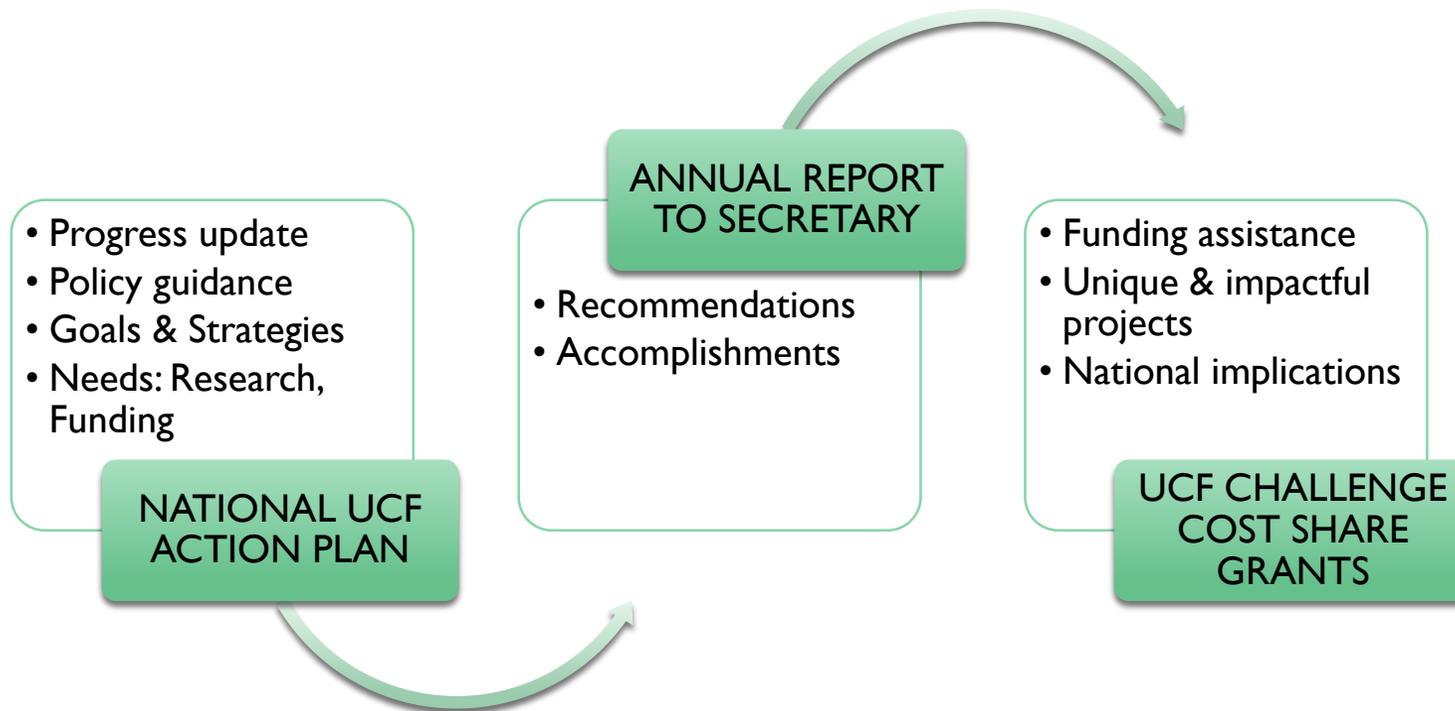
# YOUR COUNCIL



- 15 members representative of UCF
- USDA – FS Executive Staff
- Leadership & Work Teams
  - Council Chair & 3 work team leads
  - Work Teams:
    - National UCF Action Plan Implementation / Outreach
    - Annual Report to Secretary
    - National UCF Cost Share Grant Program

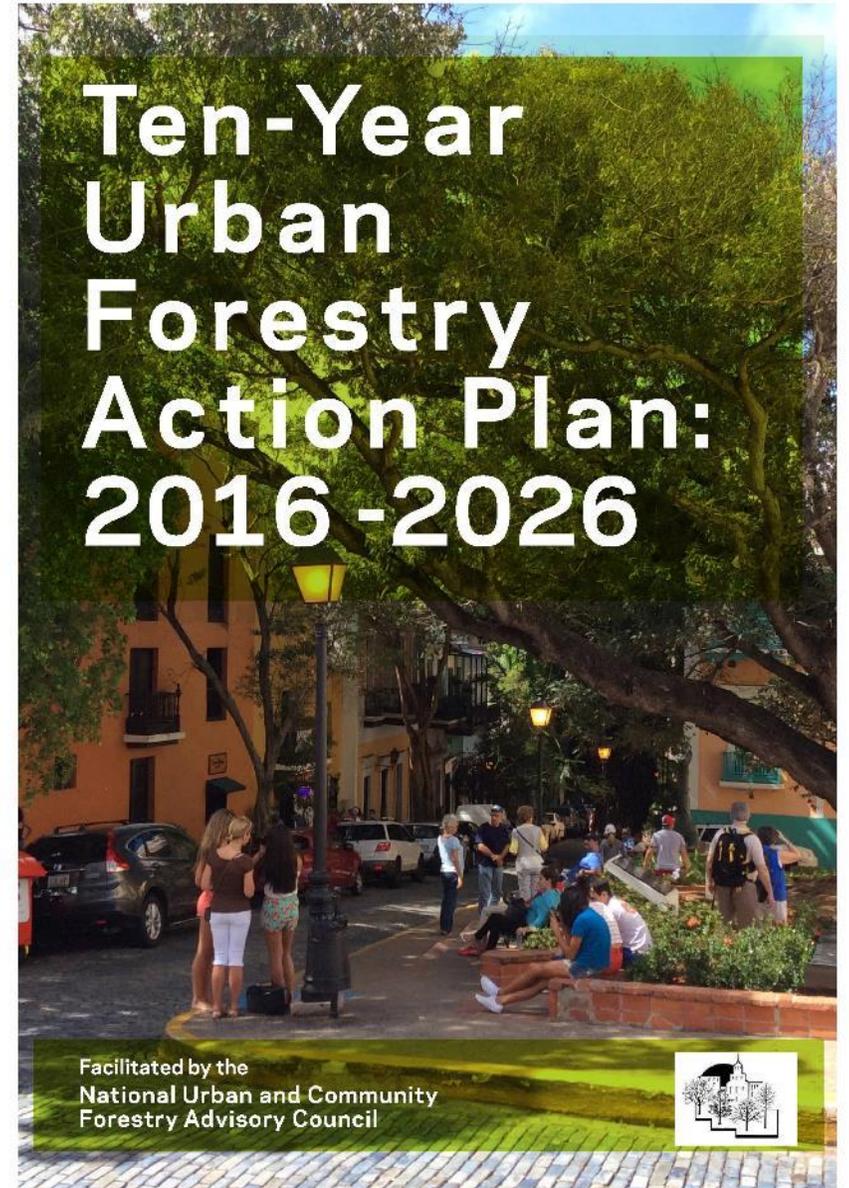


# COUNCIL CHARTER



# STEWARDING THE NATIONAL UCF ACTION PLAN

- A unifying guide for all of Urban & Community Forestry
  - VISION: Urban & Community Forests increase sustainability, wellness, resilience in all communities
  - MISSION: Help all communities create urban & community forests that are diverse, healthy and accessible for all citizens



# NATIONAL UCF ACTION PLAN

## 7 GOALS

- Goals => funding needs => research needs
- Council role
  - Facilitate development
  - Steward implementation
- Plan available at: [www.urbanforestplan.org](http://www.urbanforestplan.org)



# NATIONAL UCF ACTION PLAN RESEARCH NEEDS & STRATEGIES

1. Understand Ecosystem / Ecological Services
2. Promote Human & Community Health
3. Planting, Inventory & Analysis for Forest & Environmental Health
4. Anticipate Pests, Threats, Climate and Associated Changes & Risks
5. Enable Civic Stewardship & Improved Local Governance
6. Integrate Knowledge Networks and Data for Urban Socio-Ecological Systems



## Ten-Year Urban Forestry Action Plan: 2016 -2026

### Research Needs

Facilitated by the  
National Urban and Community  
Forestry Advisory Council



# 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS TO SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

- Promote the National UCF Action Plan
- Create and maintain healthy communities
- Align Federal Agency resources around improved coordination and research to support UCF Program nationwide



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (Council)**, through its enabling legislation, Section 9 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act, as amended by Title XII, Section 1219 of Public Law No. 101-624 (Act) (16 U.S.C. 2105g), **advises the Secretary of Agriculture on national Urban Forestry matters**, specifically by: developing a National Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan in accordance with Section 9 (g) (3) (A-F) of the Act; evaluating the implementation of that plan; and developing criteria for and submitting recommendations with respect to the Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Program as required by Section 9 (f) (1-2) of the Act.

The **2016 Recommendations to the Secretary** are developed in consultation with the organizations and entities the Council represents - a diverse urban forestry community of practice and the USDA Forest Service.

The **2015 Accomplishment Report** is a snapshot of what has been accomplished in the Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) field of practice in alignment with the Urban Forestry Ten-Year Action Plan (2006 - 2016). In November 2015, through collaboration with a consultant team, the Council and the USDA Forest Service produced a new Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan (Action Plan). This Action Plan will guide activities of the USDA - Forest Service and the UCF community of practice for the years 2016 - 2026 and can be found at: [www.urbanforestplan.org/engage](http://www.urbanforestplan.org/engage).

## 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY

The Council respectfully submits the following recommendations to guide the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and Urban and Community Forestry Program during the 2016 calendar year.

By aligning the USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry (UCF) Program with these key policy recommendations, the Department of Agriculture will provide important leadership, guiding successful federal programs and partnerships to serve American communities.



### ▶ 1. Promote the Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan

Establish a strong foundation for the 2016 - 2026 Action Plan with an endorsement from the Secretary of Agriculture's office. Support and facilitate funding of an annual messaging program through the USDA Forest Service and its constituencies that will promote implementation of the Action Plan throughout the UCF community of practice.

### ▶ 2. Create and maintain healthy communities

Collaborate with key agencies and organizations, both at the federal and the local level, in the fields of community planning, environmental protection and human health to craft programs that fund, design, build and maintain healthier communities through sustainable urban forestry practices.

### ▶ 3. Align federal agency resources around improved coordination and investment in research to support UCF Programs nationwide

Organize research institutions within USDA to evaluate current urban and community forestry research programs, priorities, and resources. Facilitate strategic investment of USDA research resources to serve the diverse needs of regional and national UCF programs that are directly serving our communities and citizens.

# NATIONAL UCF COST-SHARE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Further Urban and Community Forestry across disciplines
- Projects with national significance
- Innovation that advances management, research and development to support UCF
- Alignment with priorities established by the National UCF Action Plan



Photo credit: Amigos de los Rios



# NATIONAL UCF COST-SHARE GRANT PROGRAM ANNUAL GRANT CYCLES

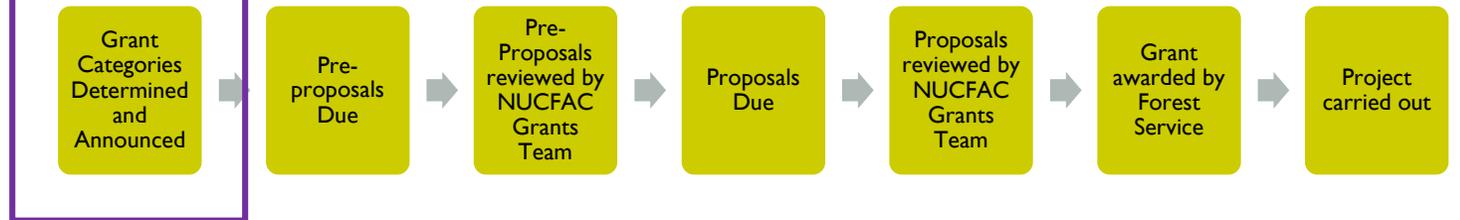
2016



2017



2018



# NATIONAL UCF COST-SHARE GRANT PROGRAM 2015

- **\$795,447** in funding for **5 projects**
- Additional \$1.2 million in match leveraged by applicants
- Grants will:
  - Enhance urban forest stewardship
  - Support new employment opportunities
  - Build resilience in the face of a changing climate



# NATIONAL UCF COST-SHARE GRANT PROGRAM 2016

- Awards being finalized, to be ***announced soon!***
- Grants will:
  - Analyze and provide solutions for development impacts on urban and community forests
  - Build human health through UCF
  - Evaluate climate change impacts on trees and water



Photo credit: Christine Gyovai



# NATIONAL UCF COST-SHARE GRANT PROGRAM 2017

- Grant categories:
  - Develop a national UCF funding assessment and methodology
  - Better understand UCF ecosystems & environmental services

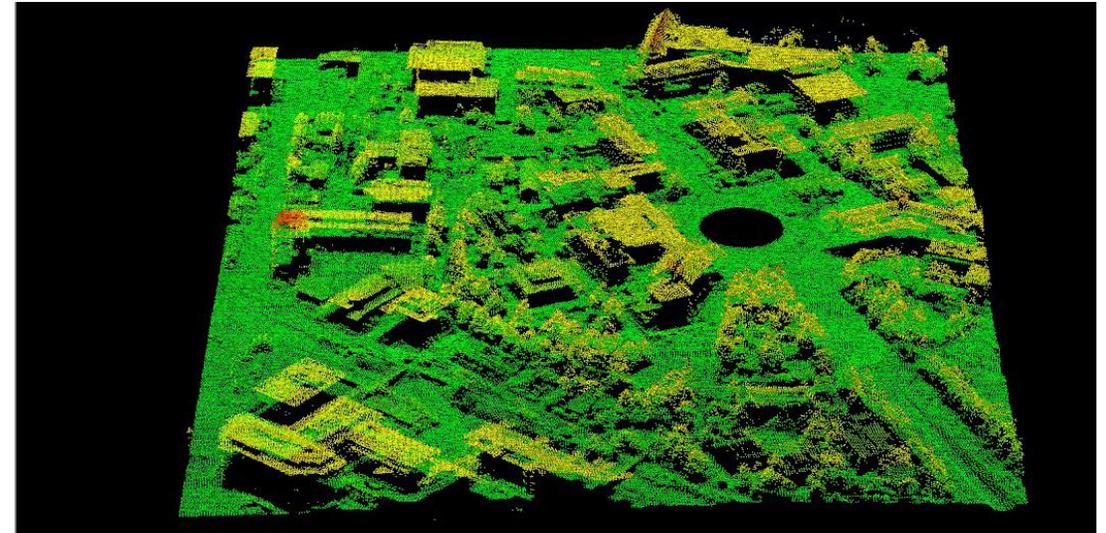


Photo credit: Kathleen Wolf



# THE COUNCIL LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

- Steward a National UCF Agenda in partnership with:
  - USDA Forest Service, Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition & all of UCF
- Engage with UCF community
  - National UCF Action Plan: [www.urbanforestplan.org](http://www.urbanforestplan.org)
  - Raise awareness: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf/nucfac.shtml>
  - Continue to steward an effective Council & leadership
  - Additional questions:
    - Lance Davisson, Council Chair – [lance.davisson@gmail.com](mailto:lance.davisson@gmail.com)



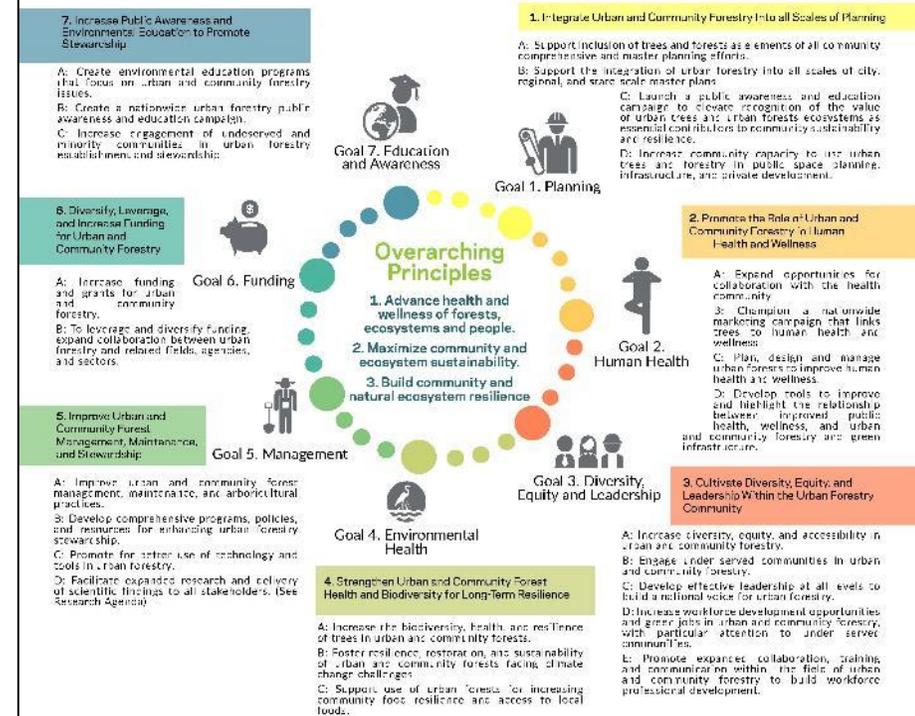
## Ten-Year Urban Forestry Action Plan (2016-2026)

The National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan is developed by and for the urban forestry community. The plan's purpose is to expand awareness of the benefits that our urban forests, including green infrastructures, provide to communities throughout the nation, and increase investments in these urban forest resources for the benefit of current and future generations. The plan provides specific goals, actions, and recommendations for improving the status of urban and community forestry for the United States and its territories. The plan also identifies research needs, messaging and communications needs, and innovative funding and collaborative opportunities for urban forestry initiatives. Notably, this plan is an interim framework for funding and recommendation priorities developed by the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) for the U.S. Forest Service's National Urban and Community Forestry program and National Challenge Cost Share Grants. The urban forestry community, including the Forest Service and other applicable Federal agencies, are to use the Action Plan as a guide to implement, and expand urban and community forestry for the next ten years.

**Plan Vision**  
Urban And Community Forests Increase Sustainability, Wellness, and Resilience in All Communities.

**Plan Mission**  
Help All Communities Create Urban and Community Forests that are Diverse, Healthy, and Accessible for All Citizens.

### Goals and Strategies



# TODAY'S GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

- Impact of Urban Conversion on Human Health (2012 Award)
  - Graeme Lockaby, Auburn University
  - Wayne Zipperer, US Forest Service
- Managing Urban Forests to Increase Community Resilience to Climate Change (2010 Award)
  - Andy Whitman, Manomet Center for Conservation



Photo credit: TV Canopy Network