



# STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.

Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council  
P.O. Box 6415  
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415



**NEXT MEETING**  
**May 26, 2016**  
**The Challenges Facing CA's Trees**  
**Mauget World Headquarters**  
**Arcadia, California**

## 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

|         |  |                                       |
|---------|--|---------------------------------------|
| May 26  | The Challenges Facing CA's Trees             | Mauget<br>Arcadia, CA                 |
| June 10 | STS Annual Golf Tournament                   | Dad Miller Golf Course<br>Anaheim, CA |
| July 21 | WTMS Summer Program<br>"Why Trees Fall Down" | Kellogg West<br>Pomona, CA            |

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!  
Contact [heather@streettreseminar.com](mailto:heather@streettreseminar.com)

### MISSION STATEMENT

*"To promote the advancement of urban forestry and provide a forum for tree care professionals to share their experiences, knowledge, and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California's community forests."*

### VISION STATEMENT

*"To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California cities by improving the quality of our community forests."*

**Remember to email Ann Hope at [ann@mauget.com](mailto:ann@mauget.com) with your reservation**



STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC. - Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council

# STS Newsletter

MARCH/APRIL 2016

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## Growing Investments in CA's Urban Forests, by Heather Crippen

Street Tree Seminar's March meeting, in conjunction with CaUFC and CalFire, was held in Downtown Los Angeles and City Hall. We had several speakers, including Melinda Bartlett and Elizabeth Skrzat discussing the Los Angeles City Plants program, second woman presenting on Greening the Vermont Corridor, Michelle Barton teaching us some excel macro shortcuts for reports, and Raymond Bolles from UC Riverside sharing their Management Plan.

The City Plants Program (formerly Million Trees LA), is in place to expand and maintain LA's green canopy, with particular focus on low-canopy communities; to promote healthy living; and to create jobs. The program exists in 3 parts: Residential Trees, Street Trees, and Adopting/Planting Events for shade and fruit trees. When residents are given trees, they must sign a contract giving permission to plant and a commitment to watering. They are taught about trees and energy efficiency, and the best places to plant their trees. (15-20 feet away from the home on the South or West sides). When looking for sites to plant the trees, the city relies on carbon calculators to assess the need and benefit of a location. A canopy cover analysis of LA has revealed an enormous discrepancy, with a high of 37% in Beverly Hills, and a low of 5% in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Once a low-canopy area has been identified, they begin scouring for volunteers. City Plants partners with many organizations in local regions to help make these plantings happen, and there are several steps that must be taken before the actual planting. CalFire grants also play a huge role in making this program fly with grant monies being issued to several partners, including \$750K to the LA Bureau of Sanitation, \$1,481,999 to LACC, \$337K to KYCC, and \$750K to the LA Beautification Team.

Another effort the City is making to help transform itself is the Greening of the Vermont Corridor. Climate studies show that the North Valley will have 30-40 extra days of heat in the coming years, making the tree plantings even more pressing. There are several proposed planting sites, identified in part by the use of CalEnviro Screen 2.0, a tool that helps identify California communities most burdened by pollution. Vermont Avenue, beginning at Manual Arts High School, is slated to have 1800 15-gallon trees planted

along its street, with special attention to the many turnouts. 625 6X4 tree wells will be cut with 15,000 square feet of concrete to be removed. The city has committed to watering the trees for 3 years, with neighbors agreeing to water 1,175 of those trees. Additionally, 1500 adopted 5-gallon trees will bear signage and banners explaining the benefits of the trees.



All of these plantings require an extraordinary amount of legwork- reports must be written and numbers must be crunched. A carbon report on a single possible location must be run on all combinations of all possibilities, including when the house was built (pre-1950, 1950-1980, or post-1980), whether there is central AC, no AC, or a wall unit, and how far

from the home the tree is (0-20 feet or 20-40 ft), and shown over a 40 year period. This means each report must contain over 792 calculations. Michelle Barton presented on using Excel Macros to calculate the equations for you, using a separate tab per species and simple macro coding.

Next Raymond Bolles presented on the UC Riverside Urban Forest Management Plan. A huge undertaking, the 2012 UFMP identifies the issues and values most important to the campus community, describes the vision for the future of an urban forest, and provides strategies to achieve that vision. The UFMP consists of several tree inventories, including the main campus, street trees, and Heritage trees, as well as an analysis of the entire canopy. Tree maintenance and planning needs are identified, and planting and



Elizabeth Skrzat from City Plants

### Notes from our March 2016 Meeting

Our March 2016 meeting was held at The Los Angeles City Hall.

**Next Meeting:** May 26, 2016

**Past Presidents in attendance were:** Fred Roth, Kevin Holman, Christy Cuba, Al Remy

Join us for a discussion of current pest issues and treatments in the Southern California Area. at Mauget's World Headquarters 5435 Peck Road Arcadia, CA 91006

**Prizes were donated by:** Lisa McCoy and Lucas Mitchell

Visit our website for more information or to register. [www.streetreeseminar.com](http://www.streetreeseminar.com)

**Raffle Winners:** Trevor Bristle, Liz Skrzat and John Conway

### Growing Investments cont'd



Raymond Bolles

pruning schedules are included for a variety of long term goals, strategies, and priorities that address the tree canopy in a comprehensive, systematic manner. The plan requires that all tree work decisions have a focus on retaining and protecting the campus tree investment at all times, unless there is a strong consensus

cost effective solution that provides the most benefits is the best solution. The program promotes projects that provide multi-benefit urban forest solutions to communities that need the benefits. Community participation is strongly encourages to create a stewardship ethic – a reconnection to the land. Project Eligibility- Projects must reduce GHG emissions and help meet the goals of AB 32. Last year ARB decided this meant that it had to contain a tree planting component. That may or may not be the



Lynette Short

case in 2016/2017. Grant projects must be in an urban area or urban cluster as defined by the US Census Bureau. Last year, grant projects had to be located in a disadvantaged community or be directly serving a disadvantaged community. Disadvantaged community status was determined using the CalEnviroScreen 2.0 tool. This may or may not change for 2016/2017. Cities, counties, districts and 501C(3) non-profit organizations are eligible to apply (unless otherwise stated in RFP). • Individuals, companies and federal agencies are not eligible. Concept proposals will be due in mid-November if CAL FIRE receives funding. For more information, visit [www.fire.ca.gov/Grants](http://www.fire.ca.gov/Grants)

and justification for removal. For help with your Urban Forest Management Plan, visit [www.ufmptoolkit.com](http://www.ufmptoolkit.com)

Lastly, Lynette Short from CalFire presented on CalFire Grant opportunities. Previously called the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, it is now called California Climate Investments. The governor's proposed budget for the Urban and Community Forestry Program in 2016/2017 (begins July 1, 2016) is \$30 million. This amount is up from the \$17.8 million in 2014/15. The purpose of the Urban and Community Forestry Program (U&CF) is to promote expansion and better management of urban forests to help improve the quality of urban environments and the quality of life of urban residents. An "ecosystem management" perspective is used to foster sustainability. The simplest, most

**August 9-11, 2016 Save the Date!**  
**The Power of Trees:**  
**Building Resilient Communities**

California Urban & Community Forests Conference  
 Pico House, El Pueblo de Los Angeles,  
 430 Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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### The Importance Street Trees Essay– by Gretchen Heimlich 2015 Scholarship Recipient

There are things that, as a horticulture student, I take for granted. It's easy to forget that many people don't know how a plant functions, and don't understand how much they're benefitting every day from trees around them– not long ago, I didn't understand these things myself. One morning, while inspecting some stressed ficus trees near an outdoor break area, an employee told me she thought we should just cut the trees down. "They make a mess all over the ground", she said. It was a hundred degree day in the middle of a heat wave. Until we'd talked for a bit, she hadn't considered how much cooler she felt or how much cleaner the oxygen-rich air was in the ficus tree's atrium-like microclimate than it would be if she was only surrounded by concrete and plaster.

and less water. Trees not only moisten and oxygenate the air through transpiration, they can lower outdoor air temperatures by as much as 9 degrees Fahrenheit. They shade and cool the soil too, reducing evaporation. They help absorb water when it does rain, reducing runoff and erosion, and filter out pollutants in the process.

I spoke to a friend the other day about the importance of street trees. He's a California-born PhD student at Harvard; very smart and well-informed. He understood the critical role trees play in mitigating climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it as carbon in their wood. But he followed that with, "However, California might not be able to prioritize that, as it's a desert in a drought, no?"

But beyond the science, there is an importance to trees that is more personal, and somehow more tangible, something about trees that resonates deeply within us. Trees soften the hard lines of civilization, make us more human. Trees were my nameless childhood friends; they lent me their limbs for climbing, their shade for sitting, their fruit for eating. Now, I walk the streets in the evenings calling them by name: *Ficus benjamina*. *Cupaniopsis anacardiodes*. *Magnolia grandiflora*. *Pinus pinea*. I finger their leaves, place my palms on their strong trunks; trees connect me with a child's wonder that is as essential to me as the air I breathe– and that they also provide.

If even our most intelligent are under the misperception that we live in a desert, and that, because of the drought, we need to stop watering trees and let them die, then there's some public education in order. In California, we're facing a potential future with more heat



*"So the tree rustles in the evening, when we stand uneasy before our own childish thoughts: Trees have long thoughts, long-breathing and restful, just as they have longer lives than ours. They are wiser than we are, as long as we do not listen to them. But when we have learned how to listen to trees, then the brevity and the quickness and the childlike hastiness of our thoughts achieve and incomparable joy. Whoever has learned how to listen to trees no longer wants to be a tree. He wants nothing except what he is. That is home. That is happiness."*

- Hermann Hesse, Baume. Betrachtungen und Gedichte

### 2016 SUMMER WORKSHOP



### Why Trees Fall Down

July 21, 2016

Kellogg West Conf Center  
3801 W Temple Ave—Pomona, CA

Register Online @ [www.streetreeseminar.com](http://www.streetreeseminar.com)

### STS Golf Tournament

STS is holding our annual golf tournament June 10th at Dad Miller Golf Course in Anaheim. This is a great opportunity to network and have fun while supporting the STS scholarship fund.

Please visit [www.streetreeseminar.com](http://www.streetreeseminar.com) to download the registration form & sign up. We are also looking for sponsors and raffle prize donations.



For more information please contact Heather in the STS office at 714/639-6516