Green Communities are $mart Communities
That Plan for Trees
Where Do Trees Fit In?

Programs

1. Comprehensive Planning

- A Technical Guide to Urban and Community Forestry
  Section on Urban Forestry Planning discusses the importance of Urban Forestry concerns to be reflected in a communities comprehensive planning

- Greenscapes: The Green Infrastructure Element of the Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan
  How Lancaster County Pennsylvania has incorporated urban forestry elements into their comprehensive plan. Executive summary and the full document on the website

- Issues in ARBORICULTURE A Bridge to Planners by Jim Schwab, Senior Research Associate, American Planning Association
  The community comprehensive plan, and the process for creating it, is a municipal arborist's best opportunity for institutionalizing a commitment to trees and forests from the ground up. This article describes the General Principles, the Planning Principles, and the Design Principles a municipal arborist should utilize to integrate urban forestry into comprehensive planning

- Planning the Urban Forest-APA
  This is a best-practices manual (APA Report 555) about integrating urban forestry into municipal planning activities. This report, prepared by the American Planning Association (APA) in collaboration with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and American Forests (AF), and supported by the USDA Forest Service, addresses the need for planners to adopt a green infrastructure approach and presents guidelines for incorporating trees into the planning process.

  Site also has a podcast October 2008 AICP Symposium, "Making a Difference with Green Community Strategies," with Phillip Rodbell, Nancy McKeever, and Lee Epstein

- Planning the Urban Forest – Presentation Lancaster Pennsylvania October 6, 2010
  Utilizing the APA Report 555 a presentation outlining the process to include urban forestry in community planning to include comprehensive planning

- Wikipedia
  An explanation of comprehensive planning, its history and the planning processes. Also, additional links to related topics such as urban and rural planning

2. Plan for Complete Streets

- American Planning Association
  Books offered:
  Complete Streets: Best Policy and Implementation Practices (PAS 559), 2010
  Complete Streets; Published by American Institute of Certified Planners, 2007

- Best Practices for Complete Streets
  This document was developed by the Sacramento Transportation & Air Quality Collaborative. It includes examples from selected cities and provides suggested street standards

- Example of Complete Streets Design Guidelines
  Guidelines from Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization and the Tennessee Department of Transportation

- The National Complete Streets Coalition
  The leading coalition of groups working in support of complete streets

  The Coalition's website has a resource and links page with a variety of resources to include reports and articles, presentations, fact sheets and design guidance on Complete Streets policies
  Resources & Links Page

- The National Complete Streets Coalition Fact Sheets
  A series of fact sheets covering topics such as economic revitalization, climate change, and health. Many of these documents explore the many benefits of complete streets, while others focus more on implementation

Policies

1. Zoning and Development Regulations

- Georgia Quality Growth Partnership
  The Georgia Quality Growth Partnership (GQGP) is a collaboration among diverse public and private entities that seeks to provide local governments and citizens with the tools and knowledge to transform the way we define, create, and sustain high quality Georgia communities. The website provides exceptional links to best practices and examples of ordinances and policy to include incentive zoning, conservation subdivisions, cluster developments and many others

- Green Infrastructure Toolkit
  The aim of this toolkit is to provide information on green infrastructure with specifics directly related to Georgia and to present successful tools and strategies available in that state. Examples of several possible policies described. A useful toolkit with several elements certainly not limited to Georgia. Developed by the Atlanta Regional Commission

- Model Landscape Zoning Bylaw
  This was developed by Horsley Witten Group, Inc. for the North South Rivers Watershed Association in November, 2006. The central purpose of this model bylaw is to provide a

mechanism whereby developers will create more sustainable landscapes. The focus of the standards and specifications within the model is on the health of soils, the preservation of natural landscapes and the development of aesthetically pleasing landscaped areas that are environmentally sound

- University of Washington - College of Environment – Center for Urban Horticulture - Human Dimensions of Urban Forestry and Urban Greening: Policy and Planning
  This page considers science and policy issues for use to develop urban forestry planning in communities

2. Landscape and Tree Ordinances

- International Society of Arboriculture- Online and downloadable resources – Tree Ordinance Guidelines
  The guidelines are based on a study of city and county tree ordinances in California (Bernhardt and Swiecki, 1991). This study reviewed 159 enacted city tree ordinances and nine enacted county ordinances in addition to a small number of proposed ordinances. This sample represented about 50% of the city tree ordinances and 80% of the county tree ordinances in effect in California at that time.

- The Georgia Quality Growth Partnership – Toolkit for Best Practices for Landscape and Buffer Requirements
  Require planting areas to mask unattractive land uses or to provide a visual and sound barrier between incompatible adjacent uses, increase aesthetic values, and protect water and quality of rivers and streams. Site provides several ordinance examples
  Searchable by issues affecting your community; Offers examples other than from within the State of Georgia

- The Georgia Tree Ordinance Report
  Conducted by The Georgia Urban Forest Council, the "Georgia's Tree Ordinances" report summarizes the results of the survey and tree ordinance review. The full report and appendices, with extensive survey and tree ordinance data and copies of all the tree ordinances reviewed are included in the"Georgia's Tree Ordinances" project

- The Virginia Tree Ordinance Database (VTOD)
  Is a repository of municipal ordinances in Virginia that regulate the use, management, and conservation of trees in urbanized areas. The purpose of this website is to provide citizens, professionals, and elected officials with information they can use to craft tree ordinances for their communities.

  The website is not a tutorial or instruction manual for writing ordinances. Rather, it provides examples of common tree ordinance terminology and content, which has been excerpted from ordinances of select municipalities across Virginia

- Tree Ordinance Development Guidebook – Georgia Forestry Commission
  This guidebook was designed to aid individuals that are interested in revising a current community tree ordinance or developing a new tree ordinance. Sections 2-9 will guide you

through forming a tree ordinance working group, getting support, evaluating needs, defining your vision, and preparing the final draft of a tree ordinance

- Urban Forestry South – Advanced Search for Tree Ordinances
  Advanced Search for tree ordinances retrieved 29 matches. On can also select any urban forestry topic and search a number of subjects.
  Resources page is very useful and an abundant source of information – See home page

Practices

1. Sustainable Practices

- Climate Change Survey Report
  Survey conducted by Regional Plan Association (RPA) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. Survey summarizes survey participation to include urban and rural forestry programs

- Sustainable Complete Streets Fact Sheet
  Communities across the country are realizing the 'green' potential of their streets. Making our transportation system more sustainable involves many policies and practices that minimize environmental impact and create streets that are safe for everyone, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. This fact sheet links pavement, landscaping and climate as a few of the elements of street design, construction, and operation can work in favor of achieving both complete streets that work for all travelers and 'green' streets that serve environmental sustainability

- The Sustainable Sites Initiative™ (SITES™)
  Is an interdisciplinary effort by the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at The University of Texas at Austin and the United States Botanic Garden to create voluntary national guidelines and performance benchmarks for sustainable land design, construction and maintenance practices
  Check out the sites' Area of Focus section on Vegetation – Trees are the primary focus

- "What is Sustainable Development – Goals, Indicators, Values and Practice"
  This article was published in the April 2005 issue of Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development, Volume 47, Number 3, pages 8–21. © Robert W. Kates, Thomas M. Parris, and Anthony A. Leiserowitz, 2005

- Wikipedia
  A definition of sustainable development and further discussion of two key concepts of how"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own"

- Wikipedia Sustainable Educational Portal
  Provides additional links and resources related to sustainable development

2. Comprehensive Tree Management Programs

- A Guide: Developing a Street and Park Tree Management Plan
  This guide was developed to assist in the preparation of a street and park tree management plan for small to medium sized communities, typically less than 50 miles of roadways

- American Public Works Association (APWA)
  Good information on BMPS to hire, staff, fund and develop an urban forestry program; also a literature review and click listen and learn presentation in zip format

- Cornell University – Department of Horticulture – Community Forestry Website
  A clearinghouse for information to help communities manage their urban trees; also links to the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, which has a wide array of links to additional sources for urban forest management tools as well as other related topics

- The Road to a Thoughtful Street Tree Master Plan
  A practical guide to systematic planning and design By Ken Simons and Gary R. Johnson; Downloadable from the University of Minnesota Forest Resources Extension

- Tree Emergency Manual for Public Officials
  This *Emergency Tree Manual* is designed to be a practical short **guide** to managing disastrous tree damage, accompanied by a set of critical documents and standards called the *Tree Emergency Compendium*. Its focus is upon urban forests in the public realm, where questions of safety and cost are critical, and its target audience is public tree managers

- Tree inventory and management software
  A list of private and publicly available software for use in inventorying trees in a community as a part of the urban management program/plan

- University of Florida - Urban and Community Forestry Program
  Manager resources for use to manage and better understand your community's urban forest; Also information on developing an urban forestry management plan for hurricane prone communities

- Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) Toolkit Website
  The Toolkit can be used by anyone managing a large population of trees in or near urban areas. The Toolkit website is intended to help urban forest managers develop management plans that are appropriate for their urban forests

- Urban Forestry South- Management Planning Tool
  This section of Urban Forestry South provides access to the Urban Forest Management Planning Tool and a library of urban forestry strategic and management plans from various communities around the country

- US Forest Service – Urban Tree Risk Management
  This manual was designed to preserve public safety and improve the health of urban forests by assisting communities in the design, adoption and implementation of a tree risk management program