



Sustainable Urban
Forests Coalition

SUFC eNewsletter

July 2011

SUFC Member Organizations 2011

[Alliance for Community Trees](#)

[American Forests](#)

[American Nursery &
Landscape Association](#)

[American Planning
Association](#)

[American Public Works
Association](#)

[American Rivers](#)

[American Society of
Consulting Arborists](#)

[American Society of
Landscape Architects](#)

[The Davey Tree Expert
Company](#)

[International City/County
Management Association](#)

[International Society of
Arboriculture](#)

[Keep America Beautiful](#)

[National Arbor Day
Foundation](#)

[National Association of
Conservation Districts](#)

[National Association of State
Foresters](#)

Federal Agencies Partner to Revitalize Urban Waterways In Communities Across The U.S.

A new federal partnership aims to stimulate regional and local economies, create local jobs, improve quality of life, and protect Americans' health by revitalizing urban waterways in under-served communities across the country. [The Urban Waters Federal Partnership](#) (UWFP), an innovative federal union comprised of 11 agencies including USDA, Forest Service.

"Conserving our natural heritage is an objective shared by all Americans," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The Urban Waters partnership will not only give thousands of urban Americans access to the great outdoors in a way they haven't had before, it also creates partnerships between the federal government and American communities on conservation issues. At USDA, the Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service are working in thousands of communities across the country to conserve and revitalize forests and watersheds, many impacting urban areas. At the same time, we're connecting people with our land and resources by promoting outdoor activities and healthier lifestyles." Read [more](#).



SUFC Policy and Education Outreach

[National Hazards Mitigation Association](#)

[National Recreation and Parks Association](#)

[Society of American Foresters](#)

[Society of Municipal Arborists](#)

[Tree Care Industry Association](#)

[TreeLink](#)

[Utility Arborist Association](#)

Ex Officio Members

[USDA Forest Service- Urban & Community Forestry Program](#)

[Kathleen L. Wolf, Ph.D.](#)



The SUFC Policy Working Group is expanding as new members with diverse policy education and legislative expertise build the Coalition's reach and resources. Most recently, SUFC members hosted an Advocacy Day in Washington, DC on April 12th to carry two specific agenda items: 1) Urban and Community Forestry Program budget (FY 2012) and 2) the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act (HR 709).

Just as important was the opportunity to reach out to new freshman house members and their staff. SUFC members from California to Texas to Maryland met with House and Senate representatives to introduce the SUFC and carry the message about the integral role urban trees and green infrastructure plays in economically and environmentally vibrant communities. SUFC members established themselves as a go-to source for a broad array of urban environmental issues connected to healthy cities, urban trees, and green infrastructure.

SUFC is currently reviewing and analyzing other pending legislation including:

- The Safe and [Complete Streets](#) Act of 2011. ([H.R. 1780/S. 1056](#))• [Energy Conservation Through Trees](#) ([HR 2095](#))

Lastly, as the 2012 Farm Bill reauthorization looms over Congress, the SUFC created an ad hoc committee to examine the current 2007 Farm Bill. Enacted every five years, this legislation provides the framework through which Congress enacts, amends and/or repeals wide ranging agricultural and conservation programs (as well as food safety and nutrition). Because the Forest Service is part of the Department of Agriculture, the Farm Bill has often been the vehicle for changes and improvements to the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act, and in turn, to urban and community forestry. The Urban and Community Forestry program, as we know it today, was enacted as part of the 1990 Farm Bill.

SUFC is well positioned to pro-actively explore opportunities and strategies for enactment of new authorities *or* changes to the current authorities as part of the upcoming 2012 Farm Bill debate. SUFC believes this debate presents an excellent opportunity to build support for urban green infrastructure initiatives (on a landscape scale) among a much larger and more diverse set of legislators. Unlike stand-alone legislation, Congress must eventually pass a new Farm Bill. **For more information about the Farm Bill, register for the [SUFC webinar](#) on July 20, 2011.** -- *Gerry Gray, American Forests*

Upcoming Events - 2011

September 18-21

[ICMA Annual Conference](#)

Milwaukee, WI

Sept 24-28

[Society of Municipal Arborists International Urban Forestry Conference](#)

Milwaukee, WI

September 26-30

[Strategic Conservation Using a Green Infrastructure Approach](#)
Shepherdstown, WV

October 3-5

[2011 Urban Water Sustainability Leadership Conference](#)
Milwaukee, WI

October 6-8

[America in Bloom Symposium and Awards Program](#)
Washington, DC

October 30-November 2

[American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting](#)
San Diego, CA

November 3-5

[Tree Care Industry Expo 2011](#)
Hartford, CT

November 14

[Alliance for Community Trees Annual Meeting](#)
Orlando, FL

November 15-17

[2011 Partners in Community Forestry National Conference](#)
Orlando, FL

Green Infrastructure News at a Glance

- **NUCFAC Call for Nominations**

The Forest Service is seeking nominations to fill three positions on the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC). The Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program and related natural resources. Nominations must be received by August 29, 2011. Read [more](#).

- **Vibrant Cities Task Force (TF) Recommendations**

The TF recommendations are under construction and will be released in the early fall. Updated TF information will be disseminated by New York Restoration Project later this summer. Read [more](#).

- **National NeighborWoods Month**

October is the annual month-long celebration of the value of trees in our communities. In rural towns and large cities, volunteer-led activities ranging from tree plantings to street festivals to youth programs will help "re-green" communities. [NeighborWoods Month](#) is coordinated through the [Alliance for Community Trees](#), which supports local partners with event tools, national marketing, and media outreach to draw attention to the importance of urban forests for building healthier communities. Learn [more](#) or register your event.

**Thank you for helping SUFC expand our network
by forwarding this eNewsletter to your colleagues.**

The SUFC is an assembly of national organizations working to advance a unified urban forest agenda
for our nation's communities.

Contact Info

SUFC Convener, Jennifer Hinrichs
www.urbanforestoalition.com/
jjhinrichs@rcn.com / 301-219-6249