Optional Workshop & Tour Schedule

Welcome to the 2017 Atlanta Canopy Conference
Greg Levine & Connie Veates, Co-Executive Directors, Trees Atlanta
9:00 am

Atlanta’s Urban Tree Canopy Update
Tony Giarusso, Sr. Research Scientist, Georgia Institute of Technology
9:15 am

Opening Keynote: Saving Places
Susan West Montgomery, Vice President for Preservation Resources National Trust for Historic Preservation
9:30 am

What happens when places and spaces are removed from our communities? What are their impacts? Saving places is more than saving buildings: it’s about making communities better and people healthier.

Susan writes, researches, and speaks on preservation especially its evolution as a profession and a movement. Susan holds a B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo, with majors in art history and English literature and a M.A. in American studies from the George Washington University Historic Preservation program. She is author of A State University of New York at Buffalo, with majors in art history and evolution as a profession and a movement. Susan holds a B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo, with majors in art history and English literature and a M.A. in American studies from the George Washington University Historic Preservation program. She is author of A Blueprint for Lobbying, published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She is former Co-Chair of the National Association for Olmsted Parks. She now serves on the Board of Directors of the Latrobe Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians.

City Panel: Becoming Sustainable from Transactional
Tony Giarusso, Sr. Research Scientist, Georgia Institute of Technology
9:15 am

Atlanta: David Zaparanick, Arboricultural Manager
Charlotte: Tim Porter, City Arborist
Savannah: Gordon Denney, Director of Park & Tree Department
Washington, D.C.: Maës Hughes, Director of Design + Advocacy, Casey Treest
Moderator: Steve Provost, Vice President, J8+a

Tree removal is commonly regarded merely as a “cost of doing business.” How are other Southeastern cities working with developers to save and plant more trees? Should we treat private and public trees differently? Are there more sustainable strategies used by other cities that we should aspire to for our forest?

Lunch & Optional Workshops
Noon
May we suggest you enjoy your lunch outside under our courtyard trees?
See Optional Workshop & Tour Schedule below.

Optional Atlanta BeltLine Tour
12:30 – 1:45 pm
Join us for food, drinks, music, and Pop Art, featuring King of Pops. Tickets at the door: $20.

Optional Workshop: Atlanta City Design Project
Kevin Bacon, Assist. Director
Atlanta City Studio
Location: Boardroom
12:30 – 1:00 pm

Optional Workshop: Planting in Challenging Soils
Kelly Ridenhour, Project & Design Coordinator, Trees Atlanta
Location: Courtyard/rear exterior
1:00 – 1:30 pm

Optional Atlanta BeltLine Tour
Docent-led 45-min walk of pre-construction (unpaved) and finished (paved) segments from Memorial Avenue to Wylie Street. Printed maps also available for self-guided leisurely walk. Footwear for unpaved and uneven terrain recommended.
Location: Departing from front steps/front exterior.
12:30 Group 1 & 12:45 Group 2

Meet our Panelists
Full profiles of our City and Citizen Panelists are available online, along with resources and links they have provided for your reference and use.
treesatlanta.org/cityintheforest

Break
10:30 am
Want to host a Canopy Conversation community meeting in your neighborhood? Lead by a trained Trees Atlanta facilitator, see the state of the canopy in your neighborhood, and take steps to improve or protect it.
treesatlanta.org/cityintheforest

Break
2:15 pm
Have you signed the Canopy Pledge?
Let your elected officials know trees are important to you.
treesatlanta.org/pledge

Citizens Panel: Can Passion Alone Save Trees?
Beecher Hills: Bruce Morton
Briarcliff: Russ Haynie
Inman Park: Jim Abbot
Peachtree Hills: Laura Dobson
Garden Hills: deLille Anthony
Moderator: Neil Norton, Georgia Arborists Association
2:30 pm

The most powerful protectors of trees are citizen advocates. They are local, vocal, and passionate. Our panel of experienced advocates share their road map of potential obstacles and a tool kit of practical resources to transform intentions into outcomes.

Closing Keynote
Alice Ewen, National Program Manager
Urban and Community Forestry Program, USDA-Forest Service
3:45 pm

Many rational, emotional, and political motivations exist, yet advocates must speak with an organized voice to be heard. Alice’s personal story of advocacy will leave us inspired by our own potential to give voice to tree protection.

Alice Ewen leads national programs for the U.S. Forest Service dedicated to improving the condition of urban forests nationwide. She found a passion for trees through her first job with Trees Atlanta planting trees for the Summer Olympics, which turned into a career shaping national advocacy and public policy. Her experience includes assignments to the White House Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Sustainable Communities at EPA.

Conference Close
Thank you! Please complete your conference survey at treesatlanta.org/canopyconference
4:30 pm

Canopy Cooler Networking Reception
Join us for food, drinks, music, and Pop Art, featuring King of Pops. Tickets at the door: $20.
treesatlanta.org/canopyconference
5:00 pm
In 2014, an assessment of the City of Atlanta’s urban tree canopy (UTC) set the official benchmark at 47.9% canopy coverage.*

**Goal**
No net canopy loss: UTC 48% or greater.

**Why**
A healthy urban forest affects the health and well-being of Atlanta and its citizens. Environmental, social, and economic benefits increase with greater canopy coverage.

**How**
Educate citizens. Establish and enforce effective tree protection ordinances. Provide meaningful incentives to protect trees.

**Who**
You. Citizen advocates and stewards who lead and support community action in partnership with local leaders, elected officials, and environmental organizations like Trees Atlanta.

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*Analysis based on 2008 satellite data. The interactive Atlanta Canopy Tool was created in collaboration with Trees Atlanta, City of Atlanta, and Georgia Tech.