



Forest Resources Institute
Natural Resources & Community Planning

Springmaid Beach Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC
February 27-March 1, 2013

Wednesday, February 27 - Natural Resources Conservation

10:30-12:00 Registration

12:00 Welcome – *Lowe Sharpe, Urban Coordinator, SC Forestry Commission*
Lunch

12:30-12:40 Importance of Forestry in South Carolina

Russell Hubright, Forest Management Chief, SC Forestry Commission

12:40-1:10 Forestry Values

*Dwight Stewart, Consulting Forester, Dwight L. Stewart, Jr. & Associates, and
Chairman, Clarendon County Council*

Good forest management practices provide a good wood supply, water quality, recreation, jobs and sources of income to local counties. The Right to Practice Forestry Act: what it means and how it affects land using planning. Dwight will discuss the practical side of regulations and finding common ground.

1:10–1:20 Break (move to meeting room)

1:20-2:00 Land Conservation in South Carolina

Van Whitehead, Deputy Director of Upstate Forever

Mr. Whitehead will discuss the importance of conserving natural resources and protecting ecological functions. He will also give an overview of land conservation tools, including conservation easements and conservation funding; and discuss special considerations for agricultural lands, forest lands, and buffering aquatic areas.

2:00-5:30 Natural Resources at the Interface Tour

An Owners' Perspective on Forest Land Management

Matt Baldwin, Owner, Arcadia Plantation

Visit a recent timber harvest site to discuss management objectives and future plans.

Hobcaw Barony Tour

George Chastain, Executive Director, Belle W. Baruch Foundation

A mix of traditional and nontraditional forest practices is used at Hobcaw Barony to manage the 17,500 acre research reserve for endangered species, wildlife habitat, timber production, and research. Tour participants will see the results of recent harvesting operations, prescribed burning, mechanical fuel reduction treatments,

reforestation, wildlife food plots, invasive species control and road maintenance activities. The application of Best Management Practices (BMP's) for forestry operations in South Carolina will be discussed as they apply to activities in the field.

6:30 *Dinner at Hobcaw Barony*

Thursday, February 28 - Natural Resources and Community Planning

6:30–8:00 *Breakfast at Marlin's*

8:00-9:00 **An Ecological Approach to Green Infrastructure**

CJ Lammers, Master Environmental Planner, Prince George's County, Maryland

The development of a countywide green infrastructure plan in the Chesapeake Bay watershed that guides county government and decision makers in future land use planning, land acquisition and development while protecting the integrity of ecological features of countywide significance. Incorporating public input, scenarios developed, and GIS into the process.

9:00-10:00 **Functioning Landscape Design**

Steve Sanchez, Principal and LEED AP, HGOR Landscape Architects & Land Planners

Commercial landscape designs that provide benefits to the environment as well as being aesthetically pleasing. Methods explored include stormwater infiltration designs, details to enhance tree growth and native plants role in the commercial landscape.

10:00-10:30 *Break*

10:30-11:15 **The Arborist's Role in Site Development**

Spence Rosenfeld, President, Arborguard Tree Specialists

Mature trees surrounding a new development create an atmosphere that nothing else can while adding value to a property. Successful conservation involves accurate tree surveys which consider tree health, tree conservation specifications and plans, review and input into civil, engineering, and architectural drawings and ordinance requirements, and site inspections and reports during construction.

11:15-12:00 **Sustainable Approaches to Community Forest Management**

Connie Head, Consulting Urban Forester, Technical Forestry Services

How communities can develop and implement a practical and effective tree management program to meet their community's needs and goals. The presentation will include options for: assessing trees, tree canopy cover, and management resources; defining community goals; developing sustainable programs, budgets, and plans that meet the goals; developing and implementing effective tree regulations; and, educating staff and the community on the importance of trees and their management.

12:00-1:00 *Lunch*

1:00-1:30 **Retrofitting Streets: Myrtle Beach**

Kelly Mezzapelle, AICP, Planner, City of Myrtle Beach

Presentation on the retrofit of Seaboard Street, a traditionally industrial concrete 2-lane street built primarily for truck traffic. Current characteristics include little curbing, no sidewalks, and no street trees. In 2012 the City of Myrtle Beach retrofitted the right-of-way into a multimodal corridor, to include sidewalks, bike paths, and street trees while maintaining its heavy truck use. Presentation will include details of the planning process and images of progress to date.

1:30-2:00 **Engineers, Trees and Automobiles**

Eddie Bernard, RLA, Town of Mt Pleasant Planning and Development Department

The trials and tribulations of how to design a highway for plantings. Hear about past and present efforts involved in making roughly 11 miles of Highway 17 through Mount Pleasant a tree lined road and more pedestrian friendly. Highway 17, when complete, will be comprised of four different widening projects spanning 7 years. Challenges in achieving the community's desires include: Transportation Engineering mentality and standards, road contractor mentality, fill soils, existing tree preservation, bill boards, right of way constraints, implementing bike lanes and sidewalks, tree and shrub species selection, and what portions of typical roadway engineering specifications need intervention from tree managers.

2:00-5:00 **Tour: Redesigning Streets and Communities in Myrtle Beach**

Jack Walker, Director of Planning, City of Myrtle Beach

Diane Moskow-McKenzie, Senior Planner, City of Myrtle Beach

This tour features a sampling of street landscaping approaches, including visits to street retrofits for pedestrian/bike friendly solutions as well as green approaches to creating new multi-modal corridors. Visit the slowly evolving greener Ocean Boulevard, a new section of Grand Dunes Boulevard where native tree relocations were part of solution, and along a new development corridor of Marina Parkway where a longleaf pine forest dominates the scene. Travel the Grissom Parkway and the new Harrelson Boulevard where trees and cars share the right of way with the East Coast Greenway and the green environment of the district serving the region's new airport terminal. Conclude with a tour of the pedestrian/bike friendly streets, neighborhoods and urban village of the Market Common District.

6:30 **Keynote Dinner at Springmaid**

Implementation of an Ecological Green Infrastructure Plan

CJ Lammers, Prince George's County, Maryland

After the network is prepared and adopted comes the difficult task of implementation. By using an established functional master plan approach, Prince George's County, Maryland has been implementing the network using a variety of tools. Session to include lessons learned and recommendations on how to do it in your community.

Friday, March 1 - Natural Resources and Community Planning

6:30–8:00 *Breakfast at Marlin's*

8:00-8:45 **Urban Tree Risk and Disasters: Assessment, Planning and Recovery**

Rachel Barker, Project Manager ArborMetrics Solutions, Inc. – formerly Environmental Planner/Special Projects Manager Central Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (CARPDC)

Has your city or county taken steps to reduce your urban tree vulnerability in the next big disaster? This presentation will share collaborative strategies and tools to help you develop a Vegetative Risk Management Plan (VRMP). The goals of a VRMP are to reduce the impact of storms on the urban forest, lessen personal injuries and property damage and decrease emergency management cost. Learn how to use the Urban Tree Risk Index (UTRI), a GIS tool that models tree risk zones, prioritizes tree risk assessments, creates a worksheet for use in the field for verification of action necessary for mitigation, and assists decision makers in identifying debris staging areas.

8:45-9:30 **Safer from the Start - Minimizing a Community's Risk to Wildfire**

Mike Bozzo, Statewide Firewise Program Manager, SC Forestry Commission

Planners will learn what makes a community at risk from wildfire, what planners can do to incorporate *Firewise* or wildfire mitigation concepts from the beginning by incorporating into their long range mitigation plans or ordinances, and what communities can do to help mitigate the risk by incorporating *Firewise* principles into codes, covenants, or restrictions.

9:30-10:00 *Break*

Conservation Design

10:00-12:00 **Protecting Community Wide Open Space Networks with Conservation Subdivisions and Traditional Neighborhood Design**

Randall Arendt, FRTPI, ASLA (Hon.), President, Greener Prospects

These presentations describe and illustrate practical, proven techniques for protecting community-wide open space networks through conservation design principles in updated zoning and subdivision ordinances, in a density-neutral manner consistent with underlying zoning. This, along with the hands-on design exercise, helps local officials work with developers to accomplish complementary goals: the construction of full-density residential subdivisions in a way that helps build a community-wide network of permanent conservation land in a healthful, attractive manner.

12:00-1:00 *Lunch*

1:00-1:20 **Questions and Answers with Randall Arendt**

1:20-2:35 Design Exercise with Randall Arendt

This hands-on exercise gives participants an opportunity to apply a simple four-step design approach for laying out a greener neighborhood designed around the special features of any given property.

2:35-3:15 Putting Conservation into Local Codes and Ordinances

Randall Arendt, FRTPI, ASLA (Hon.), President, Greener Prospects

Mr. Arendt describes how this design process can fit into the local regulatory framework, through specific provisions in comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations. As each conservation subdivision is completed, another link in the community-wide network of open lands is expanded, until ultimately an interconnected network of conservation areas is preserved.

3:15-3:30 Wrap-Up, Evaluations & Continuing Education Handouts

3:30 Adjourn

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