



National Coalition Becomes a One-Stop Resource for Urban Forests and Green Infrastructure

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For Immediate Release

Interest in greening urban infrastructure and urban forests is exploding across the country. The Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC) is responding by establishing the umbrella group as a comprehensive resource for cross-cutting policy and science-based information on green infrastructure.

“Demand for green infrastructure by local municipalities and community groups as well as state and federal agencies is through the roof! We must ensure our elected officials [and others] know about the most recent scientific, economic and environmental research surrounding green infrastructure - as well as the network of programs and delivery systems already in place. We want to pro-actively offer our collective expertise and experience to anyone in or outside Washington, DC,” says Jim Skiera, SUFC Chairman.

Responding to the diverse political and agency interests in urban greening, the SUFC convened in DC in March 2010. The result was a common set of operating and policy principles that positions the SUFC to advocate effectively for smarter and better-integrated public policies impacting the health of urban neighborhoods.

The breadth of perspectives and expertise within the SUFC make the coalition a resource and sounding board for current and future legislation. The SUFC is tracking legislation that encompasses green infrastructure and will seek new opportunities to integrate sustainable natural landscapes into future legislation. SUFC has developed a regular bulletin with current information about green infrastructure and urban forestry.

Ecological boundaries such as stormwater and air pollution do not separate urban, community and rural forests. The SUFC encourages policy-makers, planners, city officials and others to address urban environmental issues at a landscape level and to better coordinate federal agency efforts to eliminate duplication of efforts and funds.

SUFC represents diverse sectors and interests ranging from landscaping and tree care industries to planning and public works associations to academic and community nonprofits to professional foresters. The SUFC believes that vibrant, vital communities grow from healthy natural systems and fiscally-sound green solutions. The SUFC is a formal network of national organizations formed in 2004.

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Alliance for Community Trees

American Forests

American Nursery
and Landscape Association

American Planning Association

American Public Works Association

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

National Recreation and Parks Association

Society of American Foresters

Society of Municipal Arborists

Tree Care Industry Association

TreeLink

Utility Arborist Association

US Conference of Mayors

The Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC) is a group of national organizations advancing a unified urban forest agenda for our nation's communities.