

Tennessee Urban Forestry Council
Summary of Activities for 2011 to Meet its Educational Mission
(Federal Identification Number: 62-1497165)

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council suffered a setback in 2011 when the organization lost its executive director. In spite of this setback, the council continued to work toward meeting its educational mission by accomplishing 3 objectives.

1. Notable Trees Display. This photographic display continues to be popular across the state. This exhibit consists of large, poster size pictures of some of Tennessee's Champion trees and the Landmark and Historic trees. The display's purpose is to help raise awareness of the importance of trees and the benefits they provide. The display was shown at the Oak Ridge Science and Energy Museum, Woodland Tree Service in Memphis, and the City of Lakeland.
2. State Urban Forestry Conference and State Arborist Tree Climb Competition. The conference was held in Nashville September 29 & 30, 2011. Attendance was approximately 115 and consisted of tree care professionals, tree board members, and professional city foresters, horticulturists, landscape architects and related professionals. Presentations included insect and disease topics, the science of arboriculture and other educational topics that helped keep attendees abreast of current information in the field. The tree climb was a competition, but within the competition were educational elements of safety in working in trees.
3. Arboreta Recognitions. The Council continues to support the recognition of sites that qualify for arboretum status according to the standards set by the Council. Sites include school grounds and college grounds, museum grounds, parks, cemeteries, and commercial and industrial grounds. Sites must be open to the public so that individuals may view labeled trees and learn how to identify them. Currently, 66 sites are recognized. The council contracted to administer the program to catch up on re-certification of sites, and also updated the recognition sign.

Other activities include our continuing electronic newsletter which goes out to both members and a larger audience of individuals interested in urban forestry, and our Landmark and Historic tree register that records information about trees that may have been landmarks or witnessed historical events.