



## Urban and community forests

**Start or Improve** a municipal forestry program.

**Apply** for an Urban Forestry grant.

**Prepare** your community for emerald ash borer using the EAB Toolbox.

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### Urban Forestry Council

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### Contact information

[Sara Minkoff](#)

Urban Forestry Council  
liaison

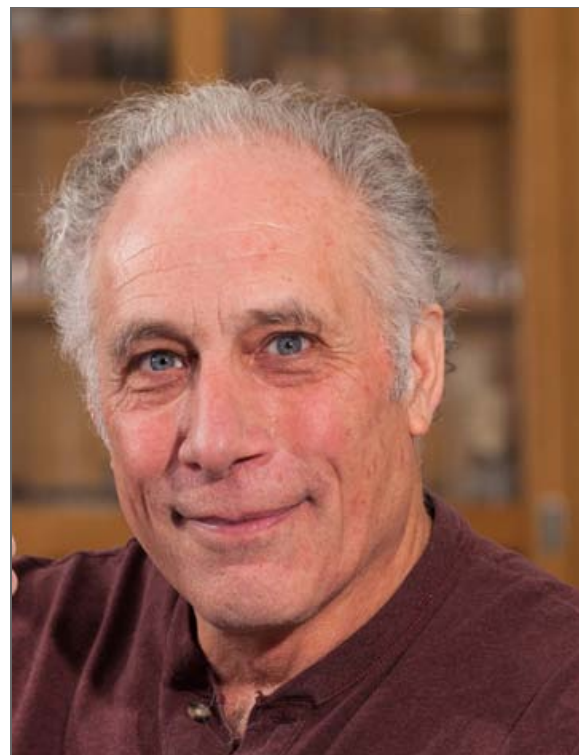
Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council

## Annual awards (2016)

### Distinguished Service

#### Phil Pellitteri, UW-Madison Distinguished Faculty Associate Emeritus

Phil Pellitteri is recognized for his extensive career contributions to the field of urban forest health through his work as the UW-Extension entomologist and head of the UW-Madison Insect Diagnostic Lab for 35 years. He is an icon in the insect world, has mentored and inspired thousands of students and professionals and provided advice to countless citizens throughout Wisconsin. Throughout his career, Phil has enthusiastically shared his extensive knowledge of insect problems threatening Wisconsin's urban forests by contributing to numerous publications, speaking at conferences, participating in workshops, working with the news media, and educating students, professionals and the general public.



### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Raymond P. Guries, UW-Madison Emeritus Professor of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, and Eugene B. Smalley (deceased), UW-Madison Emeritus Professor of Plant Pathology and Forestry

Raymond P. Guries and Eugene B. Smalley are recognized for their more than 30 year commitment to develop elm cultivars that are resistant to Dutch elm disease. Through their efforts, several cultivars were developed and elements of their research and testing program have been successfully integrated into current protocols that accelerate the selection of plant material. Ray and Eugene also strongly believed that their most important "product" was the training of graduate students and the discovery of basic facts about elm biology. Unlike other scientists whose research results in ideas to be disseminated in journals, they also produced a tangible product: the disease-resistant, ornamentally attractive elm. With their vision of beautiful trees gracing urban boulevards they inspired many others to continue research and development for urban tree species with the hope and expectation of discovering truly superior trees for our communities.



## PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

### Ozaukee County Fish Passage Program, Ulao Creek Restoration and Tree Planting Project

The Ozaukee County Fish Passage Program of the Ulao Creek Restoration and Tree Planting Project is being recognized for an extensive large-scale fish and wildlife habitat restoration project in the town and village of Grafton that is restoring multiple stream reaches through channel re-meandering, floodplain reconnection, wetland creation or enhancement, invasive plant removal, native plant restoration, and installation of fish and wildlife habitat features. A large component of the project included growing new partnerships, increasing community awareness, and creating educational opportunities. Much of the work has been conducted by partner organizations, most notably with involvement in tree planting and environmental education, and involved volunteers from nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, and local landowners and businesses. The project's impacts are ecologically and socially significant; in addition to improving the quality of water flowing into Lake Michigan, the project provides area residents with opportunities to enjoy nature-based recreational activities and increased access to our regional freshwater resources.



## INNOVATIONS IN URBAN FORESTRY

This category includes two winners.

### Wisconsin Urban Wood Network

The Wisconsin Urban Wood Network is receiving this award for their innovative approach to utilizing urban wood in new ways beyond the traditional methods of chipping the wood and using it for mulch. This group is a vibrant, growing, and diverse group of urban wood professionals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that recycle urban trees back into the social and economic lives of the community, recycling it into fine furniture, flooring, art and architecture. Network members include arborists, sawyers, kiln operators, woodworkers, and craftsmen that care about the environment, their clients and their employees, and love seeing great wood go to happy customers. Not only is this pioneering group aiding in the marketing urban wood, it is addressing an environmental need and instilling investment in the creation of private businesses. This network has already grown across the state and is garnering attention on the national stage.



### Alternative Revenue Work Group of the City of Madison Common Council

The Alternative Revenue Work Group of the City of Madison Common Council is being recognized as the first city in Wisconsin to establish an urban forest special charge to meet the growing needs of its urban forestry program designed to address the increasing costs of maintaining the urban forest threatened by emerald ash borer. The urban forest special charge is intended to provide sustained and dedicated funding for the city's urban forestry program and provides more flexibility to allow the city to adjust budgetary needs in response to special events such as storms and diseases. The charge is slated to raise \$1 million in revenue to support planting and maintaining public trees in terraces, parks and public lands and to help manage the results of emerald ash borer on the urban forest canopy in the city.



### Past recipients

[View our award recipients from previous years.](#)

### Award categories

The Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council presents annual awards to outstanding individuals, organizations, communities and tribes that further urban forestry in Wisconsin. The awards are announced each year at the annual Wisconsin Urban Forestry Conference and presented to winners in their community. The five categories of awards are:

1. **Lifetime Achievement** award recognizes outstanding contributions to urban forestry in Wisconsin demonstrated throughout a lifetime career.
2. **Distinguished Service** award recognizes an individual for their outstanding contributions to urban forestry in Wisconsin.
3. **Project Partnership** award recognizes outstanding projects that utilize partnerships as a means of providing services or benefits to the urban forest.
4. **Elected Official** award recognizes an elected official at the county or local level of government who has made an outstanding recent contribution to urban forestry in Wisconsin. This could be a mayor, alderman, county executive, etc., who has gone above and beyond in their support. Wisconsin State Legislators who have made outstanding contributions to urban forestry will also be considered after they have completed their terms of office.
5. **Innovations in Urban Forestry** award recognizes a community, individual, association or organization exhibiting outstanding innovations in the development or enhancement of an urban forestry project or program. This award recognizes the creativity, commitment and success of urban forestry efforts.

## Nomination process

Nominations must be submitted by **November 30** and include:

- Suggested award category.
- Name(s), address(es) and phone number(s) of the individual/organization, group, or project being nominated
- Project name, if applicable.
- Name(s), address(es) and phone numbers(s) of persons to be contacted regarding the nomination.
- A description of the merits of the nominee or the achievements of the project or partnership. Include the goals/objectives of the project and detail the outcome or impact the action had on the community. Why you believe this nominee is deserving of the award? Feel free to attach any supporting documents (news clippings, photos, letters, etc.) that strengthen the nomination.

Please keep nominations to a maximum of two pages (not including attachments).

Nominations should be sent to the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council, PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707 or can be emailed to [Sara.Minkoff@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sara.Minkoff@Wisconsin.gov). For additional information, please contact a member of the [Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council member](#) or [regional urban forestry coordinator](#).

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