



2011 Awards Package:

Golden Acorn Awards

Heritage Tree Award

Each year, Trees SC recognizes individuals, groups, organizations, municipalities and others for their contribution to urban and community forests in South Carolina by presenting the following awards:

The ***Golden Acorn for Distinguished Professional Service Award*** recognizes a professional for his/her outstanding contribution to urban and/or community forestry. Nominees can include foresters, arborists, growers, educators, and any other profession that has made a significant contribution to the field of urban forestry.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must be a current resident of South Carolina; actively employed in the field of urban and/or community forestry or a related field; and have a minimum of five years experience working on behalf of South Carolina's urban and community forests. Preference will be given to members of Trees SC.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Individual's contribution to urban and/or community forestry (30 points)
- Demonstrated commitment, dedication and effective leadership in job performance (30 points)
- Professional involvement at the local, state or national level (20 points)
- Volunteer activities in urban and/or community forestry outside of normal job duties (20 points)

Past award winners include Liz Gilland, Jane Hayes, Tom Knowles, Jack Walker, Debbie Price, Dr. Howard Tucker, Dr. Don Ham, Dr. Judy Caldwell and Eric Schultz.

The ***Golden Acorn for Distinguished Volunteer Service Award*** recognizes an individual for their outstanding contribution to urban and/or community forestry as a volunteer. Nominees must be a volunteer that has worked directly with a forester, arborist, grower, educator, community leader, elected official, or any other related organization that supports and promotes urban and/or community forestry. The volunteer must reside in and volunteer in South Carolina.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Individual's contribution to urban and/or community forestry (30 points)
- Vision of project/program (30 points)
- Educational impact of project/program (20 points)
- Community impact of volunteerism (20 points)

This award was created in 2009, with the inaugural award presented to Mary Lou Jones.

The *Golden Acorn for Outstanding Community Forestry Program Award* recognizes a **community organization** that provides exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban and/or community forestry program. Activities can include, but are not limited to, beautification, fundraising, partnerships, tree planting or preservation, scheduled tree maintenance, tree inventories, public education, and memorial tree planting programs.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must be a program managed by a community group or organization within South Carolina that has been in existence for more than 12 months. Preference will be given to members of Trees SC.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Proven success in managing the project/program (25 points)
- Vision of project/program (20 points)
- Education impact of project/program to include community outreach, volunteer involvement, etc. (20 points)
- Impact of project/program within the local community (15 points)
- Results of project/program (10 points)
- Demonstrated commitment to ensure longevity of the project/program to include maintenance plans, fundraising and partnerships (10 points)

Past award winners include the Town of McClellanville and the Camden Tree Foundation.

The *Golden Acorn for Outstanding Forestry Program Award* recognizes governments, universities and colleges, corporations and state agencies that provide exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban forestry program. Activities can include, but are not limited to, beautification, fundraising, partnerships, tree planting or preservation, scheduled tree maintenance, tree inventories, public education, and memorial tree planting programs.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must be a municipality, institute of higher education, land-grant institution, corporation, state agency or government entity located within South Carolina that has at least one forester on staff. Preference will be given to members of Trees SC.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Proven success in managing the program (25 points)
- Vision of program (20 points)

- Education impact of program to include community outreach, volunteer involvement, etc. (20 points)
- Potential impact of program within the local community (15 points)
- Results of program (10 points)
- Demonstrated commitment to ensure longevity of the program to include maintenance plans, funding and/or partnerships (10 points)

Past award winners include the City of Irmo, City of Florence, Clemson University, City of Dillon, Town of Hilton Head Island, Charleston Trees, Lexington County, the City of Charleston and Cypress Gardens.

The ***Heritage Tree Award*** identifies, celebrates and recognizes remarkable trees in South Carolina. Trees may be nominated as an individual or as a group, and are recognized by virtue of its age, its association with a historic structure or district, its association with a noted person or historic event, or its overall significance to the community that may or may not be historical. All trees nominated must be located in South Carolina either on public property or on private property which is easily accessible free of charge. Heritage Tree winners will receive a bronze plaque and agree to display the plaque in close proximity to the tree. The owner of the tree will be responsible for incurring all costs related to mounting the award.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Tree(s)' historical or cultural significance to the local community or state of South Carolina (40 points)
- Demonstrated community value/appreciation of tree(s) (30 points)
- Description of the tree(s)' maintenance plan (30 points)

Past award winners include the White Oak (Irmo), the Deerhead Oak (McClellanville), Wade Hampton Oak (Conway), Boundary Street oak allee (Aiken), Horseshoe (USC), the Angel Oak (Charleston), the Centennial Bur Oak (Clemson), and the Southern Magnolia (Winthrop University).

All nominations must be postmarked by **August 22, 2011**, and winners will be announced during the Trees SC annual conference in Columbia on October 28, 2011, to which winners will receive two complimentary tickets to the awards luncheon. For more information, please contact Karen Hauck at (843) 814-4620 or karen@treessc.org. Thank you for your assistance with recognizing outstanding contributions to urban and community forestry in our state.

Trees SC
GOLDEN ACORN AWARDS PROGRAM



AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Entry Deadline: Mail Postmarked by August 22, 2011

Mail completed entry to: Trees SC, PO Box 1679, Ladson, SC 29456

E-Mail (in pdf) by 5:00 pm on August 22, 2011 to karen@treessc.org

or fax to (843) 553-8772.

For more information, contact Karen Hauck at (843) 814-4620 or karen@treessc.org.

Date: _____

Nominated Person or Program: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Nominee's Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Category: (please check one)

_____ *Golden Acorn for Distinguished Professional Service Award*

_____ *Golden Acorn for Distinguished Volunteer Service Award*

_____ *Golden Acorn for Outstanding Community Forestry Program Award*

_____ *Golden Acorn for Outstanding Government Forestry Program Award*

Does the person or organization know that they are being nominated? ___Yes ___No

Please attach a narrative description (500 words or less using font size 12) of why this person or program is being nominated. You may attach up to three additional pages to include newspaper articles, other awards, stories, brochures, photos and/or plans. All supplemental information becomes the property of Trees SC and may be used in publications and promotional materials.

Person submitting nomination: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____



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Entry Deadline: Mail Postmarked by August 22, 2011

Mail completed entry to: Trees SC, PO Box 1679, Ladson, SC 29456

E-Mail (in pdf) by 5:00 pm on August 22, 2011 to karen@treessc.org.

Heritage Tree nominations may not be faxed.

For more information, contact Karen Hauck at (843) 814-4620 or karen@treessc.org.

Date: _____

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Tree(s) Common Name: _____

Genus and species (if known): _____

Land Proprietor's Name: _____

Land Proprietor's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Heritage Tree finalists will be asked to submit proof of public land ownership (property plat) prior to award announcement. Since Trees SC is a non-profit organization and not a legislative arm of the state, the Heritage Tree Program has no legal authority over nominations or protection of named Heritage Trees. Legal protection by the land proprietor for the trees is voluntary and optional. Trees SC believes that the formal recognition and educational value of the award may encourage future conservation of trees.

Heritage Tree Nominations

- (1) In 300 words or less, describe the historical or cultural significance of the tree(s). How does the community celebrate, value, or honor the tree(s)? Why is this tree(s) special to the community or the state of South Carolina?** Please attach any news clippings or other items that help illustrate the importance of this tree or group of trees (not to exceed three pages).
- (2) In 200 words or less, please describe the current maintenance or care the nominated tree or group of trees receives. Who maintains the tree or trees and on what frequency, i.e. every 2-3 years, yearly, twice per year, once per month, etc.?** Maintenance items to mention may include, but are not limited to the following: mulching, inspecting for dead branches, methods of restricting foot or vehicular traffic away from root zones, employing certified arborists for pruning jobs; etc.
- (3) Include an authentic photograph of the tree(s) taken within the last 12 months.** All photographs become the property of Trees SC and may be used in publications and promotional materials.
- (4) Please include a map/drawing of the tree(s)' exact location,** including street names and written directions from a main thoroughfare to the site.

Award Application Checklist

Ensure you have included the following items with your nomination:

- Description of tree(s)' significance
- Description of tree(s)' maintenance (type and frequency)
- Authentic photograph of tree(s) taken within the last 12 months
- Supporting articles/documentation (not to exceed five pages)
- Map/drawing to the tree(s)' exact location

Heritage Tree Award recipients will receive a bronze plaque to display at or around the tree. The owner of the tree agrees to cover all costs associated with mounting the award.