



30th Annual NY ReLeaf Conference

July 20-22, 2023 at Hofstra University, Hempstead NY

Register online: <https://nysufc.org/releaf-annual-conference/>

Join Us!

All tree enthusiasts are invited to attend this year's ReLeaf Conference at Hofstra University. This year's theme is "Keeping Trees in Mind, Planning for a Better Tomorrow." Trees can fix and mitigate issues ranging from climate change to stormwater control, and including trees in all stages of community planning helps maximize their benefits. We'll hear from speakers on how to plant trees properly, things to consider for finding the right tree for the right place, things to consider when writing tree ordinances, and more. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network and exchange ideas with leading urban forestry specialists and professionals.

Conference Purpose

New York ReLeaf is a state program promoting sound management and care of our state's community trees. It is a cooperative effort coordinated by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the NYS Urban Forestry Council (NYSUFC), with major funding supplied through the USDA Forest Service. The goal of New York ReLeaf is to create partnerships among tree professionals, citizen volunteers, educators, government, and the private sector. The annual ReLeaf State Conference brings together interested parties from across the state's nine regions to share experiences, ideas, and new information.

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing education credits may be available for DEC pesticide applicators, Society of American Foresters (SAF), International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP), and Landscape Architect (LA). Information regarding which credits have been approved for applicable presentations will be posted on the website as this information become available. Please check www.NYSUFC.org periodically for updated information or email urbanforestry@dec.ny.gov with any questions.

Conference Fees and Registration

The full conference fee includes refreshment breaks, lunches, tour transportation, the Friday night picnic, and transportation to the picnic site. The dorm fee includes breakfast and linens. Please see the registration form for details and pricing for conference registration (one day or the full event), lodging, meals etc. Please submit one registration form per attendee. Receipts for registration and dorm fees paid are available upon request. Register by May 31, 2023 for an early registration discount.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be made by July 12, 2023 to receive a refund, less any administrative costs incurred. Substitution of participants is allowed.

Additional places to stay in town

If you would prefer a hotel room to lodging in the campus dorms, there are several hotels in the vicinity of the Hofstra campus. For a complete list, please visit:

<https://www.hofstra.edu/visitors/hotels.html>.

Campus Information

- A map of the campus is available on Hofstra's website: <https://www.hofstra.edu/visitors/map.html>.
- Directions to campus by car and public transit are available on Hofstra's website: <https://www.hofstra.edu/visitors/directions.html>.
- Parking will be available free-of-charge in marked parking lots at Hofstra University.

Tourism information – make it a weekend!

We encourage you to check out all the region has to offer and make a weekend out of your conference. Arrive early on Thursday or stay Saturday afternoon to explore some of the sites before and after the conference!

Top 10 attractions in Nassau County: <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/3623/Top-10-Attractions>

The Town of Hempstead has several golf courses, both publicly and privately owned:

<https://hempsteadny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4295/Golf-in-Hempstead-Town-2022-PDF>

Nature and hiking

Lido Beach passive nature area: <https://hempsteadny.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Lido-Beach-Nature-Area-111>

Norman J Levy Park and Preserve: <https://hempsteadny.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Norman-J-Levy-Park-Preserve-110>

The Town of Hempstead has a complete list of walking, biking, and horseback riding trails in the area available as a PDF at <https://hempsteadny.gov/634/Trails>

Jones Beach State Park <https://parks.ny.gov/parks/jonesbeach/>

I Love NY Long Island attraction list <https://www.iloveny.com/places-to-go/long-island/attractions/>

Arboretums and botanical gardens

Planting Fields Arboretum: <https://plantingfields.org/hoursandadmission/>

Bayard Cutting Arboretum: <https://bayardcuttingarboretum.com/>

Carlls River Botanic Garden: <https://www.townofbabylon.com/471/Carlls-River-Botanical-Garden-at-Geiger->

2023 ReLeaf Conference Agenda

Thursday, July 20

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Sponsor and Vendor Exhibit Set up
3:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Attendee check in
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	NYS Urban Forestry Council Board Meeting
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Pre-conference activity: walking tour of Hofstra’s Bird Sanctuary
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	NYS Urban Forestry Council Members Meeting
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	NYS Urban Forestry Council Members Reception

Friday, July 21 Morning

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast for overnight guests
7:30 a.m.	Attendee check in opens
8:30 a.m.	Welcome to ReLeaf 2023! DEC Urban Forestry and NYS UFC opening remarks
8:45 – 9:30 a.m.	Selecting trees that thrive in urban landscapes Vinnie Simeone – Director, Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Keynote Dan Lambe – CEO, Arbor Day Foundation
10:00 – 10:05 a.m.	Exhibitor introductions
10:05 – 10:45 a.m.	Break – please visit our exhibitors and sponsors
10:50 – 11:50 a.m.	Concurrent workshop sessions Session A: “Caring for trees in the urban environment” Rich Gibney, RLA, ISA – Principle, Gibney Design LA PC Session B: “Tree ordinances” Alicia J. Ragusa, Esq. and a representative from a Long Island Community Session C: “Chemung County BRIC Grant” Kristin Griffiths – Deputy Director, Chemung County Emergency Management, and Dan Gaidasz, ISA – Technical Coordinator, Urban and Community Forestry Program, NYSDEC
12:00 p.m.	Lunch, and attendee check in closes

Friday July 21 Afternoon

- 1:30 – 2:00p.m. Board buses for local tours, or break if remaining for on campus workshop
- 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent local tours and on-site workshop
- Tour 1 Hempstead Plains. Tour this remnant of the grassland prairie that once comprised Nassau county and remains home to 250 plants including 6 state rare or endangered species
- Tour 2 Clark Botanic Garden. Tour this living museum and education facility featuring dozens of collections of plant families.
- Session F Hofstra Arboretum walking tour
- 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Return from tours, break, and meet buses for transport to picnic
- 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Travel to Jones Beach State Park and picnic dinner

Saturday, July 22

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast for overnight guests
- 8:00 a.m. Overnight guest check out opens
- 8:30 – 9:45 a.m. Concurrent workshops
- Session G “Urban Tree Troubles? Test don’t guess” Mina Vescera – Nursery and landscape specialist, CCE Suffolk County
- Session H “How to plant a tree using best management practices” Vinnie Drzewucki – Urban forestry and horticulture educator, CCE Nassau County
- 9:45. – 10:00 a.m. Break, please visit our exhibitors and sponsors
- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Concurrent workshops
- Session I “The impact of invasive trees in the urban environment”
Bill Jacobs – Program Manager, Long Island Invasive Species Management Area, and
Abby Bezrutczyk – Conservation Area Manager, Long Island Invasive Species Management Area
- Session J Hands on Tree Planting Demo at the Hofstra Arboretum
Michael Runkel – Director of Grounds and Landscape, Hofstra University,

Joe Patrone – Assistant director of grounds, Hofstra University, and Hofstra staff

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	“Infrastructure innovation for urban tree health and sustainability” Nina Bassuk, PhD – Professor Emeritus, Cornell University
12:00 p.m.	Grab and Go Lunch available
1:00 p.m.	Overnight guest check out closes, Conference ends

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information is also available in languages other than English.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2023 ReLeaf Conference Registration Form

Complete this form and return it with payment to: NYS Urban Forestry Council, 136 Everett Road, Albany NY 12205

To pay by credit card, please register online: <https://nysufc.org/releaf-annual-conference/>

Attendee Information

All entries are required. Please enter your name and affiliation as you'd like it to appear on your name badge.

Attendee name
(First and last):

Affiliation:

Phone number:

Email:

Pronouns: She/her/hers He/him/his They/them/theirs Neopronouns (_____)

Dietary preference, if any: Vegetarian Vegan Gluten Free

Dietary allergies, if any:

Drink preference (Reception and picnic) Beer Wine Hard cider Non-alcoholic

The NYS Urban Forestry Council may provide event sponsors with attendee names and emails. If you'd like to opt out of this please check here: I do not want my name and email shared with sponsors

Tours and Meals

Friday Afternoon Tours

Space is limited for offsite tours via bus; preregistration is required. Please select your tour from below:

- Offsite tour 1 – Hempstead Plains
- Offsite tour 2 – Clark Botanical Gardens
- Onsite tour of Hofstra's Arboretum

Friday Night Conference Picnic

Conference registration includes a picnic dinner Friday night at Jones Beach State Park. Space is limited for this event. Bussing to the picnic from campus is provided. Will you attend the picnic?

- Yes, I will attend the Friday night picnic
- No, I will not attend the Friday night picnic

Saturday Lunch

A grab and go style bagged lunch for Saturday is included in the cost for attendees participating in the full conference. For ordering purposes, please confirm whether you would like the bagged lunch or not:

- Yes I'm staying Saturday and want a bagged lunch
- No, I don't need a lunch

NYS Urban Forestry Council Member Status

Are you currently a member of the NYC Urban Forestry Council? (Check one)

- No, I'm not a member
- Yes, I am currently a member
- Yes – but I need to renew my membership (**add \$25 to your payment to renew your membership**)

Conference Registration

Check one to register - *Conference registration ends July 14th*

	Early (ends May 31)	Regular (June 1 – June 30)	Late (July 1-14)
Council Member – Full conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165
Council Member – Friday only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
General public – Full conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$145	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170	<input type="checkbox"/> \$190
General public – Friday only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> \$145
Student – full conference*	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65	n/a

***All attendees must be over 18.** If registering as a student, are you over 21? Yes No

Council member reception – Thursday night

Thursday night of the conference, the NYS Urban Forestry Council hosts a member's reception from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., which is included in registration for Council members. Non-council members are welcome to attend for an additional fee. Do you plan to attend the reception?

- Yes, I'll attend the reception. I am a Council member
- Yes, I'll attend the reception, but I am not a Council member (**add \$35 to your registration**)
- No, I will not attend the reception

Overnight Housing

Housing is in dorms on Hofstra's campus. Attendees are housed in single rooms that are part of a suite of 2-4 rooms that share a bathroom and common area. Overnight accommodations include breakfast the next morning. If you need special accommodations or have a request for suitemates, please email urbanforestry@dec.ny.gov

Overnight rate: \$95/night, please check which nights you'd like to stay.

- Thursday night
- Friday night
- Neither, I'll stay elsewhere

Total cost

Please tally up the cost of your conference registration, housing, and any additional add-ons.

Registration cost

Housing cost

Additional items (membership, reception if not a member)

Total Cost

Send a check made payable to: **NYS Urban Forestry Council**

**136 Everett Road
Albany, NY 12205**