

Overview

Alice Ewen Walker > Executive Director



Trees are essential to the health and livability of America's cities and towns. Nationwide, urban forest advocates are bringing this message home to elected officials, policymakers, and the public – resulting in tremendous advances in local policies and investment in support of trees. With cities from New York to Los Angeles planting millions of trees to promote climate protection, now is the time to advance a national agenda for

urban sustainability.

ACT is pleased to welcome you to Washington DC and the first Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum. This event is a direct result of interest expressed by ACT

members at our annual meeting in November. We hope to make it an annual tradition and look forward to your feedback on this inaugural effort.

Alliance for Community Trees is especially grateful for the leadership and support of Congressman Blumenauer for sponsoring today's session, Guy Hager for chairing the ACT Policy Committee, the Schmidt Family Foundation for continued support, our esteemed speakers and moderators, and the membership of ACT, whose collective voice we represent. Thank you to everyone for your time and leadership as we work together to grow support for urban forests.

Guy Hager > Policy Committee, Chair



As a way to maximize both listening and dialoguing opportunities, this two-day series of meetings has been broken up into a day for each. The Green Infrastructure Summit is a chance to listen to experts including Hill staffers, federal agencies, and ACT national partners. Then, we rejoin for the Urban Trees Forum, as urban forest leaders ready to roll up our sleeves and dialogue about the value of trees, elevate local success

stories to national models, and form task forces to champion targeted public policy.

The Urban Trees Forum is a collaborative effort led by ACT's Policy Committee. In each session, we will present to you ACT policy objectives as determined through membership

surveys, one or two organizations already modeling the envisioned outcome locally, and open up the session to small group discussions.

Thank you for joining us in this important discussion as we seek to elevate local success stories to national models and form task forces to champion targeted public policy. Now is the time to harness the momentum of a new Congress and a new administration. It is critical that Members of Congress understand the implications of policy choices on the ability of our cities to promote more sustainable development.

Acknowledgements

The Alliance for Community Trees thanks the members of its Policy Committee. They are:

Nancy Buley
J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.

Patrick Haller
TN Urban Forestry Council

Martha Ozonoff
California ReLeaf

Ray Tretheway
Sacramento Tree Foundation

Miquela Craytor
Sustainable South Bronx

Scott Jamieson
Bartlett Tree Experts

Shannon Ramsay
Trees Forever

Deborah Weinstein
TreePeople

Glenda Daniel
Openlands

Darin Johnson
New York Restoration Project

Teresa Rhodes
Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

Guy Hager
Parks & People Foundation

Michael Leff
PA Horticultural Society

Pamela Sapko
Delaware Center for Horticulture

