

Subcommittee Name: Advancing Arboriculture

Lead: Adam McCullough

Subcommittee Goal(s): Municipalities integrate trees as infrastructure, wisely managed for the greatest public good, over the long term.

Potential 2026 Subcommittee Tasks:

- Organize and host 2nd annual Arborist Day of Service.
 - Develop and implement a strategy for how to use the Day of Service to better serve, inform, support tree professionals in the state for their own benefit, and also for the municipalities that they work for.
 - Work with New England's ISA Chapter to host a Vermont-based Day of Safety (separate event, spring).
 - Support UCF's technical assistance wing by reading, reviewing and commenting on drafts for the urban forester's column.
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Subcommittee Name: Agency Partnerships & Collaboration

Lead: Elise Schadler

Subcommittee Goal(s):

1. UCF is known and recognized across agencies and departments, and appropriate collaborations can occur to advance programmatic goals.
2. Messaging about urban and community forestry in Vermont is consistent across state agencies and key NGO partnerships.
3. Progress towards urban forestry and related goals is more streamlined and efficient because of better collaboration between partners.

Potential 2026 Subcommittee Tasks:

- Hold space for updates at meetings to remain aware of complimentary and adjacent goals, programs, projects, and issues across agencies and departments.
 - Develop shared messaging and talking points about UCF-related topics such as green infrastructure, benefits of canopy cover, and town forests/conservation.
 - Ensure UCF is represented at key events/meetings/conferences.
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Subcommittee Name: Non-Profit Models for Urban and Community Forestry in Vermont

Lead: Joanne

Subcommittee Goal(s): To discuss current logistical and funding gaps presented by a lack of a Vermont-based non-profit that focuses on urban and community forestry. To identify models of non-profit formation that could grow in to filling this gap. *Note that this subcommittee will likely NOT meet until the fall.

Potential 2026 Subcommittee Tasks:

- Continue mapping out the objectives of an urban and community forestry non-profit.
- Review the [Coggle map](#) the group created last year and complete a gap analysis.

- Contact existing non-profits (both in VT and elsewhere) to learn more about operations, activities, applicability, etc.
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Subcommittee Name: Town Forests

Leads: Bob McCullough & Cecilia Danks

Subcommittee Goal(s): Community outreach to make towns aware of the long and valuable tradition of town forests in Vermont and in New England, an awareness that is a crucial part of the context for local decisions about how to use and manage these forests. Understanding why town forests were created is a key part of that context - recognizing that the tradition of town forests is one worth preserving.

Potential 2026 Subcommittee Tasks:

- Establish an agreement with county foresters/FPR to secure originals, copies, or scans of management records for Vermont town forests.
 - Establish use and dissemination of the urban and community forestry-related section of Bob's town forests bibliography.
 - Continue to support the Town Forest Census, in process.
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Subcommittee Name: VT UCF Strategic Planning

Lead: Elise Schadler

Subcommittee Goal(s): Continue to build out VT UCF's strategic plan and direction and support implementation and communication related to the plan.

Potential 2026 Subcommittee Tasks:

- Add metrics and targets to VT UCF's strategic plan (integrated into the [Division of Forests 2025 strategic plan](#))
- Support implementation of the strategic plan.
- Support the UCF Program in both communicating the plan itself, as well as key achievements that align with the plan.