

**Georgia Tree Council**  
**First Quarter Program**  
**State Arbor Day Event**  
Public Safety Building  
160 N. Main Street  
Madison, Georgia  
**February 20, 2024**



### Program Agenda

10:00 – 10:05 a.m.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Mary Lynne Beckley, Executive Director, Georgia Tree Council  
Robert Seamans, President, Georgia Tree Council

10:05 – 10:10 a.m.

#### **Urban Forestry Goals & Accomplishments in Madison, Georgia**

Monica Callahan, Planning & Development Director  
City of Madison, Georgia

10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

#### **Trees, People, and Rental Properties**

**Cassandra Johnson Gaither, Research Social Scientist with the U.S. Forest Service**, will speak on her work concerning trees and greenspace in older, intown communities, many with rental homes owned by absentee property-owners and corporations, which limits and changes the relationship that the actual residents have with their trees.

11:10 – 12:05 p.m.

#### **Caring for the Urban Forest in Rental Property Neighborhoods**

**Mateo Fennell, Athens Clarke County Community Forestry Coordinator**, will speak on the maintenance of existing and often, aging, tree canopy in these areas. *Mateo is an ISA-Certified Arborist and Tree Risk Assessment Qualified.*

12:05 – 1:00 p.m.

#### **State Arbor Day Event & Lunch**

The Georgia Forestry Commission honors and recognizes Tree City USA communities, Tree Campus USA Colleges and Universities, and Tree Line USA Utility Companies.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**Panel Discussion:** Representatives from the City of Tifton, the Georgia Arborist Association, the City of Dublin, and EcoAddendum, all recent **Trees Across Georgia and Georgia ReLeaf grant recipients**, will report on how they are addressing tree equity issues in underserved areas of their communities with this funding.

Adjourn