



... a volunteer training program aimed at *creating thoughtful advocates for urban & community forestry* initiatives throughout Savannah & Chatham County.

The Savannah Tree Foundation is launching an exciting new educational program in February! The Forest Steward Program, free and open to the public, is a series of monthly educational sessions taught by professional arborists and other experts.

Established through a grant from the Georgia Forestry Commission, the program is designed to educate individuals or groups with diverse interests in nature, hiking, the outdoors, our environment or gardening about the importance of trees and the conservation of our historic urban forest.

Beginning Sunday, February 28th, each two hour session will include a classroom component with training manual, and a hands-on field experience or demonstration at different locations in Savannah and Chatham County including Wormsloe Plantation, the Bamboo Farm, and Forsyth Park.

Sessions will feature a variety of topics including how to identify trees in natural habitats and urban settings, tree planting, mulching and pruning, preventing pests and diseases, root system care, ordinance and legal guidelines, and advocacy and management issues.

Participants will learn how to identify coastal cultivars from invasive species, how to care for, nurture and prune root systems, and how to prevent and correct root girdling. In addition, topics will cover Savannah Tree Foundation projects and goals, trees in the built environment, and home owners' concerns such as where to plant trees for optimal benefits.

Upon completion of the program series participants will have an increased awareness and appreciation of Savannah's urban forest and broad knowledge to better understand the important role of trees for human health and happiness.

Forest Steward volunteers will have special opportunities to lead tree walk tours, help with trail blazing in Bacon Park Forest, and assist with popular tree planting events for the public.

Join us and become a Forest Steward!

Please contact STF at 912 233 TREE to register for the Forest Stewards Program. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Visit our website www.savannahtreefoundation.com for more information and the schedule and locations of Forest Steward classes.