



2023 Awards Package:

Golden Acorn Award

Heritage Tree Award

Golden Acorn Award

Trees SC recognizes individuals, groups, organizations and municipalities for their contribution to urban and community forests in South Carolina by presenting the Golden Acorn Award for one of the following categories:

- ***Professional:*** foresters, arborists, growers, educators, and any other profession that has made a significant contribution to the field of urban and/or community forestry
- ***Volunteer:*** serving in the capacity of or working directly with a forester, arborist, grower, educator, community leader, elected official, or any other related organization that supports and promotes urban and/or community forestry
- ***Community Forestry Program:*** a community organization that provides exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban and/or community forestry program. Activities can include, but are not limited to, beautification, fundraising, partnerships, tree planting or preservation, scheduled tree maintenance, tree inventories, public education, and memorial tree planting programs.
- ***Forestry Program:*** governments, universities and colleges, corporations and state agencies that provide exemplary leadership and vision to a comprehensive urban forestry program. Activities can include, but are not limited to, beautification, fundraising, partnerships, tree planting or preservation, scheduled tree maintenance, tree inventories, public education, and memorial tree planting programs.

To be eligible for an award, the nominee must meet the following criteria; preference will be given to members of Trees SC.

- Current resident of South Carolina (nominated as an individual)
- Actively employed or volunteering in the field of urban and/or community forestry or a related field (nominated as an individual)
- Organization must be located within South Carolina (nominated as a program)

Heritage Tree Award

The *Heritage Tree Award* (sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts) identifies, celebrates and recognizes remarkable trees in South Carolina. Trees may be nominated as an individual or as a group, and are recognized by virtue of its age, its association with a historic structure or district, its association with a noted person or historic event, or its overall significance to the community that may or may not be historical. All trees nominated must be located in South Carolina either on public property or on property which is easily accessible free of charge. Heritage Tree winners will receive a bronze plaque and agree to display the plaque in close proximity to the tree. The owner of the tree will be responsible for incurring all costs related to mounting the award.

Nominations will be judged on the following criteria. Total possible points: 100

- Tree(s)' historical or cultural significance to the local community or state of South Carolina (40 points)
- Demonstrated community value/appreciation of tree(s) (30 points)
- Description of the tree(s)' maintenance plan (30 points)

All nominations must be postmarked by **August 1, 2023**, and winners will be announced during the Trees SC annual conference, to which winners will receive two complimentary tickets to the awards luncheon. For more information, please contact Sarah Morris at (864) 838-6557 or info@treessc.org. Thank you for your assistance with recognizing outstanding contributions to urban and community forestry in our state.

Trees SC
GOLDEN ACORN AWARD PROGRAM



AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Entry Deadline: Mail Postmarked by August 1, 2023

Mail completed entry to: Trees SC, PO Box 155, Blacksburg, SC 29702

E-Mail (in pdf, preferred method) by 5:00 pm on August 1, 2023 to info@treessc.org

For more information, contact Sarah Morris at (864) 838-6557 or info@treessc.org.

Date: _____

Nominated Person or Program: _____

Nominee's Address: _____

Nominee's Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Does the person or organization know that they are being nominated? ___Yes ___No

Please attach a narrative description (500 words or less using font size 12) of why this person or program is being nominated. You may attach up to three additional pages to include newspaper articles, other awards, stories, brochures, photos and/or plans. All supplemental information becomes the property of Trees SC and may be used in publications and promotional materials.

Person submitting nomination: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____



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Heritage Tree nominations may not be faxed, digital pictures preferred.

For more information, contact Sarah Morris at (864) 838-6557 or info@treessc.org.

Date: _____

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Tree(s) Common Name: _____

Genus and species (if known): _____

Land Proprietor's Name: _____

Land Proprietor's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Heritage Tree finalists will be asked to submit proof of public land ownership (property plat) prior to award announcement. Since Trees SC is a non-profit organization and not a legislative arm of the state, the Heritage Tree Program has no legal authority over nominations or protection of named Heritage Trees. Legal protection by the land proprietor for the trees is voluntary and optional. Trees SC believes that the formal recognition and educational value of the award may encourage future conservation of trees.

Heritage Tree Nominations

- (1) In 300 words or less, describe the historical or cultural significance of the tree(s). How does the community celebrate, value, or honor the tree(s)? Why is this tree(s) special to the community or the state of South Carolina?** Please attach any news clippings or other items that help illustrate the importance of this tree or group of trees (not to exceed three pages).
- (2) In 200 words or less, please describe the current maintenance or care the nominated tree or group of trees receives. Who maintains the tree or trees and on what frequency, i.e. every 2-3 years, yearly, twice per year, once per month, etc.?** Maintenance items to mention may include, but are not limited to the following: mulching, inspecting for dead branches, methods of restricting foot or vehicular traffic away from root zones, employing certified arborists for pruning jobs; etc.
- (3) Include an authentic photograph of the tree(s) taken within the last 12 months.** All photographs become the property of Trees SC and may be used in publications and promotional materials.
- (4) Please include a map/drawing of the tree(s)' exact location,** including street names and written directions from a main thoroughfare to the site.
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Award Application Checklist

Ensure you have included the following items with your nomination:

- ☐ Description of tree(s)' significance
- ☐ Description of tree(s)' maintenance (type and frequency)
- ☐ Authentic photograph of tree(s) taken within the last 12 months
- ☐ Supporting articles/documentation (not to exceed five pages)
- ☐ Map/drawing to the tree(s)' exact location

*Heritage Tree Award recipients will receive a bronze plaque to display at or around the tree.
The owner of the tree agrees to cover all costs associated with mounting the award.*