



For Immediate Release
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Two Tree Lafayette Board Members Recognized by Urban Forest Council

Larry Rose, president of Tree Lafayette, and Greg Shaner, chairman of the Tree Lafayette Tree Committee, were honored by the Indiana Urban Forest Council with two separate awards: Rose received the award in the Individual category, and Shaner received the award for Tree Steward. Rose has been president of Tree Lafayette since 2006, and Shaner has served on the board since 2009. Shaner is also a member of the IUFC, and was recently elected to the IUFC board of directors.

Rose was recognized for his outstanding contributions to enhance the environmental quality of life in Lafayette with his dedication to trees in an urban setting. Under his leadership as president, Tree Lafayette went from a small organization to one that has 12 board members, five different committees, and more than 100 volunteers.

Rose and Shaner were honored at the Indiana Urban Forest Council (IUFC) Fall Conference on Oct. 19, 2011.

“I was shocked to receive this award, after Greg Shaner, Tree Lafayette board member just received the outstanding Indiana Tree Steward award,” says Rose. “The Tree Lafayette Board of Directors is the best of all the not-for-profit boards.” Rose applauded all of the Tree Lafayette committee members who participate, and all of the volunteers who help on Arbor Day and other events.

“Shaner was recognized as Tree Steward of the Year because he epitomizes what being a Tree Steward is all about,” says Pam Louks, the urban forestry specialist with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the winner of the IUFC lifetime achievement award. Louks is the urban forestry specialist in the Division of Forestry, and coordinator of the CUF Program. “Shaner has worked throughout the state on tree planting and education initiatives, and is a member of the Urban Forestry Best Management Practices Work Group for the Indiana DNR.”

Other award winners who were recognized at the conference include the following: NIPSCO, a gas and electric services provider for Northern Indiana and La Porte County Nursery received an outstanding business award for planting trees on the site of public buildings in a manner that reduced energy costs; the IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) for preserving trees at their headquarters; Greendale, Ind. for outstanding Arbor Day; and the city of Fort Wayne, Ind. was recognized as Municipality of the Year.

About The IUFC: The Indiana Urban Forest Council has 130 members, who are individuals, businesses, municipalities, and others concerned with urban forestry issues. The organization is an advocate for urban forestry around Indiana and is an educational resource for communities and institutions on urban forestry. Find out more at www.iufc.org.

About Tree Lafayette: Tree Lafayette is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to plant trees in the urban environment, and to promote the importance of trees, particularly in an urban setting. Find out more at www.treelafayette.org.