University Sustainability Committee

Fall Meeting

October 13, 2026

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

Office of Sustainability

Sustainability Committee Meeting Agenda
https://sustainability.uta.edu/about/sustainability-committee/
October 13, 2025

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Code of Conduct for Engagement and Participation
Participate fully, mutual respect, assume good intention, and acceptance of shared responsibility

AGENDA

1. Green Fund – Meghna Tare
2. Graduate Certificate in Sustainability update – David Arditi
3. Bird Strike Monitoring-Kirsten Vernin and Friday Stout
4. Tree Campus Mapping- Kayli Nauls, CAPPA student
5. Spring Sustainability Symposium- Open Discussion

Graduate Certificate in Sustainability

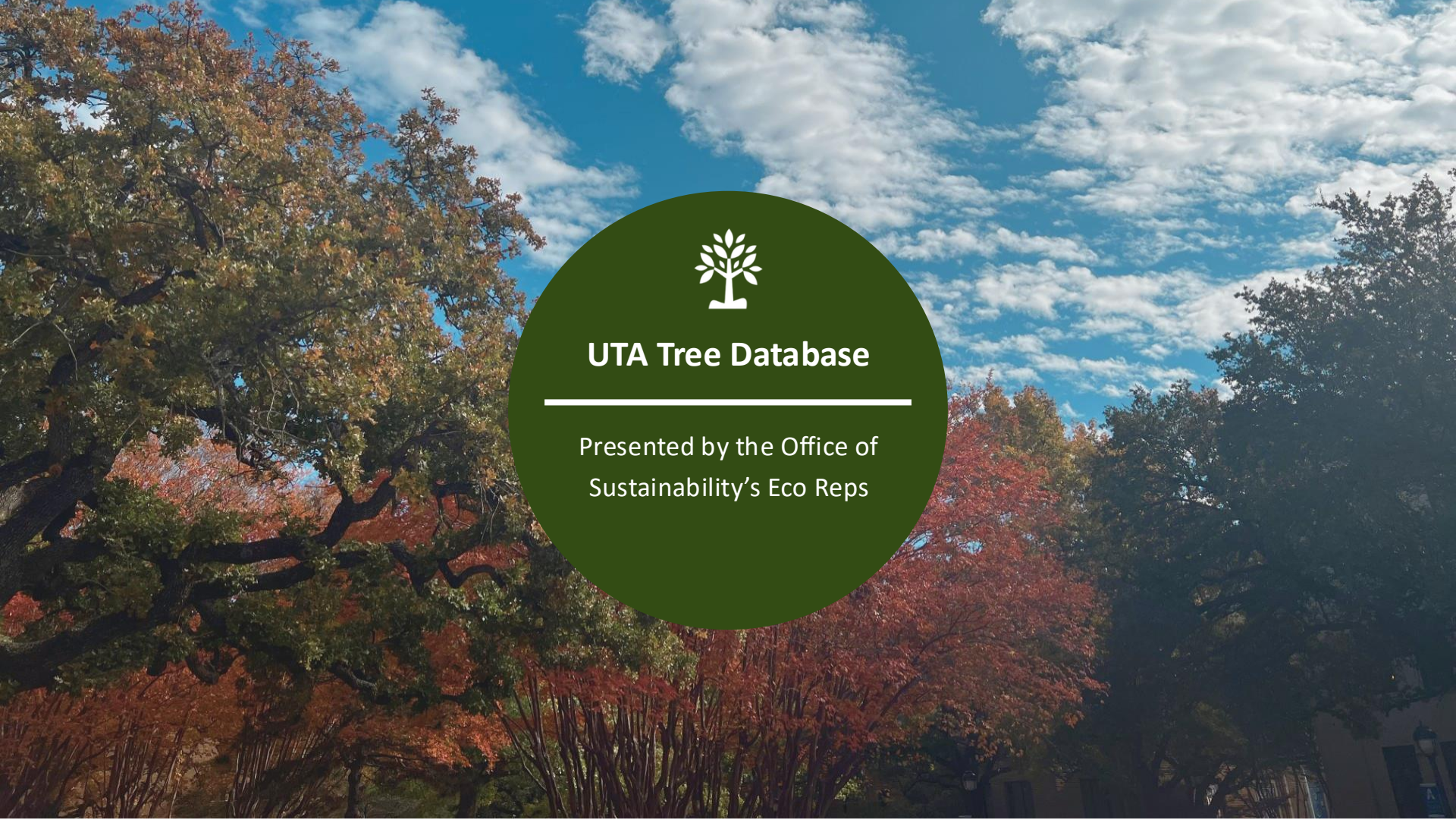
- **12 Total Credit Hours**
- Required 3 Credit hours
  - SOCI 5350 – Sustainable Society

- Select one course from three different areas: Total 9 credit hours
  - Politics and Policy
  - Organizational Sustainability
  - Sustainable Health and Humanity
  - Engineering Sustainability and the Built Environment
  - Science of Sustainability

Graduate Certificate in Sustainability

- Donation from The Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation

- Faculty Advisory Board
  - Wei Zhai, Associate Professor of Public Affairs and Planning
  - Laura Bray, Assistant Professor of Sociology
  - Garrett Shost , Assistant Professor of Economics
  - David Arditi, Professor of Sociology



UTA Tree Database

Presented by the Office of Sustainability's Eco Reps

Content

1. Meet The Team
2. Objectives For The Tree Database
3. Timeline
4. Collecting Basic Tree Data

Meet The Team!



Kayli Nauls

Research Coordinator

3rd-year Sustainable Urban Design Student



Noah Burrier

Social Media Manager + Graphic Designer

3rd-year Sustainable Urban Design Student



Objectives For The Tree Database

- *Become recognized by Tree Campus Higher Education by the Arbor Day Foundation*
- *More collaboration with Grounds Maintenance & campus*
- *Have a clear inventory of what trees we have on campus for future projects/advocacy*
- *Creating a database for future student & campus use*

Objectives For The Tree Database

Tree Campus by the Arbor Day Foundation

What is The Purpose of Tree Campus?

Tree Campus Higher Education is a national recognition program that helps colleges and universities plant, nurture, and celebrate trees on campus and beyond.



What Is Required to Be A Part of Tree Campus?

- Standard 1: Campus Tree Advisory Committee
- Standard 2: Campus Tree Care Plan
- Standard 3: Campus Tree Program with Dedicated Annual Expenditures
- Standard 4: Arbor Day Observance
- Standard 5: Service Learning Project

Objectives For The Tree Database

Collaboration with Grounds Maintenance & Campus

This is necessary because Tree Campus's Standards require help from both grounds maintenance and the campus

Standard 2: Campus Tree Care Plan

- Create and implement a comprehensive plan that outlines how your campus will care for trees sustainably over time.
- A Campus Tree Care Plan must include the following elements:
  - Clearly stated purpose.
  - Responsible authority/department
  - Establishment of a Campus Tree Advisory Committee
  - Campus tree care policies
  - Protection and Preservation policies and procedures
  - Goals and Targets
  - Tree damage assessment
  - Prohibited practices.
  - Definitions of terminology related to campus trees.
  - Communication strategy



Objectives For The Tree Database

Collaboration with Grounds Maintenance & Campus

This is necessary because Tree Campus's Standards require the help from both grounds maintenance and the campus

Standard 3: Campus Tree Program with Dedicated Annual Expenditures

- Invest annually in your campus tree care program to show your commitment to a healthy urban forest.
- Standard Description
  - Campuses must show they have a recurring budget dedicated to their campuses tree program. It is suggested, but not mandatory, that campuses work towards an annual expenditure of $3 per full-time enrolled student.
  - Cost of trees purchased
  - Labor, equipment and supplies for tree planting, maintenance (pruning, watering, fertilization, mulching, competition control, etc.) and removal, if needed
  - Value of volunteer labor and other contributions from student or civic organizations
  - Staff time dedicated to campus forest planning, tree care contractors
  - All associated costs of the campus tree management

Objectives For The Tree Database

Inventory For Future Projects & Advocacy



Projects

- Doing a deeper dive into our trees
- Research
- Gardening projects
- Hammocks

Advocacy

- Tree Canopies
- Native Trees
- Trees that encourage biodiversity

Objectives For The Tree Database

Database For Future Student & Campus Use

Potential Student Use

- Studio Projects
- Labs
- Research
- Horiculture
- Environmental Studies

Potential Campus Use

- Participating in Arbor Day
- Grounds Maintenance
- Educating students on trees
- Volunteering opportunities



Timeline







Collecting Basic Tree Data
Fall 2026-Spring 2028

Collaboration + Reflection
Fall 2028-Spring 2029

Specialization + Progression
Fall 2029-Spring 2036

Collecting Basic Tree Data

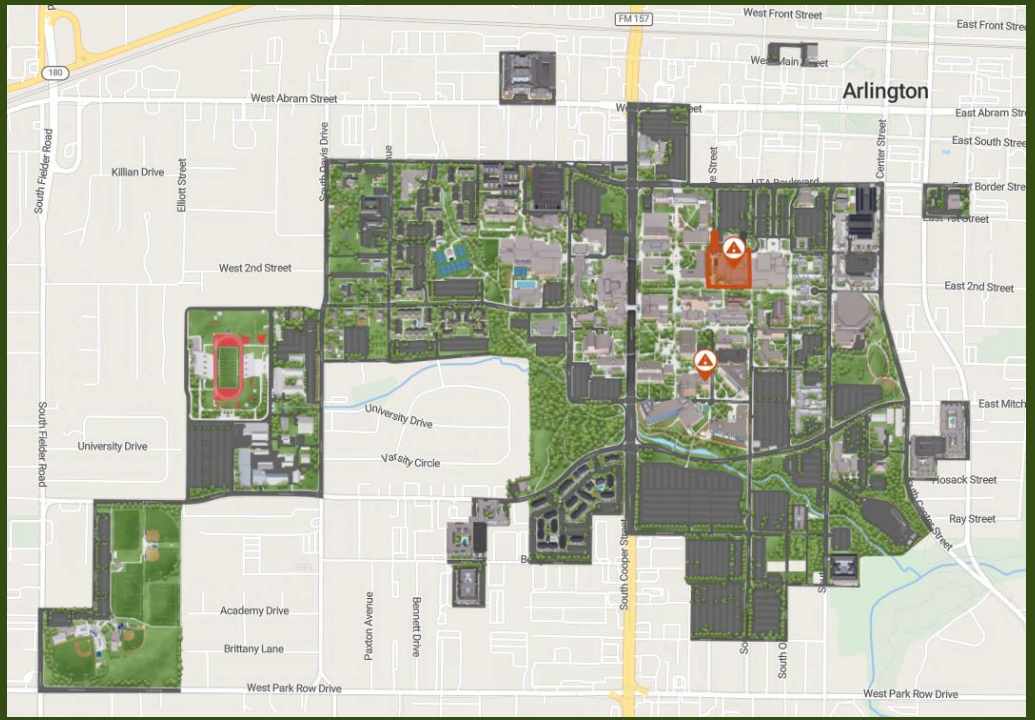
Project Focus

- Where the trees are on campus
- How many trees are on campus
- What type of trees are on campus

Tools

- iNaturalist
- ArcGIS

Area Coverage




Thank You!

Discussion

- Sustainability Symposium?
- What projects can we work on?