

UCFS Board Member Profile: Emily King

Name: Emily King

City, State/Province, Country: Austin, TX

Place of Employment: City of Austin

Job Title: Urban Forester

Educational level and major field: BS in Forest Management from Texas A&M University

List any professional certifications:

- ISA Certified Arborist
- Certified Urban Forest Professional



List any other urban forestry, arboriculture, or related organizations you're involved with:

- International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) - ISA Texas Chapter

LinkedIn profile link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/emily-king-4291a820/>

Brief bio:

I currently serve as the City of Austin's Urban Forester. I have a degree in Forest Management from Texas A&M University and am an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist and Certified Urban Forest Professional. I've worked in the field of urban & community forestry for over 20 years.

I have experience serving on boards – in the past I served on the board of directors for the Texas Chapter of ISA, and have served on the board of directors for the Urban & Community Forestry Society over the last year. I am the treasurer and membership coordinator for my community garden and volunteer at my kids' schools. I've got 2 kiddos, 3 cats, and enjoy reading, gardening and crafts.

What got you interested in the field of urban forestry?

I love walks in the woods. For the first few years of college, I bounced around in General Studies, and when I finally had to pick a major I found out that Forest Management was an option. Sign me up! While in school, I had opportunities to attend urban forestry conferences and landed summer internships. I appreciated that urban trees are valued beyond their mill potential, and ended up following the path through the urban forest for my career.

In what ways do you want to contribute to the [mission](#) and [strategic direction](#) of UCFS? Are you particularly interested in a certain area of board service such as governance, policy, outreach, financial oversight, etc.? Do you see any of your strengths being especially helpful to leading the organization?

I really enjoy problem solving, and working with people that are driven to do more. Over the past year, I have become involved with UCFS's work to daylight the new Certified Urban Forest Professional credential. I'm pretty excited about this – I see a ton of potential and opportunity for people working in our field to become more involved, more supported, and to have more confidence in their work through this credential.

What makes you happy about being an UCFS member?

It is a good fit; the group is inclusive and opens the door for me to connect with so many of you good people doing similar work.

Favorite tree and why?

Bur oak – *Quercus macrocarpa* – Have you seen those acorns! How could anyone not love these things? And the deep furrows in the bark on the more mature trees? Amazing.