

The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management
and partners present
the **2025 Annual**

Urban and Community Forestry Awards

Call for nominations! Submit by January 30, 2026

Who made a difference in your urban forest in 2025?



COMMUNITY TREE ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

A volunteer

IRONWOOD AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

A government official or employee

PONDEROSA PINE PARTNERSHIP AWARD

An innovative urban forestry partnership

PALO VERDE AWARD FOR URBAN FORESTRY ENHANCEMENT

A business or organization

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE MANAGEMENT

Urban and Community Forestry Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management and partners are pleased to announce the 2025 Call for Nominations for the following recognition categories (for work done in the 2025 calendar year):



COMMUNITY TREE ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

This award is for an outstanding individual who has positively impacted their community through their dedication to forestry and responsible management of urban forest resources. This person is currently not employed as a forester or in a related field. Arizona residency is not required, but the service must have been performed in Arizona as a volunteer, not a paid position.



PALO VERDE AWARD FOR URBAN FORESTRY ENHANCEMENT

This award is given to an exceptional business or organization whose work provides innovative leadership or contributions of talent and effort that enable the advancement of sustainable community forestry efforts at a local or state level.



IRONWOOD AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

This award is presented to an exemplary government official or employee* who, through extraordinary efforts, has significantly and positively contributed to and enhanced urban forest management at a community or state level.

**DFFM employees are not eligible for this award.*



PONDEROSA PINE PARTNERSHIP AWARD

To increase the recognition of outstanding urban forestry projects in Arizona, this award is presented for the innovative, strategic, and/or pioneering partnerships and collaborative efforts of organizations in Arizona. It recognizes a project for exceptional involvement of multiple organizations that was implemented in 2025.

WHY NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THESE AWARDS?

This is an opportunity to celebrate, share, and increase awareness of urban forestry and the people championing urban forestry efforts in Arizona. When you nominate someone, you are letting them know that their work is appreciated by their community. These awards provide an opportunity for folks to share their story with the greater statewide community, increase support of their work, and inspire others to get involved in their own way.

Both winners and nominees will be displayed on the Department of Forestry and Fire Management's website for a full year after being nominated. The winners receive an award plaque that lasts a lifetime, which will be presented at the Arizona State Arbor Day Ceremony at the State Capitol.

Please note that DFFM employees are not eligible for these awards. We'd like to recognize others doing great work!

Submission Instructions

Use [this online form](#) OR email your nominations to afaller@dffm.az.gov by January 30th, 2026 to be considered. Please submit separate nominations for individuals that you would like to nominate for multiple categories.

Check out last year's awardees [on our website](#) for inspiration!

All submissions must include:

1. Name of Nominator
2. Nominator contact information [email, phone number]
3. Name of Nominee
4. Nominee contact information [email, phone number, mailing address]
5. Description of how the nominee meets the criteria described in the award. Include sufficient information to demonstrate that the individual/business/project meets the award category and intent.
6. For the Ponderosa Pine Partnership Award only, please include a photograph(s) of the collaborative project/project area.

Winners will be notified in March 2026 and awards will be presented at the Arizona State Arbor Day Ceremony in April 2026.