



## **About our Speakers:**

### **Christie Bryant: Speaking for the Trees**

Christie is the former President of the GAA, and is currently serving her 6<sup>th</sup> term on the Board of the GAA. Christie ran the Tree Healthcare division at Gunnison Tree Specialists and currently serves as a consultant at her own company, Speaking for Trees. She has a degree in Environmental Horticulture from Chattahoochee Tech, and is also trained as a Horticultural Therapist.

### **Jeff Dadisman: City of Brookhaven**

Graduated from the University of Georgia in 2007 with a Bachelors degree in Plant Biology. Worked as a horticulture specialist at the UGA Department of Plant Biology Research Greenhouse Facility for three years before going back to obtain a Masters degree in Environmental Planning and Design.

Moved to Denver, Colorado in 2012 and worked as a horticulture specialist and then operations supervisor for Denver Parks for four years, and then served a similar role as the horticulture manager for Mecklenburg County in Charlotte, NC for two years before moving to Atlanta. Have been an ISA Certified Arborist for three years and am a member of the Georgia Arborist Association.

Currently the Arborist Division Manager for the City of Brookhaven, located within northeast Atlanta. Began with the city of Brookhaven two years ago, with the primary task being to rewrite the entire Brookhaven tree ordinance and initiate tree planting and specialty tree care projects throughout the city. Day to day responsibilities also include permit and plan review, as well as field inspections and enforcement. Enjoy the many interactions with other arborists, both municipal and private sector, and tree care professionals. Also enjoy engaging and working with builders and homeowners to make thoughtful tree management decisions, place a higher value on prescriptive tree care and pruning, being a part of challenging yet rewarding tree preservation projects such as root bridging, and leading prairie restoration projects within park areas and utility easements where trees are problematic.

### **Kay Evanovich: City of Decatur**

Kay is a board member of the GAA, currently serving her 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Kay serves as the City of Decatur Arborist. Kay is a certified arborist with 34 years' experience in the field. Her primary experience came from 1999 to 2010 when she was DeKalb County's Chief of Environment, Land Development and Building Inspection. From 2009 to 2014, she was a self-employed arborist, substitute teacher and soccer coach. She also served as Brookhaven's City Arborist and Land Development Inspector for Brookhaven.

