



FORESTRY UNIT
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AND HOUSING



PRESENTS

FORESTRY AWARENESS WEEK (FAW)



"FORESTS AND EDUCATION"

18TH- 22ND MARCH 2019



About The Forestry Unit

WHAT IS FORESTRY?

Forestry is the science, art, and practice of managing, using and conserving trees or forests and the associated natural resources for human benefit, in a sustainable manner to meet desired goals, needs, and values.

Vision

To ensure the valuable natural forest resources of the Bahamas are managed in a sustained manner, in perpetuity.

Mission

Guided by prudent policy and the provisions of the Forestry Act 2010 and Regulations, the forest resources of the Bahamas will be sustainably managed as a viable renewable natural resource for the benefit of The Bahamas.

Mandate

To develop the forest resources of the Bahamas to their maximum potential by applying sound, scientific, and sustained yield forest management principles and concepts.

Forestry Legislation

Forestry Act 2010 came in to effect on 4th January 2011.

Forestry Amendment 2014 which allows for selected forest Crown Land, to be vested in the Minister responsible for Forestry. Forestry Regulations 2014 came into effect on 8th July 2014.

Forestry Pledge

I pledge my allegiance to the forests that grow in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and to tell all people of its great benefits.

I pledge to seek to engender in them a passion for the preservation of forests and trees outside of forests.

I pledge to never illegally dump garbage, light fires or remove natural resources from the forests without the proper consent.

I pledge to care for the coppice, protect the pine and to manage the mangroves.

Above all, I pledge to be a land steward and to train my children to be one also to ensure that the forests are protected into perpetuity.

History of Forestry in the Bahamas

The Bahamas possesses substantial forest resources, comprising of coppice (hardwood), mangroves, and pine forests. Of this, pine forests have the highest economic potential with 20% on private lands and 80% on crown lands.

We have a long history of forest exploitation dating back to the 1700's where many hardwood trees like brasiletto and mahogany and pine trees were harvested. Pine in the country were severely exploited in the 1960's & 1970's.

Highlights of Forestry Unit Activities 2018- 2019

Florida Prescribe Burning Training



Officer Demeris Armbrister, Terrance Rodgers, and Wavell Hanna in Central Florida



Officer Wavell Hanna receiving a briefing



Burn Bosses engaged in a prescribe burn

Jr. Minister of the Environment Competition



Carmetta Barry 1st Place Winner in the Jr. Minister of the Environment Competition



Some of the participants in the 1st Jr Minister of the Environment Competition

The Jr. Minister of the Environment Competition was launched in November, 2017, with six (6) challenges for students to complete, such as coastal management, volunteerism, climate change, solid waste management, ecological diversity and environmental consciousness. Students were asked to devise strategies to manage these problems. The overall goal of the competition was to attract the attention of students with respect to the environment. Some 35 students from schools in New Providence and the Family Islands participated. The final event, a speech competition was held at the Baha Mar Resort Convention Centre on the 21st March 2018. Ms. Carmetta Barry, an 11th grade student from the C. R. Walker High School emerged as the overall winner, and was crowned the first "Jr Minister of the Environment".

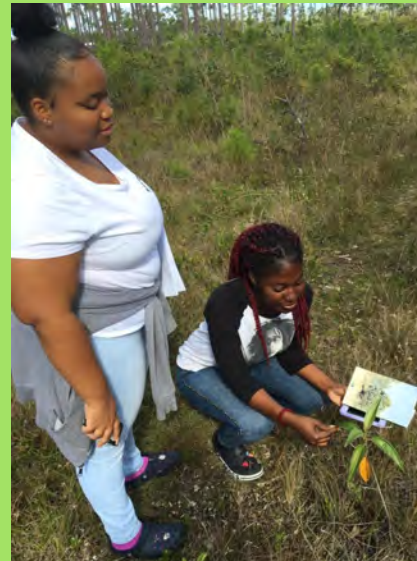
Forestry Camp and School 365 Program



Restoration & Remediation Projects



SEED COLLECTION WITH ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, U.K.



Forest Inventory Training and Other Field Activities



PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIP



Agriculture teachers field trip into the pine forest



Field trip with teachers from Ministry of Education's Professional Development Workshop



Forestry Exhibition Booth at World Food Day



Wild Bird Hunting Town Meeting at Bahamas National Trust



StemForce Program Courtesy call on the Forestry Unit



FA III Amano Williams Supporting University of The Bahamas



Forestry Exhibition Booth at The Mall at Marathon



Administrative field trip with Ministry of Environment & Housing



Heavenly Plam MOU Signing with the Forestry Unit

The 10,000 Trees Campaign and FAW's National Native Tree Planting Initiative with Members of Parliament



Hon. Dionisio D'Aguilar



Hon. Romauld Ferreira



Hon. Brensil Rolle



Hon. Halson Moutire



Couresty Call on the Permanent Secretary



Donating Trees to Pinewood Parks



Peace Garden with Rotary Club at BTVI



FAW 2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



FAW Events 2019

- *Bahamas at Sunrise Appearance*
- *Selfie Competition*
- *History of logging and Forestry in The Bahamas Documentary to be aired on ZNS*
- *Radio Appearances*
- *School Visits*
- *Round Table Discussion at The University of The Bahamas*
- *Forestry Exhibition Booth 3-7pm at The Mall at Marathon*

About School 365 Program

A program designed to instill a love for the environment in students by visiting schools in The Bahamas and teaching them about the benefits of trees and forests.

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ABOUT FAW

Forestry Awareness Week is a week of activities held to commemorate World Forestry Day/ International Day of Forests, which is celebrated annually on 21st March. The observance of this day is meant to celebrate and promote the significant benefits provided by trees. It is also intended to educate the public and build awareness on matters affecting forests.

Royal Botanic Gardens, KEW, Seed Banking Initiative

The Forestry Unit has a partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The project is The Global Tree Seed Project. Chief among the many opportunities a project such as this affords The Bahamas is the establishment of our own seed bank.

About 10,000 Trees Campaign

In 2017 The Bahamas pledged to plant 10,000 trees in contribution to Environment Online worldwide 100 Million Trees Initiative. This goal was met on December 31st 2017.

About Forestry Summer Camp

Forestry Summer Camp a fun, educational, action-packed week lead by the Forestry Unit where students get hands-on experience with different forests ecosystems in The Bahamas and how to protect them. 24th-28th June 2019



The Nature
Conservancy



Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew