



# FORESTRY UNIT

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING



PRESENTS

# FORESTRY AWARENESS WEEK



## "FORESTS AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES"

18TH - 22ND MARCH 2019



# ABOUT THE FORESTRY UNIT

## WHAT IS FORESTRY?

Forestry means the profession embracing the science, art, and practice of managing, using and conserving trees or forests and the associated natural resources for human benefit, and 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.

### 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.

### 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

### WHAT MAKES A CITY SUSTAINABLE?

- Adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services
- Access to safe, affordable, and sustainable transport systems for all
- Inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for sustainable human settlement planning and management
- Efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
- Reduce the number of deaths, people affected, and direct economic losses caused by disasters
- Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities
- Universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces
- Increase the number of cities implementing policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and resilience to disasters
- Support least developed countries

# HIGHLIGHTS OF FORESTRY UNIT ACTIVITIES

2017-2018

## SEED COLLECTION TRAINING FOR A NATIONAL SEED BANK WITH ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, U.K



## FOREST INVENTORY TRAINING WITH DRONES AND OTHER FORESTRY EQUIPMENT



# FORESTRY CAMP AND SCHOOL 365 PROGRAM



# RESTORATION AND REMEDIATION PROJECTS ON ANDROS AND NEW PROVIDENCE



## WILDERNESS AND FIRE SAFETY TRAINING AT ANDROS, FORFAR FIELD STATION



# PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIPS



Forestry Unit receives a certificate of contribution to the 100 Million Tree initiative.



Forestry Unit signs MOU with Friends of the Environment in Abaco.



Forestry Unit shares healthy bush teas at World Food Day celebration with First Lady Minnis & Minister Wells



Forestry Unit toasting at World Food Day celebration



Forestry Unit signs MOU with Creative Nassau.



Sharing the importance of forests on Guardian Radio.

# THE 10,000 TREES CAMPAIGN



Founder of Environment Online Mika Vanhanen with Errington Thompson during his country visit.



Final Tree planting by Prime Minister Hubert Minnis, Governor General Dame Marguerite Pindling and Minister of Environment and Housing Romauld Ferreira.



Minister Ferreira plants a tree at Bahamas Commonwealth Brewery



Minister Ferreira plants a tree in the National Art Gallery Garden.



The Rotary Club creating a Peace Garden at C.C. Sweeting.



# FAW 2019

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### MONDAY 18TH MARCH

- Bahamas at Sunrise Appearance at 6am
- National countrywide tree planting by parliamentarians at 10am
- Selfie Competition Begins

### WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

- Jr. Minister of the Environment Speech Competition and Award Presentation at 9am at Baha Mar
- State of the Forests Address by Minister Ferreira on ZNS at 8pm

### THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

- Forests and Sustainable Cities roundtable at The University of The Bahamas, American Corner, 4-6pm

### FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

- World Forestry Day Sustainable Cities Motorcade at 10am
- Selfie Competition Ends

### OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Radio appearances
- School visits
- Forestry Exhibition Booth 3-8pm @ The Mall at Marathon

### 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 the different forests types in The Bahamas and how to protect them.

25th 29th June 2018

### ABOUT SCHOOL 365 CAMPAIGN

The purpose of the Forestry Unit's School 365 Campaign is sharing the work of the Forestry Unit and instilling in a love for the environment in students by visiting schools on all the islands of The Bahamas.

### 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.

### FAW IS COMMITTED TO:

- Informing Bahamians about the benefits of forests and trees
- Promoting sustainable use of local timber and non-timber forest resources
- Encouraging native/local tree plantings
- Reducing deforestation

### CONTACT US:

Charlotte House (Ground Floor)  
Charlotte Street & Shirley Street  
Phone: 242-322-4546  
Email: [forestryinfo@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:forestryinfo@bahamas.gov.bs)  
Facebook: Bahamas Forestry  
Web: [www.bahamas.gov.bs/bahamasforestry](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/bahamasforestry)



The Nature Conservancy



Royal Botanic Gardens  
Kew

