

Eric Bridges – Natural Resources Director for the City of Lakeland.

Eric is an SAF Certified Forester and an ISA Certified Arborist - Municipal Specialist. He earned a B.S. in Forestry, summa cum laude, from Colorado State University and is currently a graduate student in Urban Ecology at the University of Memphis. He has practiced forestry for the past 20 years at the federal, state, municipal, and private level. Professional services include serving on the Greening Greater Memphis Board of Directors and as a member of Mayor Wharton's Sustainability Initiative. Other professional activities include serving on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council and as president of the West Tennessee Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. Eric has presented on sustainability issues at the many conferences and is an instructor in the University of Tennessee's Master Urban Forestry program. He lives in Memphis with his wife of 14 years and their 8-year old son.

Nick Bridgeman – Forester for the City of Lakeland.

Nick obtained a B.S. in Forest Resource Management from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 2005. In 2004 he was granted an internship with the USFS FIA unit in Knoxville as a Biological Technician and as a Cartographic Aid. Since his arrival at Lakeland 4 years ago, he has worked closely with the Natural Resources Director to develop and implement the City's Natural Resources Inventory, Natural Resources Assessment, and Conservation Priority Index (CPI). He also currently serves West Tennessee SAF as Chair and West Tennessee TN Urban Forestry Council Chair. He is currently certified by ISA as a Certified Arborist and Municipal Specialist as well as a graduate of the Municipal Forestry Institute.