

**Friends of the Urban Forest**  
**2012 Board Self-Assessment Survey**

The Committee on Directors has prepared this Survey after review of several examples of other similar tools used by non-profits. We ask that you complete the survey as soon as you receive it (at least by May 14 so that results can be analyzed and presented at our May 22 Board meeting).

**For questions 1 – 19 of this BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT SURVEY please rate your assessment of the Board of Directors' performance on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 = Not At All Confident, and 5 – Very Confident.**

**How confident are you that as an effective governing body, the FUF Board:**

1. Monitors and evaluates the performance of the executive director on a regular basis?
2. Has sufficient oversight to be reasonably confident in our legal compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, including compliance with filing requirements and periodic reporting requirements?
3. Has sufficient oversight to be reasonably confident that significant government contract obligations are fulfilled?
4. Fulfills its financial oversight responsibilities including:
  - a. regular review of FUF's financial performance and projections,
  - b. review and approval of the annual budget
  - c. review and approval of audited financial statements and tax returns
5. Has a strategic vision for FUF and clear goals and actions resulting from realistic strategic planning?
6. Oversees and evaluates (but does not manage) FUF's programs to ensure they are effective and in keeping with FUF's mission and strategic plan?
7. Works productively and effectively with the Executive Director and, where appropriate, with the staff?
8. Has adopted a fundraising strategy (that combines contributions, earned income and other revenue) to ensure adequate resources for FUF's programs and services?
9. Has a clear policy on the responsibilities of Board members in fundraising?
10. Has adopted a conflict of interest policy that is discussed regularly?
11. Currently contains an appropriate range of expertise and diversity to make it an effective governing and fundraising body?
12. Regularly assesses its own work?
13. Provides new Board members with a rigorous orientation before they attend their first meeting?
14. Has a Committee structure that works well?

**How confident are you that most or all Board members:**

15. Understand the mission and purpose of FUF?
16. Are adequately knowledgeable about FUF's programs?
17. Act as ambassadors to the community on behalf of FUF?
18. Follow through on commitments they have made as Board members?
19. Understand the role that volunteers play in FUF?
20. Understand the respective roles and responsibilities of the Board and staff?
21. Are appropriately involved and interested in Board activities?
22. Are doing enough to help raise funds for and/or promote the financial well being of FUF?
23. Each make a financial contribution to FUF every year at a level that is significant for them?

**Please provide detailed comments in response to the following questions:**

24. What information—whether about the organization, its programs, its future plans and initiatives, nonprofit management or nonprofit Boards—would you like to get to help you be a better Board member?
25. When you joined the Board, did you have ideas on how you would help the organization that haven't happened? If so, what ideas and how do you think they could be better acted upon?
26. With regard to a future vision for FUF, what would you like to see FUF do differently or emphasize to a greater degree? Please briefly explain.
27. What suggestions/questions do you have for the Board chair or the executive director about the Board, how the Board could increase its effectiveness, your own role, or any other aspect of the organization?
28. Would you like the Board chair or executive director to contact you about getting together to discuss any aspects of your responses to this survey or FUF in general?
29. Please add any additional thoughts or suggestions concerning any and all aspects of FUF:

Thank you for timely completing this Survey and for your participation on FUF's Board.