

THE
leaflet

SPRING 2020



Celebrate **SPRING** with glorious trees

TreesCharlotte is a public/private nonprofit collaboration to grow, diversify and steward the city's iconic urban forest. Trained volunteers and science-based programs teach residents about the value of trees and how to plant and care for them.

Gift of a legacy



The second half of our planting season is in full swing, and we are thrilled to share some big news. As a legacy gift for the Queen City hosting the 2020 Republican National Convention, three sponsors are funding 2,020 of our trees this spring: Lending Tree, the Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and the RNC Committee on Arrangements. This gift will cover four TreeStores and plantings at three schools, two neighborhoods and one park. It's a gift that will give for decades. You can read all about this substantial donation on p. 6!

This news comes right on the heels of a strong end to 2019. December saw our most successful end-of-year campaign ever, with 165 donors giving an incredible \$137,393. Wow. The effect on Charlotte's urban canopy will be substantial. Your generosity equals 2,700 more trees we can plant and steward at local schools, parks and neighborhoods. But of course it's the impact of those trees we are most excited about: Tons of absorbed pollution, clean oxygen pumped back into the air and beloved shade on hot Carolina summer days.

The campaign's resounding success would not have been possible without six donors who agreed to match the first \$50,000 raised:

- Charles and Mary Bowman
- Patsy and Dr. Patrick Reames
- Dale Halton Foundation
- Nelson and Jane Schwab
- MC Belk Pilon and Jeff Pilon
- Anonymous donor

TreesCharlotte relies 100 percent on private donations, grants and sponsorships to carry out its mission. While our recent financial successes are worth celebrating, the call to do more to plant, preserve and celebrate Charlotte's urban forest only grows louder and more urgent in the face of development, an aging canopy and climate change. Donations of any size are appreciated and can be given via the enclosed envelope or at TreesCharlotte.org/donate.

Thank you for investing in a healthy future for Charlotte.

Chuck Cole
Executive Director

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ABOUT THE COVER

This photo is of a majestic Red Oak that sits on a small pond at the entrance of the Berewick community in Steele Creek. Although this photo was taken by local photographer Patrick Schneider several years ago during the neighborhood's early construction, the Red Oak still stands! According to Arborguard certified arborist Mark Livingston (also a TreesCharlotte TreeMaster), the tree measures 62 inches in diameter and is thought to be 90-110 years old. Great care has been taken to keep the tree alive, including steel cables for weak limbs, the installation of a lightning prevention system and root treatment. The boy in the picture is the photographer's son, who is now a student in the Naval Academy. The tire swing has since been removed.



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SOCIAL MEDIA

- facebook.com/treescharlotte
- twitter.com/treescharlotte
- instagram.com/treesclt
- youtube.com/treescharlotte

CONTACT

Chuck Cole at 704.999.0671
chuck@treescharlotte.org
701 Tuckaseegee Road, Charlotte, NC 28208
www.TreesCharlotte.org

STORY IDEAS

Contact Editor Jen Rothacker at Jen@TreesCharlotte.org or 704-574-9080.

DESIGN

ChristineLongDesign.com

Calendar

FEBRUARY

21 Planting on Johnny Cake Lane: A team from Heartwood Tree Service will help plant 40 trees in celebration of its 40th anniversary! *Sponsored by the City of Charlotte*

22 University City TreeStore: Open to residents in 28213, 28262 and 28269 zip codes. *Sponsored by Lending*

Tree, Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and 2020 Convention Planners

22 Welwyn NeighborWoods

29 Oakdale Elementary planting: 103 trees! *Sponsored by Lending Tree, Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and 2020 Convention Planners*

Celebrate with CUSTOM EVERGREENS

Here's a great way to celebrate Earth Day, a wedding, customers, graduates - just about anybody! - and support TreesCharlotte: Gift beautiful evergreens!

We're excited to present Custom Evergreens, young evergreen seedlings beautifully packaged in clear tubes that can be

personalized with artwork/logos and a short message. They make an ideal gift for any special moment!

We have a variety of species you can choose from: Colorado Blue Spruce, Longleaf Pine, Norway Spruce, White Pine or Bald Cypress.

Each tube is wrapped with instructions on how to plant the seedling, information about the tree,



your branding/messaging and even directions on how to convert the tube into a birdfeeder!

Cost is \$7/seedling with a minimum quantity of 50. Allow 2-3 weeks for processing, with your evergreens delivered 1-2 days before your event.

More details and order form at TreesCharlotte.org/CustomEvergreens.

29 Shuffletown Park planting: 50 trees! *Sponsored by Rotary*

MARCH

7 Hickory Grove TreeStore: Open to residents in 28205, 28212 and 28215 zip codes. *Sponsored by Lending Tree, Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and 2020 Convention Planners*

7 Mason Wallace Park planting: 20 trees!

14 Paw Creek Village NeighborWoods: Former golf course gets reforested. *Sponsored by Wells Fargo*

21 Mallard Creek High planting: *Sponsored by Lending Tree, Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and 2020 Convention Planners*

21 Parkside Elementary planting: *Sponsored by Bank of America*

28 Spring is in the Air Citywide TreeStore: Everything must go! *Sponsored by Duke Energy, Charlotte 2020 Host Committee and 2020 Convention Planners*



The great SEEDLINGS SWAP!



Did you know that every spring, TreesCharlotte gives away 5,000 seedlings at various outreach events, including 3,000 in the span of about 20 minutes at the crazy popular St. Patrick's Day Parade in uptown Charlotte? We also get invited to all sorts of Earth Day festivals, corporate fairs and educational expos in the spring, and baby trees are the perfect take-home item.

This season, we'll disperse Persimmons, Hickory Pignuts and Swamp White Oaks. The bare-root seedlings must be individually wrapped in wet newspaper and placed in branded plastic bags, all of which requires a mighty team of volunteers. A big thanks to the Charlotte 2020 Host Committee, YMCA's Hemby Program Center, Southminster, St. Gabriel's Venture Scouts and J.T. Williams Montessori for getting their hands muddy prepping these future trees!



A gift of 2,020 TREES



Not long after Charlotte was selected to host the Republican National Convention, organizers began thinking of ways they could thank the Queen City for its hospitality. We think they found the perfect gift: Trees. Lots and lots of trees.

This spring, 2,020 of the trees that TreesCharlotte plants and disseminates will be sponsored by the 2020 Charlotte Host Committee and 2020 RNC Convention Planners, with an extremely generous gift from local corporate partner Lending Tree.

“Trees remove pollution, reduce heat and stress for residents, increase property values, and provide oxygen. We believe it’s a great way to give back to our community and engage our volunteers,” said John Lassiter, CEO of the 2020 Charlotte Host Committee, which is the non-profit, non-partisan organization tasked with executing local hosting duties. “We are honored to join forces with

the Charlotte Host Committee and TreesCharlotte in their vision for planting trees, expanding civic engagement, and creating a strong partnership with the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County,” said Toni Anne Dashiell, Chairwoman, Committee on Arrangements (pictured above with Host Committee colleagues Kelly Ziegler in the middle and Stephanie Batsell to the right).

The idea for trees as a leave-behind gift came during multiple brain-storming sessions with local stakeholders, including elected leaders from both sides of the aisle and corporate partners. It was by far the most popular option on the table, Lassiter said.

The sponsorship also includes an army of volunteers throughout the spring, as well as a seedling-packing event.

To learn more about the Republican National Convention, please visit: www.charlottein2020.com.



BIG TREE SUMMIT

Ready to get tree smart? The 8th Annual Big Tree Summit, hosted by TreesCharlotte and the city of Charlotte and sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts, has more ways than ever to improve your tree IQ.

First, a few changes: We’ve moved the Summit to May to take advantage of the outdoors. Second, it’s happening on a Saturday morning, a more convenient time for busy people. And third, we’ve quadrupled the number of workshops!

Here’s a sneak peek at the details:

SAVE THE DATE

- **When:** Saturday, May 2
- **Run of show:** Doors open at 8 a.m. Opening Session starts at 9 a.m. 35-minute workshops run from 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- **Where:** Harris Conference Center, 3216 CPCC Harris Campus Dr.

OPENING SESSION

- **State of the canopy report:** Get the latest data about our canopy coverage, initiatives by the city to improve and grow our urban forest and more.
- **Crown Tree Awards:** The unveiling of Charlotte’s Tree of the Year.

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE

- **Tree Ordinance Academy:** Understand this critical set of regulations and the potential changes coming to them.
- **Forest bathing:** What’s long been therapy in Japan has now come to the U.S. Prepare to immerse yourself in nature on this short walk.
- **What’s wrong with my tree?** Bring your questions and Bartlett arborists will answer them.
- **Tree makeover:** Learn how to do light pruning, mulching and watering.

ETC.

Registration for this free event opens in April. Watch your e-Leaflet (sign up at TreesCharlotte.org, click on “Newsletter”) for the link.



Atrium Health earns TREES HONORS

The Arbor Day Foundation has named Atrium Health a Tree Campus Healthcare facility, one of only 16 systems in the nation to earn the honor.

This one-of-a-kind program aims to transform community health and wellness and ultimately save lives through the health benefits provided by trees, as well as recognize healthcare institutions that make an impact on wellness through tree planting, education and community engagement.

Atrium Health is among the first participants to earn recognition in the Foundation's first year of the program. To receive Tree Campus Healthcare recognition, Atrium Health had to meet five program standards:

- Create a tree advisory committee
- Draft a facility tree care plan
- Undertake a community forestry project
- Host a celebration event
- Commit to a financial investment toward a tree care plan or projects.

Atrium Health (formerly Carolinas HealthCare System) has been a long-time supporter of TreesCharlotte since the non-profit's start in 2012, investing more than \$130,000 in Charlotte's canopy. In addition, Dr. Mary Hall, Chief Academic Officer and Senior Vice President of Medical Education at Atrium Health, sits on TreesCharlotte's board of directors.

"Trees provide a vital resource for our community's health," said Jennifer Sellers, Director of Environmental Sustainability at Atrium Health. "This recognition is important for educating our teammates and community members about the connections between human and environmental health."

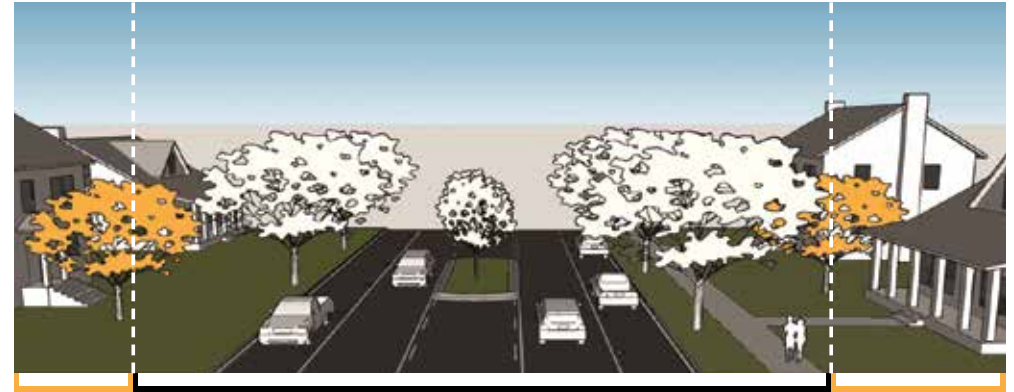


DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

- One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people?
- Employees with views/access of trees experience 23% less sick time and greater job satisfaction?
- Trees in Charlotte reduce the heat stress for city dwellers by 15-25 degrees?

Whose job IS THAT?

Thousands of the trees in Charlotte are maintained by the City, but sometimes it's hard to tell if a tree is a City tree or a private tree. As we enter into spring, we thought it would be useful to explain what a City-maintained "Right of Way" tree is and the responsibilities of the City and of private property owners.



Private Maintenance

Generally on City-maintained streets and some state-maintained streets, trees in median strips and planting strips adjacent to the road are the City's responsibility to manage. Unless a private property owner has secured a permit from the City, these trees can only be maintained by the City. Private citizens are not allowed to spray, prune, remove, etc. these City-maintained trees.

But that doesn't mean private property owners are off the hook when it comes to the Right of Way. If your property abuts a right of way, you are responsible for maintaining the grass and all non-tree vegetation on:

- Planting strips - the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street

City Maintenance (ROW Varies)

- Areas between owner-installed fencing and the street
- Back yards, side yards and berms (an artificial ridge or embankment) that are adjacent to any street

Grass in the ROW should be less than 12 inches tall, and vegetation can't block pedestrians, cyclists or motorists. Fines start at \$150 for violations.

The City maintains underpasses of state roads and public rights of way where the City has built guardrails, fences or other physical barriers.

Not sure what's a street tree? Or what you're responsible for? Call Landscape Management at 704-336-4262 (7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri) to speak with a staff member.

High School

EMBRACES THE SHADE



Myers Park High has seriously added to its cool factor.

Thanks to three tree-loving parents, 28 shade- and color-producing trees were strategically planted last November in and around the school's main quad to help balance the recent construction of two large academic buildings.

"They built the two buildings - which are huge - but Myers Park has a parklike landscape," said parent and landscape architect Blair Farris. "That was the theory behind the plantings - to keep the parklike atmosphere and bring the scale of the buildings down."

The parent-teacher organization raised \$15,000 to buy the ball-and-burlap trees. Farris and fellow parents Margaret McBryde and Mark Kemp, who are both in the landscaping business, donated labor and secured industry discounts.

During a school day in November, between classes, crews planted Lacebark Elms near the buildings' entrances, Crape Myrtles along a driveway and Willow Oaks around the carpool pickup circle. Other trees now dotting the landscape include Zelkovas, Maples, Pin Oaks and a Ginkgo.

"The staff loves the trees," said assistant principal Michelle Richards, who will oversee the long-term watering of the trees. "We're extremely thankful."

YouTube star inspires

MASSIVE TREE CAMPAIGN



Jimmy Donaldson a.k.a. "MrBeast" on YouTube.

Thanks to a YouTube star from Greenville, N.C., the world is getting 21.5 million new trees.

It all started in fall 2019 when the online community challenged 21-year-old Jimmy Donaldson - known as the popular "MrBeast" on YouTube - to plant 20 million trees to commemorate his hitting 20 million YouTube subscribers. With help from other online influencers, including former NASA engineer Mark Rober, the #TeamTrees crowdfunding campaign raised \$20 million in just 56 days. Donors came from 200 countries, with donations as big as \$1 million from Elon Musk to \$5 from young kids.

The money was donated to the Arbor Day Foundation, which will plant trees on every continent except Antarctica in high-need public and private forests recovering from fire, storms, deforestation

#TeamTrees

and other threats. Bladen Lakes State Forest in North Carolina is one of the sites on the planting list.

"When Mark [Rober] and I started this campaign, we couldn't have predicted the incredible support #TeamTrees would receive," Donaldson said. "From hundreds of YouTube creators, to the biggest names in Silicon Valley, to kids holding bake sales, a huge team came together to make this possible. This is a big win for the planet."

The environmental impact of #TeamTrees is significant: according to a U.S. Forest Service analysis, planting 20 million trees will absorb 1.6 million tons of carbon - the equivalent of taking 1.24 million cars off the road for a year.



HAS EVERYTHING!

Want a treasure tree with your pancakes and eggs?



Proving that trees can be incredibly resilient in urban environments, there's a stunning and massive Overcup Oak right behind the Denny's restaurant at 4541 Sunset Road, just off I-77. If you sit in a booth in the back, this oak is your view measuring at 72 feet tall, 16 feet in trunk circumference and 98.5 feet in crown spread. In other words, it's big.



"Literally everyone who comes in here looks at that tree," said shift manager Angel Silva.

Overcup Oaks are known to be hearty trees, even in cities. Their distinctive acorns measure 1 1/2 inches and have thick caps. Wildlife love them. So, too, did an elderly woman who used to gather up the acorns, paint faces on them and gift them to the staff and customers at Denny's, recalls longtime waitress Sandy Trapp.

Both the oak and the property it sits on have a storied past. According to maps and documents pulled by historian Tom Cole of the library's Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, the 1860 census shows that a William P. Little worked the land with a wife, nine children, a hired hand and three slaves. When William deeded the land to son Robert, who later fought in the Civil War, documents refer to black oak trees more than once as landmarks. Eventually the Dotger family bought the property and ran a dairy farm.

In the early '90s, as the Denny's was getting built, the developers needed to do a water detention feature, recalls Joey Cochran, who at the time was Charlotte's senior urban forester and is now UNCC's grounds and automotive superintendent.

"That would have greatly impacted (negatively) the tree's root system and would have brought this within a few feet of the base of the tree," Cochran said. "We were able to get the detention held in the parking lot instead."

At the time, the tree held a state record (it's unclear if it still holds that title today). A large oak at the front of the UNC Campus is an offspring of this tree, thanks to the late Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner, who started UNCC's botanical gardens.



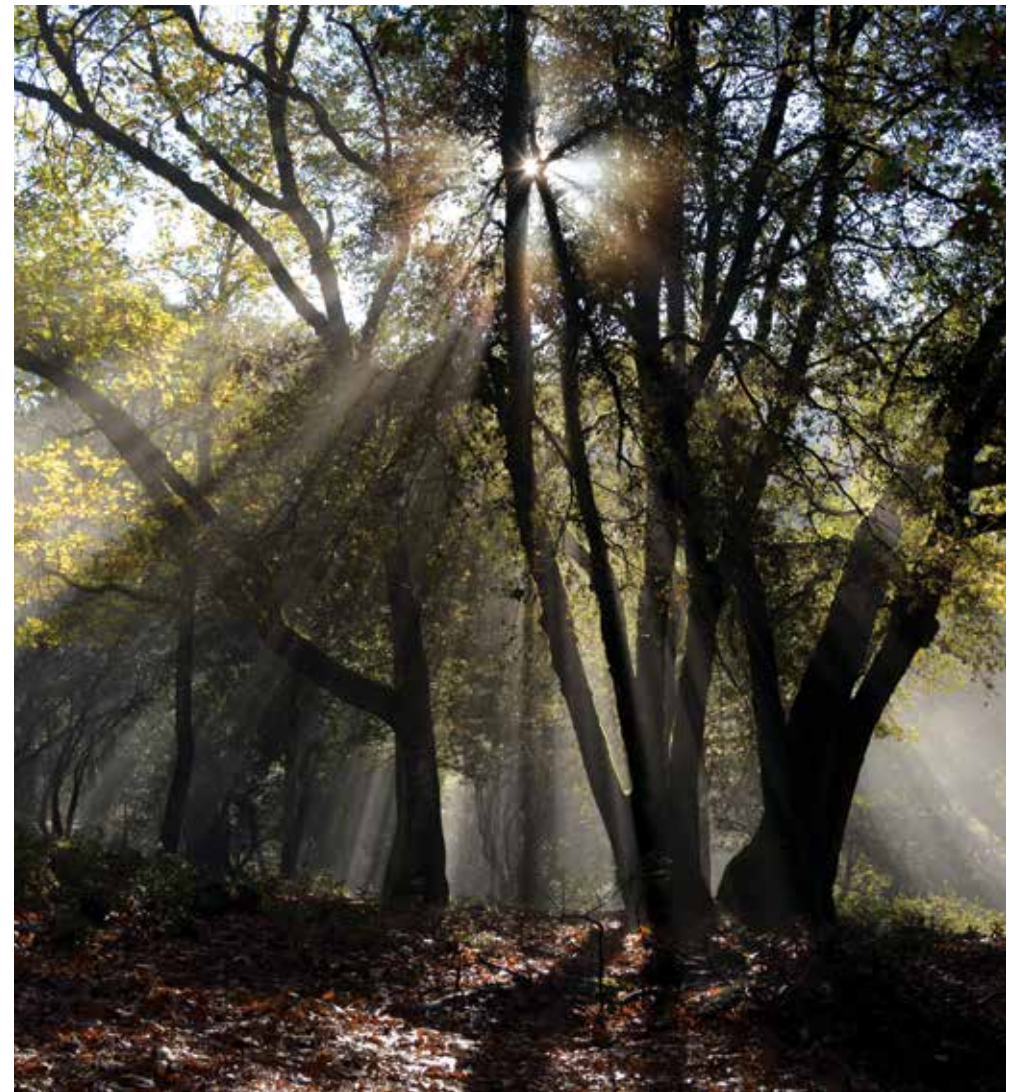
What's new in TREE SCIENCE

GREEN IS WINNING!

The world is literally a greener place than it was 20 years ago, and data from NASA satellites have revealed a counterintuitive source for much of this new foliage: **China and India**. A new study shows that the two emerging countries with the world's biggest populations are leading the increase in greening the land, from ambitious tree planting programs in China to intensive agriculture in both countries. Taken together, this growth in plant and tree leaves is the equivalent of all the Amazon rainforests. There are now **more than two million square miles of extra green leaf area** compared to the early 2000s – a 5% increase.

- NASA Ames Research Center

Chad Madden - Unsplash



Jenna Beekhuis - Unsplash

A DEEP SNIFF A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

It's practically common knowledge that simply experiencing a lush canopy can make you feel better. But a study out of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences has also found that smelling trees can do the trick, too.

Researchers exposed participants to the sights, sounds and smells of three environments: a busy city, a park with trees and buildings and a forest. They then administered a small electric shock and found that the participants who rated the forest smell the most pleasing recovered from the stress of the shock the quickest. So go outside and smell the trees! - *The Scientist magazine*

News from the Canopy

TREE ORDINANCE CHANGED FOR URBAN SITES

Charlotte has updated its rules for how developers can plant trees in the city's most urban areas.

Charlotte City Council voted nine to two in October to adopt the tree ordinance changes that city planners say will give developers more flexibility in where they plant trees and how they meet requirements for tree conservation.

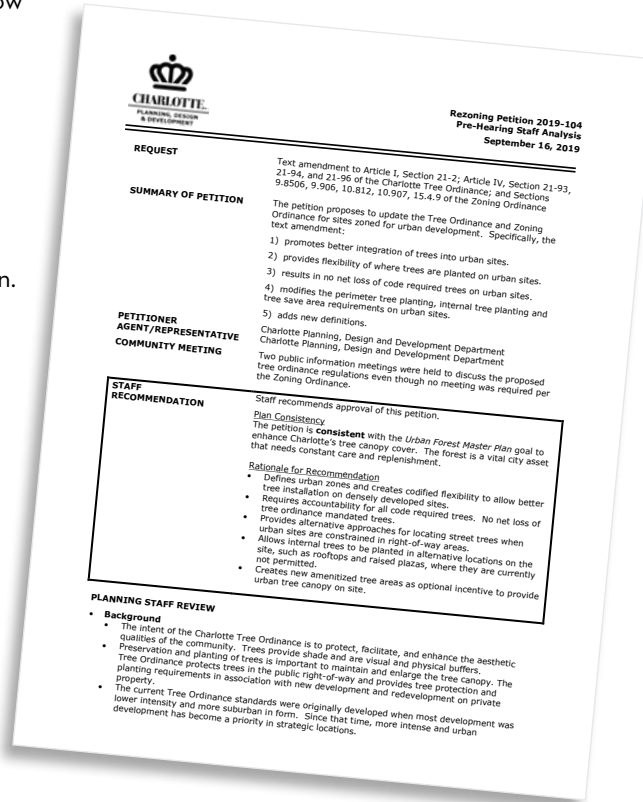
The changes clarify how developers should plant trees near street corners and in parking lots. And developers would still have to set aside 15% of land for trees - called a "tree save area." But they would have more flexibility to meet those requirements while including features like park benches and walkways in these urban zones.

Council voted after more than an hour of debate, and two council members - Dimple Ajmera and Matt Newton - asked to delay the vote to get more public feedback.

Before approving the proposal, council members asked city planners to track how the changes would impact the tree canopy in these areas.

"I think it's reasonable," said TreesCharlotte executive director Chuck Cole. "And I think the suggestion to track it, like council members are suggesting, is a good thing. I think that the city is going to probably come back with some good tracking information, and I think it is innovative."

A 2016 survey found that trees covered



47% of Charlotte. The city now has a goal of 50% coverage by the year 2050. The changes will affect only about 4% of the city, including most of uptown as well as parts of Dilworth, Elizabeth, and Plaza Midwood. They will also affect tracts of land along the Blue Line corridor.

- Michael Falero, WFAE. This story originally ran online at wfae.org/post/charlotte-city-council-approves-changes-tree-ordinance#stream/0



CREEK RELEAF A SUCCESS

Despite a very rainy day, this year's annual Creek ReLeaf event - where volunteers plant and/or steward seedlings in flood zones - was a success, organizers reported. An estimated 343 volunteers did general maintenance on about 2,000 young trees in Henderson Park in Huntersville and Chantilly in Charlotte. The work included removing white plastic tubes from mature trees and straightening weed maps, said Ashley M. Smith with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services.

CROWN TREE NOMINATIONS

The Crown Tree Awards, run by TreesCharlotte and the city of Charlotte, celebrate our amazing urban forest and the citizens who preserve, grow and advocate for it. Nominations are now open; categories include: Mayor's Tree of the Year, Spirit of the Tree recognizing a tree with a special story, Corporate Friend of the Urban Forest and Proud Partner of the Canopy. Nominations must be submitted by March 1 at charlottenc.gov/treeawards. Winners will be announced at the TreesCharlotte Summit on May 2.



MEET ZACK!

TreesCharlotte continues to grow! This fall, we added Zack Agerton to our staff as the Events and Administrative Coordinator. A Georgia native, Zack lived in Samoa for two years while serving in the Peace Corps as an English Literacy Resource teacher. It was there he met his wife, whom he married in December. Reach Zack at zack@treescharlotte.org or 678-936-2283.



Get to know ... TreesCharlotte growers!

Each issue, we'll introduce you to the farms that grow our beautiful TreesCharlotte trees. This issue: Panther Creek Nursery from Willow Spring, N.C.

When did you open for business? Panther Creek Nursery started in 1996 out of a need for larger container grown trees and shrubs in the Raleigh-Durham Triangle area of North Carolina. We are a family-owned business (Southern Landscape Professionals) with approximately 60 acres in production.

You're known for your unique way of growing trees. Explain. We grow the majority of our inventory, over 200 varieties of trees and shrubs, in a system of production called pot-n-pot, where the growing container is in the ground in a socket pot with drip irrigation going to each container.

What species are you most proud of? We specialize in Japanese maples, Chinese fringetree, Japanese snowbell, and several varieties of oaks, all from 7 gallon pots up to 65 gallon pots.

Besides TreesCharlotte, who are your customers? We also service landscape contractors, independent garden centers, municipalities, most of the major universities in N.C., tourist areas like Biltmore Estate and the Governor's mansion, and even Rockefeller Center in New York City.

Learn more at panthercreeknursery.com.

Species Focus: Green Vase Zelkova

Although not native to the Carolinas, the *ZELKOVA* has proven to be an ideal tree for urban settings because of its narrow, upright growth. It is noted for its graceful vase shape, clean foliage, smooth gray bark and resistance to Dutch elm disease. Some have called it the ideal city tree.

Category

Deciduous

Sunlight

Full sun

Leaf shape



Growth rate

Average

Size

60-80' tall, 40-50' wide

Fall color

Orange-Bronze

Fun fact

Native to Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Manchuria, the Zelkova was introduced in America in 1862.



Magic formula for tree watering?



Unsplash

The short answer is no. How often and how much water depends on the size of your tree as well as soil and weather conditions.

- **The first step:** Check your soil. Using a screwdriver or garden trowel, dig down about two inches in the soil and feel it. If the soil is dry, it is time to water.
- **The second step:** When to water. Arborists recommend morning or evening, so more water goes to roots and is not lost to evaporation.
- **And finally:** Water deeply. This requires slow watering, not a quick blast from a hose. Consider a drip hose or a slow trickle from a garden hose or puncturing a 5-gallon bucket with small holes in the bottom and sitting the bucket over the root zone until it is empty (for larger trees you will have to do this multiple times in different locations).

Other watering notes:

- Too little and too much watering can cause the same signs of stress in trees. Check the soil first.
- Newly planted trees need much more water than older trees. During the hot months, make sure they get at least an inch of water each week. One 5-gallon bucket or a rain event should do the trick.
- Consider purchasing a rain gauge.
- Mulch is a tree's best friend - it keeps the soil from drying out. Be sure to keep it off the trunk!



Your tree care questions answered by Charlotte's canopy manager and certified arborist Erin Oliverio.



A \$100 investment today

Grows to \$1,185 in 25 years

\$78
air quality
improvement by
absorbing
pollutants

\$476
winter energy
savings by
slowing winds
& reducing
home heat
loss

\$236
savings by
sequestering
10,146 lbs. of
CO₂

\$166
summer energy
savings by
shading and
evapotranspiration

\$229
stormwater runoff
savings by
intercepting 28,599
gallons of rainfall



Invest in Charlotte's forest
today for tomorrow:
treescharlotte.org/donate



OUR MASCOT ROOTY LOVES CHARLOTTE'S URBAN FOREST. CAN YOU IDENTIFY ALL THE PLACES WHERE ROOTY IS HANGING OUT IN THESE PHOTOS?

WHERE'S Rooty?



Answers: 1. Olde Mecklenburg Brewery 2. TreesCharlotte Honorary Garden at Freedom Park 3. Bank of America Stadium 4. Queens Road West 5. Trade Street

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Johnny Harris – Co-Chair
President and CEO, Lincoln Harris

Marcia Simon – Co-Chair
President, Paul Simon Women

Robert Bartlett
Chairman and CEO, Bartlett Tree Experts

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Managing Director,
Threadridge Investment Partners

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Vice President, Atrium Health

Rob Harrington
Attorney at Law, Robinson, Bradshaw
and Hinson, P.A.

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Partner, Flynn Heath Holt Leadership

Marcus Jones
City Manager, City of Charlotte

Paul Kardous
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Principal, Collins Climate Consulting

Susan McDonough
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Susan McKeithen
Civic Leader

Thruston Morton
Founder, Global Endowment Management

Rolfe Neill
Civic Leader

Tom Nelson
Chairman, President and CEO,
National Gypsum

John Petrone
President, SouthWood Corporation

Stoney Sellars
President and CEO, StoneLaurel

My Tree Story

My daughter Megan and I took a maple sapling volunteer from one of our plant pots, grew it for a few seasons and planted it in our backyard. It's probably about 5 years old; my daughter is 10 years old and the tree is now taller than both of us! We love to nurture it and grow it in a spot where we had accidentally taken one down when we built our house in SouthPark about 8 years ago. — Lisa Farley






701 TUCKASEEGEE ROAD
CHARLOTTE, NC 28208
www.treescharlotte.org

JOIN THE MISSION

TreesCharlotte is a public/private nonprofit collaboration to grow, diversify and steward the city's iconic urban forest. Trained volunteers and science-based programs teach residents about the value of trees and how to plant and care for them.

TreesCharlotte's vision is 50 percent canopy coverage, city-wide acceptance of responsibility to plant and care for trees and sustained funding to continue the mission generation to generation.

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