

THE  
**leaflet**

FALL 2022



MAKING AN IMPACT

**2022 Annual Impact Report**

*Recognizing the generosity of our supporters*

**The Success of the 2022 Planting Season**

*5,600 trees and more*

*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.*

# Impacting the community, one tree at a time

## A word from our Executive Director

As we kick off our 11th planting season this fall, I am delighted to share with you the 2022 TreesCharlotte Annual Impact Report. Inside you will see the realization of our goals from the past year, as well as some of our plans for the year ahead.

You may have noticed a change in the title of this year's publication to include the word "impact." The small change carries big meaning as this publication is intended to not just report to you, our supporters, what we have accomplished together, but to share with you the **impact** we have collectively made. Your donations, volunteer hours, and thoughtful championing of TreesCharlotte make an impact for the environment, on our city's canopy, on the health and well being of our neighbors, and on the city as a whole. Thank you for trusting and partnering with us.

Our intention for the upcoming year is to make an even greater impact on Charlotte by continuing to create and foster a community around trees. We strive to do so by branching out to new areas of the community, enhancing our current programming, and expanding our reach. As TreesCharlotte team member Joi Mayo recently said, "We are truly creating a community around trees in the city of Charlotte."

Thank you for being a member of our community and for the impact your continued support helps us accomplish.

Best regards,



Jane Singleton Myers  
Executive Director



## Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| By the Numbers                                | 04 |
| Event Calendar                                | 06 |
| Tree Fact or Fiction                          | 08 |
| 2022 Season Summary                           | 09 |
| Jumping for Joi                               | 10 |
| <b>Annual Impact Report: Fiscal Year 2022</b> |    |
| Donors  | 14 |
| How to "Speak Trees"                          | 17 |
| Why we sponsor TreesCharlotte                 | 22 |
| A TreeDay Story                               | 25 |
| The Making of a TreeMaster                    | 26 |
| Board of Directors and Staff                  | 27 |

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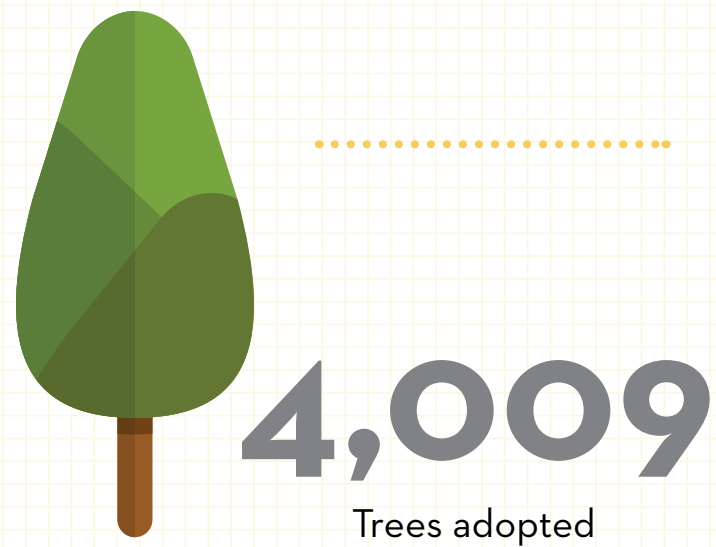
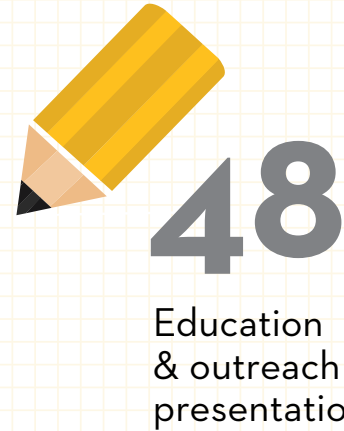
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## ABOUT THE COVER

Volunteers from TIAA at Piney Grove Elementary participate in a TreeDay planting in March 2022 to add 54 new trees on school grounds.

# 2022

## BY THE NUMBERS



# Mark Your Calendar



The Whitewater Middle School **TreeDay** in October 2021 added 120 new trees to the campus of the school.

**Planning and planting for the future!** We will be busy this fall. The fall 2022 calendar has been set and features

- 6 TreeAdoptions
- 6 TreeDay plantings
- 5 CommunityWoods events
- 2 TreeCare days

There will be many hours of community engagement, presentations, and educational events. Be sure to visit our calendar of events throughout the year. It can be found by visiting [www.treescharlotte.org/calendar](http://www.treescharlotte.org/calendar) or by scanning the QR code.



## SEPTEMBER

24 Opening day Citywide TreeAdoption

## OCTOBER

4 Charlotte Chin Baptist Church TreeDay planting

8 Walden Ridge/David Ridge TreeAdoption

8 Queen City STEM TreeDay planting

8 David Cox Road Elementary TreeDay planting  
*Fall TreeGift planting location*

15 Crescent ZIP code TreeAdoption

22 Historic Hoskins CommunityWoods

22 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Academy

29 Back Creek Church TreeDay planting

29 North ZIP code TreeAdoption

## NOVEMBER

5 Highland Creek Elementary/  
Ridge Road Middle TreeDay planting

12 Selwyn Village CommunityWoods

19 East ZIP code TreeAdoption

## DECEMBER

1 Marie G. Davis Middle School TreeCare  
*10th Anniversary of our first school planting*

3 Southbridge Forest CommunityWoods

7 Swan Run CommunityWoods

10 First-Timers Citywide TreeAdoption

10 Camp Greene/Historic 4th Ward CommunityWoods



A **TreeCare** day at McClintock Middle school in April 2022 provided fresh mulch for 301 previously planted TreesCharlotte trees.

## UPCOMING TREEGIFT PLANTINGS

**Saturday, October 8**

TreeDay at David Cox Road Elementary  
*(All TreeGifts received prior to October 1 will be included)*

**Saturday, March 11, 2023**

TreeDay at Nations Ford Elementary School  
*(All TreeGifts received after October 1 will be included)*



TreeGifts are a remarkable way to honor special people, pets, and occasions while sharing your love of trees with our community. Scan the QR code or visit [www.treescharlotte.org/donate/treegift](http://www.treescharlotte.org/donate/treegift) to learn more and buy your TreeGift today!



TREEDAY PLANTINGS   TREECARE EVENTS   TREEADOPTION DAYS   COMMUNITYWOODS ACTIVITIES

# TREE FACT OR FICTION?

Whether it's an urban legend that won't go away or you heard it from a friend of a friend of a friend, **Community Arborist Kate Bolkin** sets the record straight.

## Myth 1: I SEE SOME DEAD BRANCHES IN MY TREE. THAT MUST MEAN IT'S DYING OR SICK

**FACT:** As living things grow, old cells die and new ones are regenerated. It happens to our skin cells, blood cells, hair, etc. And, yes, it happens to trees too. As long as there is new growth and the majority of the canopy looks healthy, having some dead branches is totally normal. It is best to prune off dead branches to prevent them from breaking off and potentially causing damage. But just because there are some dead branches, that doesn't mean the entire tree is dying. The tree is just shedding its old parts.

## Myth 2: SPRING IS THE BEST TIME TO PLANT A TREE

**FACT:** In North Carolina, the tree planting season extends from September-March. Charlotte springs are quite warm, which means trees planted during this time typically experience more stress and require more frequent watering than trees planted in the fall/winter.

## Myth 3: PLANTING TREES LIKE SOURWOOD WILL ATTRACT BEES TO MY YARD

**FACT:** Bee-friendly trees like sourwood will attract bees the same way a flower bed would, yet we don't fear flowers. Also, bees will generally keep to themselves unless significantly bothered. Currently, bees are responsible for 1 out of 3 bites of food we take, but our current landscaping practices (turfgrass monocultures and pesticide use) create a hostile environment for them. If we want to enjoy nutritious, delicious food, we have to support pollinators by providing native tree and flower habitats.

## Myth 4: PUTTING SOIL AMENDMENTS IN THE PLANTING HOLE WILL HELP A TREE GROW

**FACT:** Although soil amendments can be helpful initially, putting amendments in the planting hole may inhibit the spreading of the tree's roots. This is because roots can become too "comfortable" in the well-amended soil and start growing circularly within that area. Ultimately, the circling roots will start choking the tree, which can cause decline. Most trees native and naturalized to North Carolina will do just fine in the clay soils that we have here. The best way to improve soil quality long-term is to plant a wide diversity of different plant and tree species, which can help break-up tough soil structure and bring life back into the ground.

## Myth 5: PALM TREES ARE TREES

**FACT:** Nope. Palm "trees" are more closely related to grasses than trees.

# 2021-2022 SEASON SUMMARY

The 2021-2022 year was a huge success, with 47 projects and more than 5,600 trees. Below is the breakdown of where we were in Charlotte during the 2021-2022 season.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>7 SCHOOLS (708 trees planted)</b>   | <b>2 PARKS (68 tree planted)</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27 Sharon Elementary</li> <li>75 Ashley Park Elementary</li> <li>340 University Meadows Elementary</li> <li>60 Whitewater Middle</li> <li>60 Whitewater Academy</li> <li>54 Piney Grove Elementary</li> <li>92 Collinswood Language Academy</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>57 Little Sugar Creek Greenway</li> <li>11 Abbott Park</li> </ul>   |
| <b>6 HOUSES OF FAITH &amp; OTHER INSTITUTIONS (566 trees planted)</b>  | <b>13 TREEADOPTIONS (3,717 trees given away)</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>88 Hindu Center</li> <li>200 Back Creek Church</li> <li>49 The Grove Presbyterian Church</li> <li>30 Siemens</li> <li>190 Elmwood Cemetery</li> <li>9 Hebrew Cemetery</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>522 City wide</li> <li>234 West Side ZIP code</li> <li>244 University City ZIP code</li> <li>214 SouthPark ZIP code</li> <li>278 East ZIP Code</li> <li>395 Steele Creek ZIP Code</li> <li>125 Prosperity Village</li> <li>320 Crescent ZIP Code</li> <li>332 South ZIP code</li> <li>227 Central ZIP code</li> <li>139 NC Arbor Day</li> <li>576 Citywide</li> <li>111 TreeMaster</li> </ul> |
| <b>11 NEIGHBORHOODS (580 trees planted and/or distributed)</b>   | <b>6 TREECARE EVENTS</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 Olde Providence</li> <li>44 Historic West End</li> <li>54 Carmel Heights</li> <li>104 Renaissance Gardens</li> <li>21 Henderson Oaks</li> <li>20 Sardis Cove</li> <li>76 Coventry Woods</li> <li>7 Villages of Leacroft</li> <li>53 Maplecrest</li> <li>17 4th Street</li> <li>172 One time distributions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mallard Creek High</li> <li>• McClintock Middle</li> <li>• South Meck High</li> <li>• JM Robinson Middle</li> <li>• Oakdale Elementary</li> <li>• Back Creek Church</li> </ul>  |



As an organization, we are intentional about upholding the integrity of our mission, vision, and values. With that in mind, we are excited to welcome our newest team member, Community Engagement Manager Joi Mayo. Read on to see why we are

## JUMPING FOR

# Joi

Activism is contagious. In her own neighborhood, Mayo saw what adding the new trees did. With buy-in from engaged neighbors, it sparked more personal commitment and ownership in individual homeowner's yards: new seating areas, new gardens, new planted spaces.

Though it was the height of the pandemic and she had a full-time job as a middle school history teacher, Joi Mayo also possessed a civic-minded drive to do something when she saw a need. And the need she saw came in the form of an empty green hill in her neighborhood common space.

As president of the King's Creek homeowners association, Mayo often received communications and information from the City of Charlotte regarding policies, initiatives and community activities of interest to her neighborhood. One such email landed in her inbox regarding the TreesCharlotte CommunityWoods program, and Mayo instantly connected the dots from that email to the empty green hill. The result was Mayo energizing and organizing neighbors to work with TreesCharlotte to plant nearly 40 trees on a chilly fall morning in 2020.

And that is how Mayo came to know about TreesCharlotte and our mission. So when she came

across an ad for the newly created position of Community Engagement Manager, Mayo felt a spark of inspiration. The position, she felt, would allow her to use her skills and passion for working with diverse communities, civic engagement, and activism to engage with new communities and help grow Charlotte's tree canopy.

When Mayo received her Masters degree in History from the College of Charleston, Charlotte's tree canopy never crossed her mind. She set out on a path to share her thirst for knowledge with bright young minds, joining Teach for America in rural Appalachia, then TNTP, an organization that works to ensure that children in low-income schools have access to effective teachers. And yet, her desire to spark change followed her everywhere she went, as Mayo actively participated and led a variety of community events. She credits her parents for her drive toward activism, stating, "As a child in Richmond, VA, I grew up watching

*Continued on next page*



**1:** An empty green space in Mayo's neighborhood was the perfect canvas for welcoming new trees through our CommunityWoods program. **2:** Post-CommunityWoods event in Mayo's neighborhood. **3:** Volunteers at the CommunityWoods event.

my parents get involved in our community on all levels." She sees her new role as a great way to honor her inherent desire to help plant the future of our city.

Executive Director Jane Singleton Myers wholeheartedly agrees with the vision Mayo brings to the new role. "A key component of the TreesCharlotte values relates to building canopy for all areas of our city, with a focus on traditionally underserved areas. By bringing Joi onto our team, we have a dedicated staff member who can develop and implement programs and partnerships with community organizations and residents while helping us better understand how residents think about and relate to their local trees. Joi's passion for civic engagement brings the perfect approach and her boundless energy rounds out our team well."

Mayo sees opportunities in communities of the Queen City that may need more support. In her role, she looks to help neighbors identify and overcome barriers they may see to adding trees, including pre-planting education and planning as well as post-planting TreeCare and follow up maintenance. The two biggest obstacles she sees are getting the word out about TreesCharlotte and our programs and finding plantable space in areas that are most in need of more tree coverage. But she is invigorated when discussing ideas for overcoming those hurdles and is actively reaching out directly to neighborhood HOAs and coalitions, ready to empower residents and collaborate with new groups.

Already, Mayo is being the change, one tree, one neighborhood, and one community at a time and we are glad to welcome her to the TreesCharlotte team.

## MORE INFO

*Are you interested in finding out how Joi can bring TreesCharlotte to your community? Do you know of an area in the Queen City that is in need of more canopy? Contact Joi at [joi@treescharlotte.org](mailto:joi@treescharlotte.org) or 980-477-0170.*

# CommunityWoods

Our CommunityWoods program allows TreesCharlotte to partner with qualifying neighborhoods, schools, houses of faith, athletic associations, and other non-profit organizations to host tree-planting and tree-giveaway events. Adding trees to community property and residential areas will not only add beauty, it has also been shown to increase property values, reduce stormwater runoff, save energy, and improve mental health.

Qualifying applicants must have capacity to plant and/or give away **at least 25 trees** during the event and commit to watering and caring for the trees after planting.

You supply the location, the enthusiasm, and the community members, we supply the trees, the plan, the expertise, and the support. Together, we build canopy & community!

ENDOWMENT FUND

In 2016, a generous \$2 million donation from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation created the TreesCharlotte Endowment Fund. The fund has a goal of reaching \$15 million, and we are pleased that we have passed the halfway mark. The endowment also allows other donations to more directly accomplish the mission of TreesCharlotte in our annual operations. We are grateful for the Knight Foundation's leadership gift, as well as all of the donors who recognize the importance of this endowment to the long-term health of our city's canopy and the success of our mission.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

With the financial support of the Charlotte community and beyond, we are truly creating a community around trees. Thank you to all of our donors for your dedication to our mission and your trust in our work.

ENDOWMENT

The Endowment Fund ensures the long-term success of TreesCharlotte by providing funds from annual earnings on the principal value.

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## SHARING THE TREESCHARLOTTE STORY

If you're reading this Annual Impact Report, you are already a member of the TreesCharlotte community. You are the key to spreading the word, sharing the news, and telling others in Charlotte about the need for and benefit of our tree canopy. Here's a quick and easy primer for how to "speak trees" to anyone.



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 Leigh Ellen Dudley  
 Aundria Duke  
 Christina Dunham  
 Sean Earhart  
 Frederica Eason  
 Dana Edgerton  
 Michael Edwards  
 Erika Eiger  
 Ayeola Elias  
 David Ellenbogen  
 Eric Encinareal  
 Sharon England  
 Mei Fan  
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 Taylor Farr  
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 Lauren Fine  
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 Shawn Gentry  
 Shaji George  
 Taryn Gerenza  
 Joy Giacalone  
 Mary Kate Gibbs  
 Bill Gill  
 Daneen Gimson  
 Karen Glazar  
 Andy Goh



*Vasuki Murthy is one of our many volunteer TreeMasters who actively participate to make each event a big success.*

Jose Perdomo  
 Cyndy Goodenow  
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 Christine Gray  
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 Victoria Jaus  
 Charlene Jefferson  
 Scott Jermyn  
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 Joseph Johnson  
 Joyce Johnson  
 Stuart Johnson  
 Benjamin Jones  
 Christina Joseph  
 Nicole Joseph  
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Lawrence Mahool  
Samir Mammadov  
David Marchyshyn  
Brenda Mareski  
Steven Marlier  
Josh Marlin  
Dawn Martin  
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Justin Minch  
Melinda Mitchell



200 trees were added to back Creek Church on a sunny November morning thanks to volunteers and generous sponsorship by Trammell Crow, in partnership with Arbor Day Foundation, and TIAA.

Zachary Molihan  
Austin Monroe  
Clifton Moody  
Brendan Moore  
Brenda Morgan  
Megan Morris  
Camden Muldrow  
Marcus Nance  
Allen Nelson  
Irina Nesmelova  
Tamara Normile  
Gwen Oberg  
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Oliver Olejar  
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Adam Olszak  
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Bonnie Rudisill  
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Dominick Sangillo  
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Amy Schmidt  
Marion Schmidt  
Earl Schmitke  
Kathy Schoonmaker  
Bill Schoonmaker  
Laura Scott  
Mary Kathryn Scruggs  
Lindsey Sebastyn  
Pam Setser  
Amanda Sette Wongse  
Andrea Seymour  
Chris Shelburn  
Justine Shelton  
Nirza Shrestha  
Thomas Shuey  
Lauren Simmons  
Greg Sito  
Linda Skinner  
Brenda Slater  
Virginia Sloan  
Coltedra Smith  
Jill Smith  
Chris Sovchen  
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William Stevenson  
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Thomas Thoun  
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Gregg Walker  
James Walker  
Michael David Wallace  
Wilhelmena Wallace  
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Xiaoyan Yan  
Mindy Yarberry  
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Laura Ziel  
Regina Zyska

**HONORARIUMS**

Gifts made in honor of a loved one.  
**In Honor Of** (Donated By)  
**Ann Allen** (Todd Muldrew)

**Ann Allen** (Julie and David Sheffer)  
**Ann Allen** (Kellie Tabor)  
**Mac Amos** (Meredith Britt)  
**Billie Anderson** (Kelsey Adamson)  
**Sarah and Tim Belk** (Beverly and Jim Hance)  
**Barbara Bleiweis** (Nancy Carter)  
**Charles Bosco** (Beverly and Jim Hance)  
**Renee Bradley and Gary Mathis** (Elisabeth Pordes)  
**Bungee Bunj** (Joshua McGinnis)  
**Mary Irving Campbell** (Deedee Fenwick)  
**Hugh and Susan Campbell** (Deedee Fenwick)  
**Carlyle and Kim Campbell** (Deedee Fenwick)  
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**Jon and Chantal's 5th Wedding Anniversary** (Jonathan Foss)  
**Allison Kenary** (Beverly and Jim Hance)  
**Barbara Kennedy** (Christine Kunkler)



WHY WE SPONSOR **TreesCharlotte** EVENTS

**By Lisa Phocas, LEED AP, WELL AP  
Crescent Communities**

Understanding the importance of our tree canopy, Crescent Communities supports organizations that work to ensure that all residents have access to the health and environmental benefits that trees provide. As such, we are proud to have partnered with TreesCharlotte since 2013. Our relationship began with an idea to plant one tree for every apartment leased in the greater Charlotte-area. That original Tree-For-A-Key concept expanded to a broader support of TreesCharlotte that has included neighborhood tree giveaways, community-wide tree plantings, and volunteer planting days. Our colleagues truly enjoy having the opportunity to get outside and make a real impact by planting trees in areas of our community that lack the important benefits that trees provide. Getting fresh air while doing something good for the environment and the greater community is always a welcome break from our day-to-day jobs.

The work that TreesCharlotte has done to maintain the tree canopy in our community is critical to the quality of life promised by the greater Charlotte area. As more people from around the country and around the world discover the myriad reasons the Queen City is a great place to live, we must accommodate growth. With growth often comes a few undesired consequences, but by applying principles of thoughtful development that are sensitive to the land, and by working with TreesCharlotte to protect the quality of the existing trees and augment the tree



Since 2012, Crescent Communities has sponsored 9 TreesCharlotte events, including the October 2021 TreeDay planting at Whitewater Middle School and Whitewater Academy.

canopy, we can ensure our beautiful city remains a great place to live.

If your company is interested in sponsoring a TreesCharlotte event, please contact Development Manager Beth Brodie at [beth@treescharlotte.org](mailto:beth@treescharlotte.org) or 704-293-4462.

- Sarah Kinsey** (David Edwards)
- Christine Kunkler** (Barbara Kennedy)
- Liz Lewis** (Nancy Nicholson)
- Steve Lindsley** (Carolyn Lindsley)
- Rhett and Ginny Mabry** (John Charles Kernodle)
- William McBride** (Beverly and Jim Hance)
- Jane and Hugh McColl** (Beverly and Jim Hance)
- Edward S. McCullough** (Beverly and Jim Hance)
- William B. McGuire** (Beverly and Jim Hance)
- Jack McNeary** (Anna Weil)
- Duke and Faye McRorie** (Robert McRorie)
- David Molinaro** (Catherine Weston)
- Cynthia and Jim Myers** (Jane Myers)
- Jane Myers** (James Singleton)
- Aubrey Myers and Asher Myers** (Cynthia Myers)
- NAIOP Charlotte State Meeting Speakers** (Theresa Salmen)
- Rolfe Neill** (Betty and Perrin Anderson)
- Rolfe Neill** (Linda Christopher)
- Rolfe Neill** (David Snider and Jeff Hall)
- Rolfe Neill** (Rhett and Ginny Mabry)
- Rolfe Neill** (Michael Orlando)
- Rolfe Neill** (Clyda and George Rent)
- Rolfe Neill** (Pat Rodgers)
- Rolfe Neill** (Marcia and Paul Simon)
- Rolfe Neill** (Tom and Veva Woollen)
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- Marcia Simon** (Anonymous)
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- Mack and Joyce Singleton** (Jane Myers)

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- Bill and Rita Vandiver** (Becky and Woody Efirid)
- Susie Westrup** (Lisa Shpritz)
- Shelli and Bill Wilson** (Jeffrey Bridges)

**MEMORIALS**

Donations made in memory of a loved one.  
**In Memory Of** (Donated By)

- Patricia Anthony** (Marian Nisbet)
- Dana Baker** (Rolfe Neill, Chuck Baker, Garrett Baker, Lexie Baker Wilson and Kevin Wilson, Sabrina Baker Moore and Robert Moore, Cliff Neill, Quentin Neill, Ashley Neill Flair and JW Flair, Ingrid Neill Ebert and Keith Ebert)
- Dana Baker** (Lisa Wallin)
- Gloria Baur** (Christina Baur)
- Lucy Baxter Dulin** (Susan zumBrunnen)
- Tay Boo** (Michaelann Carlin)
- Bowie** (Stephanie Lange)
- Doris Anne Bradley** (John Pinter)
- Alan Breitman** (Katherine Head)
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- Eve Cooper** (Bill Cooper)
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- Holly Wineth Martin** (Alicia Gaul)
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- John Mayo** (Gazale Poorsoltan)
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- Ken Monroe** (Kenda Laughey)
- Margaret Monroe Smith** (Susan zumBrunnen)
- Ann Neill** (David Snider and Jeff Hall)
- Robert Patterson** (Dan Clodfelter)
- Kanchan Pawar** (Jeet Pawar)
- Elaine Penkava** (Noelle Upah)
- Rock Poisson** (Jane and Hugh McColl)
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- Louise Tuttle** (Dexter Tuttle)
- Dianne Varas Scott** (Bronwyn Gaskins)
- Kurt Volkringer** (Adam and Emily Schauer)
- Van Weatherspoon** (Marian Nisbet)
- Anne Carey Welch** (Don Welch)

**TREEGIFTS**

Trees planted at area schools given in honor or memory of a loved one.  
**Recipient** (Given By)

- In Memory Of G.B. Adams** (Rolfe Neill)
- In Memory Of Patricia Anthony** (Nicole Fitz)

**In Memory Of Peg Barwick** (Linda Bomar)  
**In Memory Of John** (Jack)  
**In Memory Of John** (Jack) Jacob Bender, Jr. (Sara Weisner)  
**In Honor Of Louisa Bynum** (Amy and Gordon Bynum)  
**In Memory Of Henry Gray** Caldwell (Keith Pierce)  
**In Honor Of Carolina Tree Care Staff** (Stephen Weil)  
**In Memory Of Sam Quinn Christy** (Cicely Washington)  
**In Memory Of Robert Connell, Jr.** (Tori Whicker)  
**In Memory Of Anne Garrett** (Rolfe Neill)  
**In Honor Of Vanessa Garza** (Drew Standridge)  
**In Memory Of Louise Holloway Glover** (Joan Zimmerman)  
**In Honor Of Anna Hurdle** (Sara Weisner)  
**In Memory Of Susana Ibarquen** (Rolfe Neill)  
**In Memory Of Jean Marie Joyce** (Claudia and Howard Nelson)  
**In Memory Of Bridgette Felix Kneece** (Marian Nisbet)  
**In Honor Of Christine Kunkler** (Todd Kennedy)  
**John Lacouture**  
**In Memory Of Stan Lamb** (Kathy Newman)  
**In Honor Of Jeremy Lamb** (Victor Wang)  
**In Memory Of Isaac Luski** (Rolfe Neill)  
**In Honor Of Francie Mangan on her 60th birthday** (Laura Grace)  
**In Memory Of Mary Lou Mason** (Montibello Garden Club)  
**In Memory Of Max** (Brad Sorg)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Cynthia Coleman)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Manuel Fuentes-Quiroz)  
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**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Heather Liebler)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Bryan and Meghan Manges)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Rayburn, Cooper & Durham, P.A.)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Robert Rehley and Eileen Hewitt)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Susan Reiley)  
**In Memory Of John Mayo** (Odorico Zecchin)  
**In Honor Of Camilla Mazzotta** (Michaelann Carlin)  
**In Honor Of Kim and Rob McClintock** (John Rodgers)  
**In Honor Of Danielle and Markus Mueller** (Jule Gooch)  
**In Memory Of Nikita Naik** (Vishal Naik)  
**In Honor Of Danielle Felix Nisbet** (Marian Nisbet)  
**In Honor Of Jane Norton** (Mandy Ravin)  
**In Honor Of Robert and Lisa Phocas** (Lisa Shpritz)  
**In Honor Of Nana and Opa Pordes** (Elisabeth Pordes)  
**In Honor Of Montana and Manley Roberts** (Jennifer Roberts)  
**In Memory Of Susanne Robicsek** (Jane and Hugh McColl)  
**In Memory Of Charlie Schneider** (Mandy Ravin)  
**In Honor Of Reverend Roger Ray Shaffer, Sr.** (Neighbors - David, Holly, Kurt, Tashya, Allison and Kathy)  
**In Honor Of Ben Smolowitz** (Jen Rothacker)  
**In Memory Of Anne Springs Close** (Joan Zimmerman)  
**In Memory Of Marilyn Swimmer** (Rolfe Neill)  
**In Honor Of Meredith Trunk** (Chelsea Trunk)  
**In Memory Of Lynda Dawn Walters** (Nichole Buchanan)  
**In Memory Of Jacob Watson** (Jennifer and Manley Roberts)  
**In Memory Of Louise R. Wester** (Rolfe Neill)

**In Memory Of Douglas Fred** (Woodbury Charlotte Water-Locates Department)  
**In Memory Of Tom Woolen** (Rolfe Neill)  
**In Memory Of Rebecca Bradner Workman** (Constance Parker)  
**In Honor Of Dan and Angela Yochem** (Jo Hardin)  
**In Honor Of Zammy** (Sloan Crawford)

**FISCAL YEAR 22 DONOR ORGANIZATIONS**

Many companies, corporate foundations, and nonprofits recognize the importance of preserving, protecting, and growing our city's canopy. As such, they have generously donated financial support and volunteer hours.

**\$100,000+**  
 City of Charlotte  
 John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

**\$20,000+**  
 Ally Financial, in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation  
 Atrium Health  
 Duke Energy Foundation  
 TIAA, in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation  
 Wells Fargo Foundation

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 Bank of America  
 Belk, Inc. Sustainability Culture Shop Refresh  
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 Trammell Crow Residential in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation  
 Verizon in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation

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**\$100+**  
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 The Charlotte Woman's Club  
 Fast Growing Trees  
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 Swinerton Foundation  
 Women's Impact Fund

"A BLANK TAPESTRY WAITING TO BE FILLED"



March 19, 2022 was a great day for Collinswood Principal Carolyn Rodd, as she joined TreesCharlotte staff, 55 volunteers, and 11 TreeMasters to fill an otherwise sterile landscape with 92 new trees. The school moved to a new location in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and was the ideal setting for a TreeDay planting, "a blank tapestry waiting to be filled with trees."

Principal Rodd reflected on her own school days as a student at Eastbrook Elementary School in Florida, where she has fond memories of planting trees, and was now touched to see the community gathering to plant at Collinswood. She was particularly struck by the families and friends who came to honor or memorialize a loved one with a TreeGift. "Each one of the 42 TreeGifts planted has a story. I highly recommend working with TreesCharlotte. They are a well-oiled machine and I can't wait to see the new trees grow."

# The making of a TreeMaster

By Julianna DeMicco

“But, what is a TreeMaster?”

That’s usually the first thing most people ask when I mention how I spend my weekends. I tend to rely on some variation of the literal answer: A person who helps other people adopt and plant trees. Yet that’s not all that a TreeMaster is. Otherwise, why would you have so many people coming back season after season to set up for a planting, unload trees from a truck, and organize them for a TreeAdoption?

The answer to that question for me comes from my childhood. I spent my summers in the Adirondack Mountains, surrounded by the most amazing forests. When I moved to Charlotte, it was to a house in the country surrounded by trees and forests. And yet, the longer I live here, the more I see the lush green areas in the city disappearing.

It wasn’t until I received an email a few years back about a TreeAdoption that I thought I could do something about it. I discovered that I could receive trees – for free – and plant them in my yard. I adopted six trees over the course of my time before being a TreeMaster, and admittedly, though I am not proud of this, not all of them survived.

Determined to find another TreeAdoption and try my hand at planting again, I found something better: a TreeMaster information session and orientation. Suddenly I had a way to get involved, without just planting trees in my one little corner of the world, and I jumped in headfirst.

Once I was oriented into the TreeMaster community, I signed up for every TreeDay I could attend. The question then, might be – why do I keep coming back? I can sum it up in three words: Community, Action, Impact.

**Community:** The TreesCharlotte volunteers are at the heart of what the organization does, and the team consistently works to foster a sense of community within its volunteers. The TreeMasters are some of the best people



DeMicco with a TreesCharlotte tree she planted in her yard.

you’ll meet and are so passionate about what they do.

**Action:** Most people know that we should be concerned about the environment. TreesCharlotte is sustainability in action. The tactical execution of actively participating to fight for this cause is inspiring and consistently makes me feel like I’m a part of the change I want to see.

**Impact:** As an organization, TreesCharlotte works to make an impact on a larger scale. However, it’s the individual impact that keeps me getting up before dawn on Saturday mornings. As a TreeMaster, you see a great variety of people of all ages spending their Saturday mornings to learn how to make our world a little greener.

I started this off with the question “**What is a TreeMaster,**” but the better question might be: “**Why be a TreeMaster?**” The answer is: **because it matters.** Doing so allows you to make a tangible effort to continue building the urban ecosystem and helps support the amazing Charlotte community.

## 2022-2023 Board of Directors

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Volunteers help plant trees during our very first planting at a school in 2012.

## Back to our Roots

A highlight of the year ahead includes an anniversary as we return to the site of our very first school planting. On December 1, 2012 TreesCharlotte planted 55 trees at Marie G. Davis Middle School and the adjacent neighborhood of Southside Homes, beginning what would become a signature of the TreesCharlotte programming: TreeDay plantings at area schools. Since that first planting 10 years ago, we have held more than 70 plantings at schools throughout Charlotte, adding an astounding 12,135 trees!

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# GETTING THE MOST BRANCH FOR YOUR BUCK

*How your donation helps grow our city's canopy*

Though we offer trees to residents and neighborhoods for free, TreesCharlotte purchases the trees we plant and distribute. Much time and effort goes into selecting the right trees as well as in crafting detailed plans to ensure the success of our trees. The process entails multi-steps and input from many sources. We work off the City of Charlotte's approved species list, which is made up of approximately 50 native and naturalized trees that thrive in Charlotte's urban environment. Additionally, we work with three NC nurseries - Panther Creek Nursery, Scottree Nursery and Worthington Farms - several years in advance to figure out which species and quantities they can provide.

**\$50** covers the cost of a tree.

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**\$125** waters one tree for one year.

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**\$250** covers the tree, the planting process, and the watering of that tree for one year.

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**\$500** covers the cost of stewarding 10 trees that were previously planted, to help ensure their survivability.

