

Corporate Volunteers Give Life to Our Prairie

Corporations who have experienced the prairie first hand:

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Interested in getting your corporate group outside and helping the community? Our Atlanta Beltline Arboretum prairie volunteer projects are a unique way to give back to Atlanta. Since 2013, Trees Atlanta has planted acres of prairie along the Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum. The prairie now boasts more than 109,000 individual plants in 45 different species of grasses and wildflowers!

These areas continue to be planted with grasses, flowers, and trees to create a much-needed source of habitat, food, and protection for birds, butterflies, and bees. They reduce the need for chemicals, lessen the effects of storm runoffs that can cause flooding, as well as bring beauty to the area and create a unique sense of place. Our Forest Restoration coordinators and Urban Forestry Crew lead the efforts to plant and maintain the prairie. However, the mission of Trees Atlanta could not be achieved without the support of our Forest Restoration corporate volunteers.

If you would like to participate in either our Corporate Sponsor or Corporate Volunteer Programs, please contact Kate Conner, Director of Development & Marketing at 404-681-4893 or email: kate@treesatlanta.org.



Walk This Way

Take the free Trees Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum Walking Tour, and enjoy the beauty of nature as you kick off your fitness program. Kaiser Permanente's 10,000 Steps Program® calculates that the approximately two-mile walking tour adds around 4,000 steps to your daily total; a great start toward the 10,000-steps-a-day goal.

Walking 10,000 steps each day offers numerous benefits to your body and mind, including reducing the risk of coronary heart disease, improving blood pressure, and being gentle on joints while releasing mood enhancing endorphins into the body.

Trees Atlanta has offered a free Arboretum Walking Tour of the Atlanta BeltLine every week since April 2013 and hosted many special group tours as well. Now that's a lot of tours—257 to be exact. Not only do these Walking Tours provide exciting information about the Atlanta BeltLine project and insider details on the planted collections of the Arboretum, they also can help get you started on a healthier lifestyle.

So join us to walk and learn among the oxygen-producing horticulture collections in the Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum! Tour groups meet Fridays and Saturdays behind Parish Restaurant at 240 N. Highland (at 9 a.m. in the summer; 10 a.m. October through May.) Reservations are required: go to www.beltline.org or email arboretum@treesatlanta.org for more information. And continue to check our online calendar for our special tours for families, for birders, or to explore the West End Trail.



Meet our new tree-mendous staff members

With the new Trees Atlanta TreeHouse comes several new Trees Atlanta faces! Meet Joe, Tyler, Max, Judy and Tabitha — the newest leaves on the Trees Atlanta tree.



Name: Joe Thomas
Title: Events and Donor Relations Coordinator
Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Favorite thing about Trees Atlanta: Atlanta is my favorite place on Earth, and I get to spend every day with people who want to see it thrive.



Name: Tyler Bartlett
Title: Youth Education Coordinator
Hometown: Greenwich, NY
Favorite thing about Trees Atlanta: I get to teach kids about one of the most important things in the world—our environment.



Name: Maxine "Max" Watkins
Title: Education Administrator
Hometown: Born in Saluda, NC; raised in Columbia, SC
Favorite thing About Trees Atlanta: The people I get to work with.



Name: Judy Yi
Title: Director of Education
Hometown: Seoul, S. Korea
Favorite thing about Trees Atlanta: Our amazing volunteers! They've become some of my favorite friends!



Name: Tabitha M Schwartz
Title: Urban Forestry Field Crew Manager
Hometown: Marietta, GA
Favorite thing about Trees Atlanta: The passion and dedication the staff has.

Georgia Tech and Trees Atlanta: a Planning and Planting Partnership

Trees Atlanta has a new tool to convince property owners to plant more trees. Students interning with Georgia Tech's Data Science for Social Good internship program created a detailed interactive map of the urban canopy that shows Trees Atlanta where the city needs more trees.

In the past, in addition to establishing projects based on community requests, NeighborWoods coordinators would find locations in need of trees by driving through the city and making

visual assessments. Now, locating places in need of trees is done scientifically, and encouraging homeowners to participate will be a lot easier because the interactive map makes the comparative lack of trees in an area clear with visual impact.

The interns also worked on two other tools: one shows the diversity of trees, and the other highlights all forested areas of more than 10 acres in the metro area.

Kathy Evans, Senior Administrative Analyst for the City's Tree Conservation Commission, says this will help the city decide which properties to buy and conserve. "It's always preferable to make planning and policy decisions based on data, but anytime that you can do a visualization of the data and make it more accessible, it's also more helpful," according to Evans.



Atlanta Needs a Canopy Alliance

Trees Atlanta's board and staff are launching a new initiative to create an Atlanta Canopy Alliance with other nonprofits in order to preserve Atlanta's tree canopy. Trees Atlanta's mission has always been to protect the urban forest by planting, conserving, and educating. Over the past thirty years, Trees Atlanta has been instrumental in saving several parks and forested areas, but a surge in real estate development in the city has resulted in a new threat to the city's trees.

In recent months, Trees Atlanta has responded to dozens of calls from local citizens throughout the metro Atlanta area seeking assistance in stopping the removal of one or more trees in their neighborhoods. We provide them with information about the actions they can take to save specific trees and forested areas, but the times seem to call for more active measures. (We have included steps on how to save a tree on our website: treesatlanta.org/resources/how-to-save-a-tree/.)

With new commercial and residential real estate developments being announced every day, Trees Atlanta is taking positive steps toward a more widespread and enduring protection plan. While we understand growth is essential for our city, we want to partner with developers to ensure new development is respectful of the tree canopy and has a positive effect on our city's beauty, clean air, and water. We're planning an Atlanta Canopy Alliance with these like-minded nonprofits organizations: Georgia Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, and The Nature Conservancy. Our mission is to preserve our "City in a Forest" as a beautiful and healthy setting for future generations.



Thanks to Our BeltLine Neighbors!

Help us show our appreciation to establishments that have supported our Weeds & Wine volunteer projects by frequenting their eateries. Tell them Trees Atlanta sent you! The Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum wouldn't be the beautiful place it is today without their hospitality and generosity. We appreciate having such great BeltLine neighbors!

Parish Brasserie & Neighborhood Cafe
Barcelona Wine Bar & Restaurant
Park Tavern Atlanta
Ladybird Grove & Mess Hall
Two Urban Licks
Bantam Pub
The Albert
Fritti
Mellow Mushroom
MetroFresh
The Bookhouse Pub
Kevin Rathbun's Steak

Fall is Fabulous for Planting Trees

A Tree-Planting Tip from "The Georgia Gardener," Walter Reeves, award-winning gardening expert, author, columnist, TV and radio host, and blogger. And a great friend of Trees Atlanta!

It is best to transplant trees when they are dormant (meaning they are not producing food). In Georgia, most deciduous trees are dormant from late fall until the end of winter. When a tree is first planted, it can go into transplant shock. The best time to plant is between October and March.

There are several reasons why it is better to plant in fall. The most important is soil temperature. Roots grow best when the soil is warm, between 55°F and 75°F. A fall-installed tree, shrub or perennial receives several weeks of vigorous root growth to ready itself for winter and for years of healthy growth.

There are good economic reasons for fall planting, too.

Prices may actually be lower as nurseries make room for inventory for the slower winter months. [Editor's Note: the Trees Atlanta Tree Sale on October 3rd is perfectly timed for fall planting.]



It has long been known that it is beneficial to plant trees and shrubs in fall. Warm soil stimulates roots to grow, but cool above-ground temperatures mean the leaves are not demanding much moisture.

That said, when is it too late to plant in the fall? When does cold soil retard the establishment of woody plants? Research at Cornell University concluded that the growth of new roots virtually ceases when the soil

temperature becomes less than 40 degrees at six inches deep.

Trees Atlanta Branches Outside The Perimeter

Trees Atlanta will be back for its third tree planting in Dunwoody on Saturday, October 24. The event is in Brook Run Park and Windwood Hollow Park from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and we invite you to join us and help plant over 200 shade trees in one morning!

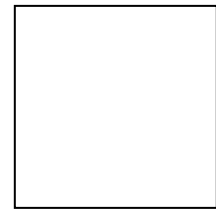
The City of Dunwoody requested our help in replacing trees that were removed during the installation of a new walking trail around Brook Run Park. A project this big requires a lot of coordination, including deciding upon exact planting locations, calling the utility company to make sure no underground utility

lines will be disturbed by the planting, ordering and delivering trees, and recruiting volunteers.

The Dunwoody planting is a perfect example of Trees Atlanta's mission to protect and improve the urban forest by planting, conserving, and educating. This project is just beginning: over the next two years, Trees Atlanta will continue to maintain these trees through watering, mulching, and pruning. Trees Atlanta appreciates the support of the community and looks forward to future successful plantings in Dunwoody!

We need lots of volunteers to help us plant, so join us on one of the largest tree planting initiatives in Dunwoody's history. Project leaders will receive their assignments that morning, which will include all the areas where they'll be working, as well as access points, mulch piles, water spigots, and hydrants where we can fill water tanks and drive them around to water the trees.

To sign up for this ambitious, exciting project, visit: treesatlanta.org/volunteer.



TREES ATLANTA

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p: 404.522.4097
f: 404.681.4909
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Co-Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer: Connie Veates

Co-Executive Director & Chief Program Officer: Greg Levine

Editor: Karla Vazquez

Designer: Brandshake Creative

Copywriter: Eleanor Edmondson

To donate, visit treesatlanta.org/support-us or send your contribution in the enclosed envelope.



Help Keep Atlanta Green — For Today and Tomorrow

The work we do at Trees Atlanta is integral to the city that we call home. Atlanta has the highest percentage (48%) of overall urban tree canopy in the nation. But with the increased interest in living in town, our urban forest is threatened. Our trees are among our most treasured assets. We have to preserve and protect them. The need is urgent, and we need your help.

A contribution to Trees Atlanta shows that you care about the future of our city. Your money goes to plantings, volunteer

projects, and education programs, all promoting the health of our urban tree canopy. When you invest



in Trees Atlanta, you invest in the future of our home.

No one knows what Atlanta will look like in 50 years, but the thought of a concrete heat island, devoid of character and greenery, is abhorrent to us all. Our vision is one of a very different Atlanta, one where people live, work, and play in an urban forest that contributes to the health and vibrancy of an already great city. Help Atlanta remain the "City in a Forest" throughout the 21st century and beyond.

To donate, please visit treesatlanta.org/support-us or mail your contribution in the enclosed envelope.



TAILGATE FOR TREES

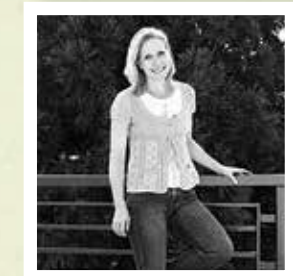
Thursday, September 17, 6:00PM
Ladybird Grove @ Mess Hall
684 John Wesley Dobbs Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30312

Join us for a casual get-together and "friend raiser" to kick off our planting season, and to celebrate the opening of our new education center, the *Trees Atlanta TreeHouse*. Tour the new *TreeHouse*, then saunter down the *Atlanta BeltLine Eastside Trail* to mile marker 9.25, where you'll find delicious fare from the famed *Ladybird kitchen* (a restaurant and bar that bills itself as "base camp for the urban explorer"), and liquid refreshments provided by *Red Hare Brewing Company*. This year's *Tailgate* will also feature live music, a silent auction of rare and unusual plants, and opportunities to win exciting door prizes.

Tickets are \$50; patron level tickets (with additional benefits) begin at \$125. All proceeds benefit our educational programs, in addition to our tree planting projects. Help us celebrate the role *Trees Atlanta* has played in the community for the past 30 years, while supporting our efforts to protect our urban canopy for generations to come. For more information, contact Karla Vazquez at: karla@treesatlanta.org or 404-681-4891.

Our thanks to John Dryman and Robyn Zurfluh for helping us find a home for our TreeHouse.

John Dryman, President of *The Dryman Group*, and Robyn Zurfluh, Senior Associate at *Smith Dalia Architects*, combined their expertise and vision to help *Trees Atlanta's* leadership find and design the perfect setting for our new *TreeHouse Educational Center* at 112 Krog Street on the *Atlanta BeltLine*. We thank them both for their hard work and for representing our best interests during our search for the ideal *TreeHouse* environment.



Please join us for a:

TREEHOUSE FAMILY GRAND OPENING

September 19, 2015
at the new
Trees Atlanta TreeHouse
112 Krog Street NE, Suite 7,
Atlanta, GA 30307

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Citizen Science Project
All Ages
We'll use the *Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum* as an outdoor laboratory for a fun and fascinating science project. No registration required

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Thirsty Roots Reading Club
Ages 2-7
Environmental story time for young children, followed by a hands-on activity on the *Children's Mezzanine* and *Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum*. No registration required

*Children must be accompanied by adults throughout both sessions. (No more than three children per adult, please). Parking is limited. We encourage you to bike, walk, take public transportation, or carpool!

Trees Atlanta Donors

March 7, 2015 to July 31, 2015

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While all donations are important to us, our space limitations allow us to list only donations of \$250 or more.



- MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**
- Tailgate for Trees
Friend-Raiser
September 17, 2015
 - 16th Annual Tree Sale
October 3, 2015
 - See inside for details!

New Stump Signs on the BeltLine Arboretum

Curious about *Trees Atlanta's* continuing efforts in the *Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum*? Baffled by what to do to keep your young tree enthusiasts engaged while strolling the trail? Or perhaps you're on the hunt for bilingual learning opportunities close to home.

Be stumped no more! Visit the *Eastside Trail* of the *Atlanta BeltLine Arboretum* to see the three new *Stump Signs*, which were installed in *Spring 2015*. These temporary signs, located at *Beech Circle*, *Three Tree Hill*, and *33 Oaks*, provide visitors with information about the native tree collections of the *Arboretum*. They also offer suggested activities for all ages. The stumps contain flip cards with information in both *English* and *Spanish*.

Additional *Stump Signs* are in progress. Permanent signage is in the planning stages.



Leaf Sculptures for Eastside Trail

Trees Atlanta has commissioned 33 Oaks, dramatic leaf sculptures by metal sculptor David Landis, for the *Eastside Trail* of the *Atlanta BeltLine*. The educational art installation consists of huge oak leaves, representing the 33 varieties of oaks native to Georgia. Each polished steel leaf extends an imposing three to eight feet in length.

The sculptures on the *Atlanta BeltLine's Eastside Trail* will serve as an educational and aesthetic presence, enticing visitors along the landscape. Each leaf sculpture will be "planted" near a tree of the same variety of oak, connecting public art with landscape design and education.

The sculptures will be canted at different angles to reflect light and "dance" in the landscape. Sixteen of the leaves are already in place; the project is scheduled for completion by *Fall 2015*.

Other notable large-scale sculptures by David Landis include *Currents* at the *US Bancorp Center* in *Minneapolis* and *The Dance* at the *Ritz-Carlton* in *Shenzhen, China*, as well as two previous installations on the *Atlanta BeltLine*: the rhino, "Northern White," on the *Freedom Park spur*, and the sculpture "Cycles" at *Rose Circle* on the *West End Trail*.