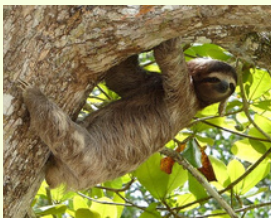




“We miss a lot of small things when we’re on the go. There isn’t always time to stop, pause, and take in something very deeply. There are always several competing demands for our time and attention, which limits how well we can actually focus on one thing. That’s why right now, we’re encouraging everyone, ourselves included, to take a moment and intentionally look at something new. While we encourage people to look at trees (we are Tacoma Tree Foundation after all), there’s a lot of other really cool stuff happening in the forest.”

- Our Founder, Sarah Low



So in summer’s last weeks, why not take some time to slow down?

## WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO

### McKinley Hill Volunteer Training



We had the great opportunity to meet McKinley Hill neighbors at the work party on Saturday, July 15th. We shared the goals of our upcoming Green Blocks program in the neighborhood, a partnership of the Foundation with the City of Tacoma Urban Forestry Program, underscoring how this program empowers residents to help grow and shape neighborhood canopy. We look forward to distributing and planting free street trees in the McKinley Hill neighborhood between October 12-14!

## EARTH GAY



To conclude Pride month celebrations, we collaborated with an amazing group of partners and tabled at Earth Gay. The event included Dickman Mill habitat restoration activities, such as weeding and mulch removal, and participants also helped to pick up litter in the area. We were excited to give away free watering buckets to new and familiar faces!

To explain the Tacoma Tree Foundation’s commitment to this event, Engagement Specialist, Eden Standley, wrote about Queer environmental justice for our blog.

## SALISHAN JUNIOR YOUTH SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (JYSEP) FRUIT TREE POTTING

We were excited to attend the Salishan Empowerment Program on Wednesday July 26. We worked with a diverse group of middle school-aged kids to pot the fruit trees that will be distributed as part of our Branch Out project coming up this fall. Although we were the ones invited to educate the students about fruit potting, they taught us a great deal about the sensory joys of tree-potting, and how gloves, which are important for safety, can also come off from time to time so we can enjoy the tactile experience of hands on fresh soil. Many thanks to our partners at Salishan for the invitation!

- **Tree Fact:** It has taken four different potting events to get Branch Out trees in pots for planting season! Thanks to all of the partners and volunteers who helped us do this!

## BILINGUAL MINDFULNESS WALK



This month, Sarah Low and Alejandro Fernández once again co-lead a bilingual mindfulness walk on August 8 through China Lake Park. These walks are focused on living in the present moment with trees, and we are very excited to be offering meaningful and healthy walks to both Spanish and English speakers on a regular basis.

Este mes, Sarah Low y Alejandro Fernández nuevamente unieron fuerzas en una caminata bilingüe el 8 de agosto en China Lake Park. Estas caminatas nos enseñan cómo encontrar la atención plena con ayuda de los árboles. Nos emociona mucho poder ofrecer estas valiosas y saludables caminatas bilingües mensualmente.



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Fall is planting season. Since our foundation in 2018, we have delivered approximately 10,000 trees to neighborhoods in the City of Tacoma and the greater Tacoma area thanks to your support. To deliver trees we enthusiastically pack our personal vehicles with young trees, our tools, and tabling materials. Yet, as our organization has grown, so has our understanding of what we need in order to grow Tacoma's tree canopy in the long term: in addition to delivering trees to neighborhoods, we must support tree care throughout the year. To achieve this goal, we need more than our small cars—we need a truck! We have the goal of purchasing a truck in the fall to help us deliver and water trees. Please join us in this effort by supporting us during our fall **"Truck for Trees"** fundraiser, which will take place from **September 11-14** on social media and our website, or **donate here today!**

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Join us this month to learn about and celebrate trees! Take a look at our calendar for the full line-up. We add new events regularly so be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date! And if you want even more, we also have a Youtube channel!



### August 23 | 12pm Every Tree Has a Story

Every tree has a story to tell about how it comes to be in a given spot, and many of the stories are as much about people as they are about trees. During this talk, Sarah Low will explore some of the moments that trees have witnessed locally and internationally, the ways that people have made meaning of trees, and some of the remarkable ways that trees survive, thrive, and exist in relation to people. This event is available in person and virtually!

### August 24 | 1:30pm McKinley Park

Nature Explorers Family Friendly Walk  
Did you know McKinley Park is on a wetland? Join Sarah Low for a fun walk through McKinley Park where we'll be thinking about trees, water, and how they make our lives beautiful and healthy. We'll meet at Upper Park Street on 31st and I Street and end at the McKinley Park Playground. We will be walking on natural surface paths that are uneven in places. Please email [info@tacomatreefoundation.org](mailto:info@tacomatreefoundation.org) if you need accommodations. We are happy to help!



### Nature Explorers Walk in McKinley Park

August 24, 1:30pm



**August 8th | 10:30am**  
McKinley Hill Neighborhood Walk  
This walk will highlight some of the wonderful and amazing characteristics of existing trees in McKinley Hill, providing a chance to get to know the neighborhood in a new way. We will also look at opportunities for planting and what sorts of trees might be considered in a given spot. Participants on past neighborhood walks have been surprised to discover how learning about the trees near them changed the way they experienced their neighborhood. We will meet at LUX Perpetua. Yeastside Bakery treats will be provided at the end of the walk!



**September 9 | 12pm | King's Books**  
Haiku Comics: Summer Trees Workshop  
How do trees, or the lack of trees, affect our daily lives? What sounds, sights, scents, and sensations are present when we walk down a street with trees compared to a treeless one? Find out by joining us for this exciting collaboration with local graphic novelist and Eisner award winner, David Lasky! He will offer a free writing and drawing workshop focused on our relationship to trees in Tacoma. We'll read a few classic haiku poems, go for a short walk, and then write some haiku of our own. In the second half of the workshop, we'll explore the hybrid medium of 'haiku comics.' We'll look at examples and then draw comic strips using the words of our poems. No previous writing or drawing experience is required. Supplies will be provided.

### September 16 Time TBA, McKinley Hill Tree Stewards Training

Are you interested in learning all about tree care and caring for your neighborhood's tree canopy? Would you like to teach others about how they can care for their trees? Then you should apply to our Tree Stewards Program! Through a ten-hour free training program, our community tree champions learn proper planting techniques, tree care best practices, local regulations, and how to answer tree-related questions. Tacoma Tree Foundation works with community tree stewards to implement and maintain neighborhood plantings. This training is part of a partnership with the City of Tacoma Urban Forestry Program.



## WHAT WE'RE READING



**From the TTF Blog:**  
A Queering of the Urban  
Forest: Why we Value Pride

**Nature Explorers:**  
How to build mini bee  
homes, plant bee friendly  
flowers, and more!



**Tacoma News Tribune:**  
Dead trees line I-5. What  
killed them?

**Scientific American:**  
Forests are Losing Their  
Ability to Hold Carbon



## EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT

### It is picnic weather! Are you picnic ready?

Have no fear, our cute tote is perfect for a day under the shade of Tacoma's beautiful trees! Plus when you purchase one of our totes or donate you are directly supporting the Tacoma Tree Foundation in greening our city. It helps us pay for trees and dedicated organizers that are bringing trees to thousands of community members.



**Growing Together  
Tote Bag**

\$30.00