

We helped celebrate the Lunar New Year in the Lincoln District Festival by sharing trees with the community and ran out in just a couple hours! Last week, we teamed up with American Forests, Bank of America and MetroParks Tacoma to plant 25 trees in Roosevelt Park. Students from School of the Arts joined us in the rain, planted trees and learned about Tacoma Tree Equity and careers in Urban Forestry.



Planting Specialist, Dan Nakamura, carrying mighty trees at our Hilltop community event this month. Photo Credit: Julia Wolf.



Roosevelt Park field right before tree planting. Photo Credit: Julia Wolf.

This month, we've steadily picked up the pace of our planting and educational activities and are now in the midst of a busy and exciting late winter! Even in windy and rainy conditions, planting energizes us. The smiles that staff, volunteers, and partners share with us as we put trees in the ground or give free trees away are a constant reminder of what we are working toward: a green Tacoma that draws its grit from clean air and filtered stormwater, cool streets, and strong, healthy, and diverse communities.



Partners and Volunteers at Roosevelt Park. Photo Credit: Julia Wolf.

WE'RE GROWING



We continue to grow! This month we are excited to introduce our new Community Engagement Coordinator, Aaron Yang. Aaron defines himself as "a global citizen" and brings a wealth of experience reaching across communities and cultures, as well as environmental, social, and governance skills. He is passionate about ecology, equity, parks, sustainability, and transportation, and has a special interest in how the city-nature dynamic comes into play in all of these areas. When you meet Aaron at one of our events, he will be happy to greet you in his two languages, Mandarin and English, and he is always up for practicing his German! Welcome, Aaron! We are so happy you are part of our team!

HILLTOP COMMUNITY TREE SHARE



Community Partnership Coordinator, Alejandro Fernández, and two members of our great Hilltop planting and share team. Photo Credit: Julia Wolf.

In partnership with Peace Lutheran Church and St. Mark's Lutheran Church we distributed 130 trees to Tacoma and Hilltop Residents, ranging from native shrubs to fruit trees to large evergreens. With the support of the City of Tacoma's Urban Forestry Program and community volunteers we planted 5 street trees on Peace Lutheran Church housing properties. We're looking forward to continuing our partnership with Peace Lutheran and the Hilltop Community!

TREVELING THROUGH TIME WITH TREES



We gathered at the Tacoma Public Library-Swasey Branch to celebrate the oldest trees on earth! If you think the Parthenon is old, you should think again. Sarah Low taught us that the Gingko, Monkey Puzzle, Sequoia, and Oak are the oldest living trees (in that order). While tabling at the event, Communications Specialist Julia Wolf was made privy to a sweet anecdote from a ten-year-old attendee: "One time, I went to the redwoods, and it inspired me so much!" We agree with him. Our oldest trees inspire us—to seek wonder and gain perspective. You can visit some of these elders—beautiful specimens of sequoia, oak, and ginkgo—in Wright Park.

Water-Wise Wanderings | March 30 | 11:00am

Can you guess which one of our native trees moves the most water on average? What about the tree that moves the most water in our wettest month? Join Steven Quick and TTF on this walk to get all the answers!



South Tacoma Mural Celebration | March 30 | 2:00-4:00pm

Join us to celebrate the completion of the South Tacoma Library mural and the joy and vibrancy it brings to our community! Artist Dionne Bonner and her team will share the inspiration and process of creating the mural and will be joined by representatives from Tacoma Public Library and the City of Tacoma's Office of Arts and Cultural Vitality.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

March 16 | 9:30am-1pm Green Blocks: Parkland-Spanaway planting Event

Help us Green Parkland-Spanaway and reduce barriers to health and wellness!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Under the Urban Canopy | March 9 | 9am-8pm

Are you feeling the urge for spring? There's no need to wait until March 20th! Join Blue Cactus Press, Voices of Tacoma, and Tacoma Tree Foundation to rise, shake winter from your bones, and usher in spring with a daylong feria (fair). Join us for one or more of our fun activities, which include a baile (dance) with DJs Smokey Wonder and YAYA-SOL!

Green Blocks: Parkland-Spanaway Walk-up Tree Share | March 23 | 10am-2pm

If you live in the Parkland-Spanaway designated census area, bring your family and friends, and come get your free trees! There will be a planting demonstration as well as information from many of our partner organizations. Come say hi, meet up with neighbors, and learn about the benefits of trees!



Spring Wanderings | March 23 | 10:30am-2pm

Join us for one or two events to welcome the spring at a bilingual Wander 'n' Draw event! We will walk together from King's Books to the W.W. Seymour Conservatory (Wright Park) with our guides, Sarah Low and Claudia Linares, and then gather at King's Books for a haiku comics workshop with award-winning graphic novelist, David Lasky.



THE TTF TRUCK IS HERE!



In the fall, you helped us raise funds to purchase an environmentally-friendly truck that could help us distribute free trees, coordinate our planting assistance and tree share events, and crucially, care for the trees we plant. We were beyond excited to receive the TTF Truck a couple weeks ago! Here it is in its new splendor! We're currently in the process of choosing a name with your help, and we'll announce it soon! THANK YOU for making this possible! Special thanks to Korum Ford in Puyallup for finding the right vehicle for us, as well as REI and City of Tacoma for contributing to the truck purchase.

WHAT WE'RE READING



American Forests: Fresh Water, the beating heart of the Evergreen State | Lee Poston

Public News Service: Tree Coverage in Cities Crucial as Planet Warms, WA Research Shows | Eric Tegethoff





KNKX NPR: Tacoma's Rezoning Efforts Aim to Increase Density While Preserving Trees | Bellamy Pailthorp

The Guardian: Very Cool: Trees Stalling Effects of Global Warming in Easter US, Study Finds



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Yashar Vasef, Friends of Trees Executive Director

Help us continue to work toward growing an urban forest that sustains all of Tacoma and its wildlife! A healthy and diverse forest will help us remain gritty in the face of climate change. Our goal is to raise \$75,000. You can help us by purchasing a ticket to attend our fundraising breakfast, sponsoring a table, or donating an amount of your choice.

GET YOUR HAT



March is a good time to start alternating between our comfy TTF beanie and our sleek Organic Greening Together Hat! Get your 100% organic cotton hat in charcoal or oyster, and green Tacoma with us!