

THE SPOOKIEST NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR



This time of year is perfect for hearing the crunch of leaves underneath your feet, seeing leaves change color, and walking around the neighborhood. Trees are an essential part of how we experience fall, so we encourage you to take a walk this month and say hi to the trees this season!

Fundraiser Update



In September, we announced the beginning of our weeklong fundraiser “Truck for Trees”, organized to raise \$25,000 toward the purchase of an environmentally friendly truck to help us water and care for young trees year round. A month later, we are thrilled to announce that we raised over \$60,000! These funds were raised through online donations from individual supporters, a generous \$25,000 gift that allowed us to match donations, and a \$10,000 appropriation that the City of Tacoma unanimously approved led by Council Member Olgly Diaz. We want to express our gratitude to everyone who donated and who helped us spread the work, including the members of our Board of Directors, who support our work in crucial ways. Thank you! We will keep you posted on the purchase of the truck and how it will support our work!

WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO

Green Blocks: McKinley Hill



Photo Credit: Julia Gonzalez-Wolf

Our first planting event of the season is over! Green Blocks: McKinley Hill, held in partnership with the City of Tacoma Urban Forestry Program, was this past weekend on Green Tacoma Day. **We delivered 233 trees to 104 properties.** Thank to **43 volunteers** who showed up on a damp and cold morning, we were able to provide planting assistance for 115 trees. As we fulfilled requests leading up to planting day, we were excited by how the young potted trees were already transforming the neighborhood, even before being planted. At the end of the day, as volunteer teams returned to the event site at Blix Elementary School, this excitement flowed into a sense of deep gratitude for the residents who will be taking care of these young trees, and of joyful anticipation for the future of McKinley Hill neighborhood!

Thanks to our partners at the City of Tacoma's Urban Forestry Program, Neighborhood Planning, to Blix Elementary School, Puget Sound Starts Here (for the amazing t-shirts), and Starbucks (for donating hot coffee!), and to Ariana Jugarap, Kiersten Iverson, Kenzie Knapp, Sarah Low, and Diandra Rodriguez for canvassing McKinley Hill in August and September.

Neighborhood Tree Walks



Walking down Pacific Avenue on September 30. Photo Credit: Julia Gonzalez-Wolf

Walking to celebrate the benefits of trees is one of the main ways we spend our time at Tacoma Tree Foundation. But we also spend time walking through neighborhoods to learn about how disease, tree policy and urban development and other factors impact our co-existence with trees and with each other. Mid-September, we were joined by Joey Hulbert and the Forest Health Watch project for a Maple Health Tree Walk that took us through Franklin Park and several blocks of adjoining neighborhood. We learned how to identify sooty bark disease, how healthy maples shed their leaves in contrast to diseased maples, and why diversity matters when planting trees in the right-of-way.

We concluded the month by returning to one of our favorite spots in the City: the SENCO planting Site on S 74th St. and D St. Alongside partners from SENCO, Pierce County District, and Tacoma Climate Leaders, we walked the surrounding neighborhood to consider some

of the crucial issues that come into view when we think about policy and urban development, including pavement ,urban heat island effect, and how lack of regulation and enforcement often means that young trees on new development properties do not make it past their first year. Tacoma will soon vote on revised Tree Ordinance (our previous ordinance was written in the 1920s!), .This is an important step in the right direction. .Yet, we still need to remember that, in their absence of enforcement, or infrastructure, communities play an important role in ensuring the survival of young trees and the creation of greening projects. SENCO's planting site and Green Blocks: McKinley Hill are both prime examples of how engagement in your community and neighborhood council can lead to positive environmental change!

An Unwieldy Piece of Nature: The History of Wright Park | November 1 | 12PM| King's Books



If you live or work in Tacoma, you have probably been to or walked across Wright Park. This iconic city park was once thought of as an "unwieldy piece of nature" and posed a challenge to landscape designers. Its successful development shapes how we experience the city today. Historian Melissa McGinnis will teach us how this "unwieldy piece of nature" was transformed into an oasis of natural yet artfully planned beauty in the heart of Tacoma. We are grateful to our hosts at King's Books

Creating a Home in the Landscapes of the PMW | November 13 | 6PM | Online



People of Color in the Pacific Northwest have utilized various methods to remake the landscape to reflect their own identity. In this free webinar, Dr. Sifuentez will demonstrate some of the ways these communities have done so both by altering the landscape and by reimagining their space.

Photo Credit: Oregon Encyclopedia: Latinos in Oregon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tree Shares

Branch Out | November 4 | 10am - 4pm | Stafford Elementary School

We will be holding another tree share and second planting event. Branch Out, held in partnership with the City of Tacoma, Pierce Conservation District, and Pierce County Parks, brings trees to City of Tacoma and greater urban area residents. Although the time to request trees has passed, you can still get a free tree by coming to Stafford Elementary on November 4th between 10am and 4pm. This year we are excited to offer language support at our event site in Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. Many thanks to Lisa Kenny (Urban Forestry Program), language ambassadors, Iuliia Didkivska Maria Games, Sandra Garibaldi, Katelyn Huynh, Svetiana Konotopchik, and TTF designer Luna Azzouni, for making this possible!



WHAT WE'RE READING



From the TTF Blog: On the Other Side: Why Alternative Yards are Greener

New York Times: How to Cool Down a City.



Nature Explorers: How Do Otters Steward Kelp Forests?



Presentations and Walks

As the weather cools and the rains return, we still have plenty of educational programming for you!

Tree Failure: An Introduction to Arboreal Biomechanics | October 23 | NOON| Online

If you've ever walked down your neighborhood or a park wondering why branches have fallen, trees have been taken down, or why a tree is diseased or dying, this webinar is for you! Dr. Brian Kane (UMass-Amherst) will be teaching us why it is important to recognize that trees can present risk. Understanding what makes a tree more likely to fail helps us understand how we can reduce the likelihood of failure through arboricultural practices like pruning and installing support systems. In the webinar, we will learn the basic physics behind failure and how to maintain trees to minimize their likelihood of failure. ISA CEU's will be provided.



Do you know what is spooky?

Nothing's scarier than a street without trees.

Nothing is more chilling than living in a city with the lowest tree canopy in Western Washington.

So let's make Tacoma a little less scary. When you donate you are directly supporting the Tacoma tree Foundation in greening our city. It helps us pay for trees, transportation, and dedicated organizers that make having a tree a reality for thousands of community members.

Donate