

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



**“In setting to plant  
handle like you would a  
child the Infant Cherry”**

By Matsuo Bashō

Planting season is upon us! It is what we work for! In the coming weeks, we'll travel to different neighborhoods with our partners, provide residents with free trees, and assist with planting. The season calls us to consider how we will care for the trees we plant. Matsuo Bashō, the famous Japanese poet, highlights the fragility and promise of a young tree in his haiku. We are committed to caring for the trees we plant, and we hope you'll join us this season through our tree giveaways and educational programs. You can start this week by helping us build the infrastructure we need to make sure every young tree takes root: help us raise \$25,000 to purchase a truck and provide one of the most important forms of tree care—regular and careful watering!

### WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

You might already know that in partnership with the City of Tacoma Urban Forestry Program, we are holding our first planting program of the season in McKinley Hill on October 14, which is also Green Tacoma Day! To celebrate, we organized two different tree walks in this great Tacoma neighborhood.



#### Green Blocks: McKinley Hill

Did you know McKinley Hill rests on a watershed? In fact, its park has four streams and four wetlands! Those who joined our Nature Explorers walk on August 24 learned about this space, deemed a “park of significance” by the City. We learned about the trees and the creatures that call it home, and participants pointed in wonder at the species they learned how to recognize from expert arborist and TTF founder, Sarah Low.



Photo by Kenzie Knapp

If you missed it, we hope you'll join us for our next Nature Explorer's walk at the **PNW Native Plant Garden at Point Defiance Park coming up on October 12.**

### McKinley Hill's Remarkable Trees



If there's one thing we like to share with new supporters of the Foundation, it's that wondrous trees can also be found on your sidewalk. And this was certainly confirmed as we explored McKinley Hill's sidewalks: Norway Maple, Flowering Dogwood, Mimosa, Paper Birch, and Black Locust are all among the trees that shade McKinley's streets. One of our favorites, though, is this “Cake Tree” or Katsura Tree, a deciduous tree that gets its playful name from the scent of sweet oven-baked bread that its leaves release when fall arrives. The scent is produced by the maltol molecule. It is the perfect tree to accompany the freshly baked Yeastside donuts and LUX brewed coffee that participants were able to enjoy!

### Hilltop Street Fair



Photo by Julia Wolf

We were happy to spend one of the last warm summer days tabling on the streets of Hilltop. As usual, we had great conversations with Hilltop residents, and passersby visiting from other Tacoma neighborhoods, Lakewood, and University Place. Many of our conversations focused on community concerns about tree removal and development. As we move into planting season, these issues are on our mind. The urban forest needs young trees to grow, and we need established trees, which give us the most benefits!



# HELP US RAISE \$25,000

## TRUCK FOR TREES



**Our fall fundraiser starts TODAY!** Since our foundation in 2018, we have delivered over 10,000 trees to neighborhoods in the City of Tacoma and the greater urban area

thanks to your support. We have accomplished this by borrowing our partners' vehicles and using our personal trucks. But once planted, young trees need our help—from June to October, they need an average of 15-20 gallons of water a week, and their health and growth must be monitored year-round. With \$25,000, we will be able to buy a truck, so we can water every tree, exactly when it is needed! Please join us online for our **"Truck for Trees" fundraiser from September 11-14 and help us spread the word!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our past and upcoming educational events are possible thanks to the generous support of **Tacoma Creates**. Our grant-funded educational programming is how we spread the word about Tacoma trees, their history, and the many ways they improve our lives! Register for our events at: [tacomatreefoundation.org/calendar](http://tacomatreefoundation.org/calendar)

**September 14 | 5pm**  
Maple Tree Walk | Franklin Park

Join Joey Hulbert, director of the Forest Health Watch program and leader of the WSU Ravenholt Urban Forest Health Lab, on a maple tree walk and happy hour where we will learn how to distinguish and identify several maple tree species, as well as how to recognize sooty bark disease on red maple and bigleaf maple trees. Participants will also learn how to engage in the Maple Health Watch project by engaging with iNaturalist. At the walk's conclusion, over 21+ participants will convene at Beer Star to share thoughts, questions, and insights. We hope you'll take advantage of this amazing opportunity to help us protect maple trees!

**September 23 | 11am-2pm**  
Caminata 5K y Caminata de Bienestar  
Wapato Park

We are excited to partner with Caminemos Juntos, an organization committed to providing Latina women and parents with perinatal health and wellbeing support! Join us for the 5K and a bilingual mindfulness walk, which will be led by Sarah Low and Claudia Linares-Ruthruff. Nos emociona mucho anunciar nuestra primera colaboración con Caminemos Juntos, una organización dedicada a apoyar a las madres Latinas y padres de familia. Acompáñenos en nuestra caminata 5K y una caminata de bienestar con nuestras guías Sarah Low y Claudia Linares-Ruthruff.



**September 23 | 2:00pm-4:30pm**  
Hops for Tree Tops



Hops for Treetops combines a love of trees with a love for Tacoma's homegrown ales, pilsners and lagers. Join Tacoma Tree Foundation and the Green Tacoma Partnership for this downtown tree walk & pub crawl. Led by local arborists, the event will focus on some special downtown trees, the volunteer opportunities available on Green Tacoma Day, and the adult beverages that will be available for purchase (at your own expense) at both tour stops. This is a one-way walk of around 1.5 miles that includes parts of downtown Tacoma's beautiful steep hill! Please plan according to your comfort and mobility needs. If you choose to drive to venue #1 (7 Seas Brewery), make sure you make a plan for returning to your car. (Walk, bus, link, or creative shuttle!)

**November 4 | Branch Out**

Branch Out is a tree giveaway collaboration between multiple community partners to collectively grow the Tacoma-area urban forest. Our intent is to uplift and call out the intersection of trees, human health, equity, and community building. Residents from the Tacoma urban area can sign up to receive FREE TREES for their property on November 4, 2023 and also to request planting support from our volunteer teams. Past and present community partners include: Homeownership Center NW, Valeo Vocation, VFW McKinley, SunAlliance, Tacoma Public Schools, Pierce Conservation District, City of Tacoma Urban Forestry Program, and Pierce County Parks. Request your trees today! Funding for Branch Out is provided by the City of Tacoma, Pierce Conservation District, and Pierce County Parks.



## WHAT WE'RE READING



**From the TTF Blog:**  
**Seeing the Urban Forest: Why Tree Stories and Place Awareness Matter**

**Nature Explorers: Planting Trees with your Kids!**



**The Tacoma Tree Foundation:**  
**How are we greening McKinley Hill?**



**New York Times:**  
**Tiny Forests with Big Benefits**

