

See what the Tree Friends have been doing to keep West Lafayette a true tree city!



Urban Leaves

Tree News You Can Use

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Upcoming Event - Arbor Day - April 28th

Each year West Lafayette Tree Friends celebrate Arbor Day with a special tree planting. Friday, April 28, the official Arbor Day, marks the day for the event this year. It will start at 10 a m along the newly constructed Happy Hollow Road. Participants are welcome to park in the Covenant Presbyterian Church lot near Knox Drive. In addition to Tree Friends, youth from Covenant will be helping to plant the trees. The community is cordially invited to join in this celebration of trees.

[Visit Our Website](#)

Moving Ahead in 2017

As the next growing season is getting under way, West Lafayette Tree Friends (WLTF) look forward to an eventful 2017.

PRUNING, PLANTING,
EDUCATING!

[Click here for details of WLTF 2017 goals](#), or contact Bryce Patz at 765-775-5170.



Spotlight On Pruning



Many believe tree branches grow upward as the tree gains height. The truth is that that is not always the case. It is important to prune limbs that are too low for pedestrians or vehicles to clear underneath to prevent damage to the tree. Often, limbs have shoots rising to the center of the growing tree, which can overlap and grow into other limbs, clogging air flow, blocking sunlight, and weakens the structure of the tree. Pruning those inner-branches allows for better air flow and prevents overlapping limbs for a healthier tree!

With this in mind, WLTF partner with the City of West Lafayette to prune young street trees in the spring and fall, this year starting in April. [Here is the pruning schedule for spring 2017 showing dates and neighborhoods](#). Want to join in? No pruning experience? No problem; we can show you the ropes. For more information, feel free to contact Bryce Patz at bpatz@wl.in.gov or 765-775-5170. By the way, Bryce is also a certified arborist.

Meet a Tree Friend - Kay Conner

About a year ago, I joined WLTF, which happened to coincide with our move to downtown Lafayette. As much as I am enjoying my new home, my heart and most of my activities and friends are in West Lafayette. Bev Shaw recruited me and my friend, Linda Eales, and some of you may know, she is hard to refuse.

But what a great group! I have enjoyed getting to know other volunteers, learned a lot about trees, and come to appreciate their contribution to planting and nurturing our urban forest.

[Click here for more about Kay](#)





Planting Trees To Attract Birds

By Brianne Wolff

The [complete article](#) appeared in the Arbor Day Foundation Newsletter on January 5, 2017

While birds are a joy to watch and listen to all year long, it is particularly during the long winter months when their bright and cheerful presence is even more appreciated. Following an especially cold and dreary winter, the coming of spring brings thoughts of planting trees and shrubs to attract these delightful

feathered friends. While they certainly enrich our lives with their presence when they grace our yards and gardens, we, too, can do much for them by providing necessary food sources and habitat.

By planting certain species of trees and shrubs, you can provide year-long natural food sources for these creatures, particularly during times of year when food is scarce. Selecting several trees or shrubs that have berries during different times of the year are great choices-and most also provide beauty in the form of spring blossoms or vibrant fall foliage. Great choices include Dogwood, Serviceberry, Mulberry, Viburnum, Sargent Crabapple, American Mountainash, Black Tupelo, Juniper and Winterberry Holly.

The cover that trees and shrubs provide is also vital for attracting birds, as they need areas of shelter and protection for breeding, nesting, sleeping, traveling, and hiding from enemies. Many trees and shrubs can be both sources of cover and food; some good choices include Canadian Hemlock, Fir, Spruce, Eastern Redcedar, Birch, and Oak.

The Arbor Day Foundation and arborday.org are great sources of information. Our Tree City USA [Bulletin #13: Trees for Wildlife](#) and [Conservation Trees: How to Attract Songbirds and Wildlife are excellent resources.](#)

And please remember to provide a water source. Birds, like all wildlife, need water, and by installing a bird bath or other water feature, you will attract even more birds and provide a better habitat for them. Be sure to change the water frequently and keep it free of ice in the winter.

CELEBRATE SPRING BY PLANTING A TREE

Other events of interest

Saturday, 4/8/17 - Anti-Erosion volunteer day, 9-12, Happy Hollow Park Playground. Organized by Purdue EPICS

Saturday, 4/22/17 - Master Gardeners' Garden Expo 2017, 9-3, Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. WLTF will have a booth.

Saturday, 4/22/17 - Earth Day Recycling and shredding event, 9-12, parking lot by Pizza Hut, West Lafayette. Shredding of paper, recycle electronics, paint, batteries and more. Sponsored by The Russell Company and Reliable Insurance.

Any donations at the event will go to WLTF.



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