

Together, We are making West Lafayette Greener



## Urban Leaves

*Tree News You Can Use*

Vol. 4 No. 4  
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### What is the Urban Forest and What Are Street Trees?

West Lafayette's urban forest is comprised of street trees and trees on public land. Street trees are those planted in the public-right-of-way that often are in the grass strips between sidewalks and streets.



REMEMBER trees help to:

- Add oxygen to the air
- Absorb carbon
- Divert storm water
- Cool houses
- Offer shade
- Provide beauty
- Reduce pollution
- Provide habitat for birds and insects
- Improve health

**THAT'S WHY WE LOVE OUR HARDWORKING TREES!!!**



[Visit Our Website](#)

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## **How Can the West Lafayette Tree Friends (WLTF) Help You?**

WLTF are volunteers who assist the City to plant and maintain our city's street trees (watering, mulching, pruning). See any area that needs to be pruned or want to join in on the fun? Check us out on Facebook or our website here: <https://wltreefriends.org/> or feel free to contact us at [chair@wltreefriends.org](mailto:chair@wltreefriends.org) or [city@wltreefriends.org](mailto:city@wltreefriends.org). To see where the right-of-way boundary is located at your home, visit the Tippecanoe County GIS website (works only on Explorer browser): <http://gis2.tippecanoe.in.gov/PublicSL/Viewer.html?Viewer=Public>

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## **Creating and Maintaining the Urban Forest**

The first step is to properly plant the right tree where it can grow and prosper. Check out West Lafayette's approved street trees list here: <http://www.westlafayette.in.gov/topic/index.php?topicid=53&structureid=10>. Then comes MAINTENANCE: providing water, mulch (to capture moisture) and periodic pruning to assure healthy and attractive trees. Below are some easy tips on taking care of your trees during the growing season!

[Tips to help your trees thrive](#)

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## **Trucking Along by Watering our Street Trees!**

Weekly watering has begun! WLTF target young trees recently planted (one to two years) in neighborhoods across the city. Notice the yellow vests and ready smiles in your neighborhood? Come out and say HELLO!

WLTF are asking for your help. Help us water young street trees near your home during periods of low rainfall. They will thank you (and so will WLTF) by providing beauty, shade and much more for years to come. Questions or concerns about watering or other tree care, contact Bryce Patz, WL Neighborhood Vitality: [bpatz@wl.in.gov](mailto:bpatz@wl.in.gov) or 765-775-5170. Thanks for caring!



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### Limbing up at Fire Station #3



The WLTF responded to a call from our city's first responders to help prune trees in front of Station #3. [Learn more here](#)

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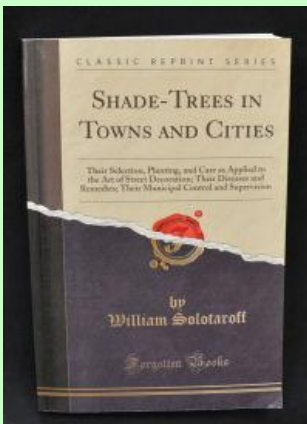
## Pharmaceutical Co. Assists WLTF

On Saturday, June 24th, 8 employees from West Lafayette's Solid State Chemical Information (SSCI) volunteered in our urban forest. With their help, along with West Lafayette Tree Friends members Judy Pellissier, Don Wood, and Steve Green, the band of volunteers pruned 246 trees and gathered nearly 80 tree stakes off of the young trees found along the bike trail that runs along US 231. Huge thank you to SSCI for helping the WLTF tackle this project and look forward to working together again soon! Does your company or business want to get involved? Contact Bryce Patz, Neighborhood Vitality, at [bpatz@wl.in.gov](mailto:bpatz@wl.in.gov) on how to get involved!



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### A GOOD CHUCKLE from LYNN LAYDEN



One Christmas gift was a copy of *Shade Trees in Towns and Cities*, a reprint from the original edition in 1911. The guide, by William Solotaroff, offers recommendations about the planting and care of street trees, much of which is true a century later. However, one chapter is in sharp contrast to other sage advice: "Of all mechanical injuries to street trees, none are more numerous nor more fatal than mutilations caused by horses. One would not have to go very far in any town to find scores of examples of horses feasting on bark many years ago. In a few minutes a horse may destroy a tree worth hundreds of dollars and which no amount of money can replace."

(Available on Amazon)

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### Other events of interest

Tuesday, 8/8/17 - West Lafayette Tree Friends monthly meeting, WL Public Library.  
All are welcome

Wednesday 9/13/17, WLTF have a booth at WL Farmers Market, 3:30-7:00pm. Stop by for information and fun.



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