



# 5th Annual Urban Forestry Summit

## Collaborative Partner Contributions to the Urban Forest

*Previous 12 Months*

### Bartlett Tree Experts

- Generously sponsored this year's Urban Forestry Summit
- Supported TreesCharlotte with technical advice and support
- Fully supported the Renaissance West planting event with a fleet of TreeMasters
- Staff routinely volunteered to help TreesCharlotte in many ways
- Committed to provide trees to TreeFund's Tour des Trees
- Mr. Robert Bartlett joined the TreesCharlotte Board of Directors

### Catawba Lands Conservancy

- Partnered with the City to hold a conservation easement on 45 acres of property acquired through the Tree Canopy Preservation Program (TCPP)
- Applied for a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant for an additional property acquisition in progress through TCPP
- Supported TreesCharlotte with event support and volunteer coordination

### Central Piedmont Community College

- Handed out seedlings and promoted TreesCharlotte at Skyline Run community racing event.
- Teaches arborist classes, including the exam prep classes
- Students volunteered for TreesCharlotte

### Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools

- Hosted TreesCharlotte community tree planting events at 9 CMS schools to plant 1,543 trees with the support of 1,047 volunteers. Since inception, TreesCharlotte has planted a total of 6,400 trees on 27 CMS school campuses involving 3,400 volunteers and students.
- Participated in TreeChampion program involving in classroom tree-education and student involvement with planting and tree stewardship.
- Partnered with TreesCharlotte to steward trees on CMS campuses.

### Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission

- Helped organize and execute Arbor Day event/tree planting at 8 local CMS schools
- Presented a short program on trees and gave seedlings to over 1,000 students on Arbor Day
- Awarded four Crown Tree Awards to local citizens that had a great impact on Charlotte's tree canopy
- Served as an appellant board for Charlotte's tree ordinance

## City of Charlotte

### Tree Work

- Planted 4,178 trees. Planting locations include medians, street right-of-way, cemeteries and storm water projects
- Managed 180,000 street trees, including pruning, treatment, and removals
- Managed banding of 5,500 trees in right-of-way during cankerworm season
- Supported TreesCharlotte with technical expertise, tree sourcing, project planning and execution, and project stewardship
- Paid for 700 seedlings planted through the Creek ReLeaf Program

### Tree Preservation

- Identified an opportunity to acquire contiguous, high-conservation value properties (45 acres) adjacent to Gum Branch greenway.
- Five properties were purchased in late 2015- early 2016
- Identified over 100 acres in east Charlotte and is currently working through the acquisition process for those parcels.
- Managed 180,000 street trees, including pruning, treatment, some banding, and 750 required tree removals.

Supported TreesCharlotte with technical expertise, tree sourcing, project planning and execution, and project stewardship.

### Urban Forestry Master Plan

Building on Council's goal to have 50% canopy coverage in 2050, the city is creating a master plan combining community and staff input with urban forestry best practices to define responsibilities and reach the community's goals. The plan will be created in close partnership with TreesCharlotte and other community stakeholders including Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, Catawba Lands Conservancy and many others.

This work will produce two products: 1) A full analysis geared for use by City staff; 2) The public master plan with clear calls to action for the City's community partners and residents.

#### 1. Milestones met:

- Selected and contracted with Davey Resource Group as consultant to assist in creating the master plan.
- Selected and contracted with Yellow Duck Marketing as media buyer to advertise and promote public input opportunities.
- Stakeholder group formed. Three meeting held with the following stakeholders attending all or some of the meetings: Bartlett Tree Research Group, Bees, Trees and These, Charlotte Department of Transportation, Center City Partners, Centralina Council of Governments, Charlotte Mecklenburg Storm Water Services, Charlotte Planning Department, Charlotte Water, Central Piedmont Community College, City of Charlotte Neighborhood and Business Services, City of Charlotte Urban Forestry, City of Charlotte Solid Waste Services, Duke Energy, Heartwood Tree Service, LandDesign, Mecklenburg County Air Quality, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation, Myers Park Homeowners Association, Piedmont Natural Gas, REBIC, Self Help, University of North Carolina – Charlotte.
- A public survey was developed and over 2,800 citizens submitted responses.
- Three community input meetings held.

#### 2. Upcoming Milestones:

- October 2016: First draft of plan due to staff
- December 2016: Finalized plan

### Clean Air Carolina

- Was a community partner for Keeping Watch on Air, UNC Charlotte
- Educated on linkages between air quality and trees

### Creek ReLeaf

- Planted 700 seedlings along McCullen Creek
- Partnered with TreesCharlotte on community event to plant containerized trees

## Discovery Place

- Hosted TreesCharlotte for Earth Day and hope to continue that partnership in the future.
- Participated in a Discovery Place tree planting.

## Elizabeth Community Association

- Supported TreesCharlotte by contributing proceeds from the Elizabeth 8K Race.
- TreesCharlotte distributed trees and information at last year's race.
- Participated in a community TreeStore event with Chantilly and Grier Heights

## Habitat for Humanity

- Distributed TreesCharlotte trees to residents in the Lakewood Community
- Established system for distributing TreesCharlotte trees to new home residents, along with tree care information

## Heartwood Tree Service

- Engaged in client education about trees and tree care
- Supported the Queens Crown initiative to highlight treasure trees and communicate stories about the trees and the people that love them. Also donates care of the trees.
- Supported TreesCharlotte with many TreeMasters and volunteer leadership
- Committed to underwrite Emerald Ash Borer treatment program in the coming year
- Major supporter of Creek ReLeaf providing man power and equipment
- Regularly spoke to schools and clubs about the value and importance of trees
- Donated tree care to First Ward Elementary School
- Regularly donated tree swings to auctions and causes in Charlotte
- Regularly sponsored NC Tree Climbing Championship in Freedom Park
- Actively supported TreesCharlotte with technical knowledge
- Has volunteered to help with the Know Your Urban Forest initiative
- Generously sponsored TresFund's Tour des Trees

## Johnson C Smith University

- Students volunteered for TreesCharlotte

## Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation

- Planted 8 acres of old field with shortleaf pine, about 500 trees/acre. Burned about 600 acres, but only 2 of it was in the city (that's 2 more than ever!)
- Supported TreesCharlotte planting events at 6 parks including Lakewood, Park Road, Renaissance, Elon, Flat Branch, and Winterfield. Collaborated on project design and execution.
- Offered Freedom Park site for the TreesCharlotte Honorary Garden and helped facilitate the construction.

## NC Wildlife Federation

- Provided childrens' educational offerings at TreesCharlotte community tree planting events
- Promoted trees for wildlife habitat

## Queens University

- Students volunteered with TreesCharlotte
- Class led effort to geo-code all TreesCharlotte tree planting locations and analyze project locations vis-à-vis economic / demographic data
- Dr. Perkins routinely provided technical support to TreesCharlotte

## Rainbow Tree Care (Patrick Anderson)

- Led the TreeMaster 2.0 training program development and delivery
- Served as active TreeMaster, participating in many community events
- Wrote articles for the TreesCharlotte LeafLet on Ambrosia Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer

- Frequently provided technical support and information to TreesCharlotte
- Committed to partner in the upcoming Emerald Ash Borer treatment program
- Volunteered to help with the Know Your Urban Forest initiative

## TreeCycle America

- Recycled wood from removed or fallen trees
- Created the Certified network of businesses to upcycle the otherwise unusable trees.
- Educated the tree care world how the tree could be cut slightly different when removed to create a more usable product (log)
- Created and developed a tree tracking system that creates awareness today and helps with the future use of planted trees in an urban area.
- Worked with growers to help change the current seed species planting for future planted trees to be more usable when the living usefulness is over.

## TreesCharlotte

- Planted or distributed 5,127 containerized trees. Planting locations included 8 neighborhoods, 9 schools, 2 City-Wide TreeStores, and 5 parks
- Engaged 2,660 volunteers or residents
- Held 8 tree stewardship events
- Distributed about 5,000 seedlings at multiple events, including a Charlotte Knights game
- Trained 50 TreeMasters and launched TreeMaster 2.0 program
- Launched a TreesCharlotte membership program and expanded education and outreach platform with print, web site and social marketing
- Expanded community partnerships including those with Habitat for Humanity and Homebuilders Association
- Held 4<sup>th</sup> Urban Forestry Summit
- Educated hundreds of CMS students
- Raised significant operating support for trees, and launched the TreesCharlotte Endowment campaign
- Partnered with the Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission on Arbor Day celebration at 8 CMS schools
- Completed TreesCharlotte Honorary Garden in Freedom Park
- Was a community partner for Keeping Watch on Air, UNC Charlotte
- Substantially increased reach with outreach and social marketing programs

## UNC Charlotte

- Tree planting care costs on campus: \$258,000
- Volunteer Hours: 12,920
- Trees Planted: 150
- Trees pruned: 100
- Hazard trees removed: 10
- Canopy Coverage: 48%
- Arbor Day Observance and learning activity: October 15, 2015
- UNC Charlotte has purchased a GIS Tree Inventory program to track planting and maintenance
- Routine student volunteers for TreesCharlotte events
- Hosted Keeping Watch on Air exhibit



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