

TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING WEST LAFAYETTE GREENER



WEST LAFAYETTE
TREE FRIENDS
Planters • Pruners • Protectors

Urban Leaves

Tree News You Can Use

Vol. 6 No. 5
October-December 2019

Activities of Tree Friends

Children's Education



Tribute Trees



Tree Sweaters



Education
Lillich Lecture



Watering



Fund Raising



Pruning



Planting



DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This October, the West Lafayette Tree Friends are looking at the end of another successful "Tree Year." Normally, by Halloween our activities are winding down with all trees planted, pruning completed, and bills paid. We take stock of our equipment, note where more trees can be planted, and plan how to pay for them!

Two important factors have made this year unusual: (1) the market price for new trees. Because the Emerald Ash Borer and other tree foes have created a high demand for trees, the price of a two-inch diameter tree has risen to over \$400. (2) the weather. The very warm temperatures and drought conditions this fall have delayed our October planting until November, when trees should be in dormancy and fall rains will have begun.

Now is the time to begin our Fall Giving Campaign by looking at our most valuable resource - our faithful donors. Helen Lillich started asking friends for financial help back in 1982 - and 18 of those original donors are still part of our giving base! Another 60 families have given almost yearly since 1983. Helen kept track of her donors using index cards filed in wooden boxes originally containing salted cod. She carefully noted each contribution received and the date she made her thank-you phone call. While we have switched to a computer data base and send thank you letters by mail, we have not forgotten the importance of our best friends - you, our donors.

We depend on contributions to support the purchase of new street trees, and we appreciate all our generous friends who recognize the value of the West Lafayette urban forest. As they travel the many tree-lined streets, donors can take pride that their contributions have made such a big impact on the quality of life in West Lafayette. Our donation cycle for 2018-2019 began in November 2018. We received donations from 159 individuals, who gave a total of \$15,120.

Donations can be made through our website. You can donate online by clicking [here](#), or send a check to Parks and Recreation Department, 1200 North Salisbury Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906 Attention: West Lafayette Tree Friends.



***Remember, we turn your donations into trees!
No donation is too small.***

MEET A TREE FRIEND MARY LOSEY



In this issue we honor a special donor, Mary Losey, a dedicated Tree Friend. Mary started donating in November 1982 to what was then known as Helen Lillich's West Lafayette Tree Fund. Mary's donations have continued through the 1980's and 90's all the way to the most recent fund drive. In 1989 Mary donated in honor of her Mother's 80th birthday. The West Lafayette Tree Friends, as we're now known, appreciate Mary's dedication and multi-decade support.

When Mary was asked why she started donating, her response was that she had observed founder Helen Lillich working on tree planting and tree care along roadsides in West Lafayette, sometimes in cold and rainy weather, and "was impressed." In addition, Mary enjoys trees in her own yard. She has a personal

commitment to community service and "doing the right thing."

Mary is an alumna of West Lafayette High School and Purdue University College of Pharmacy. Over her teaching tenure at Purdue, she taught many pharmacy practice classes and clinicals, and she advised the professional pharmacy fraternity Kappa Epsilon. She retired in 1999 as Professor Emerita of Pharmacy Practice. Mary continues her dedicated community service with the Art League, tutoring with Klondike Kids Club, Altrusa service organization, and the Old Tippecanoe Quilt Guild. Thank you to Mary Losey for being a TRUE and devoted Tree Friend.

WINTER PREP FOR TREES



Cold weather, ice, snow, and even the sun can damage trees in the urban forest. The best way to address this issue is to properly prune your younger trees and perform some general winter prepping during the fall months. Pruning is a horticultural practice that alters the growth and form of a plant. Often, pruning is used as a preventative measure against disease, severe insect infestation, storm damage, or structural issues such as rubbing branches. When done correctly, pruning promotes growth and prevents disease and structural issues during the formative years for a tree.

Here are some quick tips for pruning and prepping your young trees for the coming winter months:

1. Prune trees in fall and early winter to remove dead or weak branches. For more information see "Pruning them Right" (FNR-FAQ-19-W):
<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-faq-19-w.pdf>
2. When you are ready to prune, make sure your tools are sharp and proper safety equipment is being used, such as gloves and protective eyewear.
3. Inspect the tree by walking around all sides.
 - Remove any dead branches.
 - Remove branches that rub against one another.
 - Remove any branch stubs.
 - Remove any suckers that form at the base of the trunk.

2. Trunk wrapping. Thin-barked trees such as crab apples and smooth-barked maples are particularly vulnerable to temperature swings. University of Wisconsin Extension says that wrapping trees should occur in November. Purdue Extension publication (cited below) says to remove the wrap after the last freezing temperature in the spring.

4. Mulch around base of tree. Do not place mulch against the bark. For more information see <https://www.arborday.org/trees/tips/mulching.cfm>

5. Assure that trees have adequate moisture. Drought conditions in summer and fall can put trees (including evergreens) at risk during winter. Continue to water soil around trees in fall until the ground freezes. See "Drought? Don't Forget the Trees" (FNR483-W) <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-483-w.pdf>

When in doubt, reach out to Purdue Extensions specialist, Lindsey Purcell, at Purdue's Forestry and Natural Resources Department (lapurcel@purdue.edu) or West Lafayette's Urban Forester, Bryce Patz, in the Department of Development (bpatz@westlafayette.in.gov), or other ISA Certified Arborist for advice on proper tree health and care. To locate a Certified arborist in your area see www.treesaregood.com. For further information, visit: https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?Item_Number=FNR-484-W

FALL COLOR

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.
-Albert Camus



As the days grow shorter and cooler, the colors of West Lafayette trees change from summer greens to the brilliant colors of autumn. Pick a clear, crisp day and get out, look up, and enjoy nature's splendor. It's leaf-watching time.

If you enjoy taking pictures, celebrate fall with the Tree Friends. Snap a picture of your favorite fall tree and send it to city@wltreefriends.org. Some photos will be selected for display on the Tree Friends Facebook page.

West Lafayette has many great locations to enjoy the vibrant colors of fall trees. Visit the Celery Bog Nature Area, or one of the many other parks, such as Happy Hollow Park, Purdue Horticultural Park, the Purdue University campus, or Cumberland Park. Explore the many street trees that have been planted by the Tree Friends or simply enjoy the trees in your own backyard.



TREE FRIENDS AT SALUTING BRANCHES (Arborists United for Veteran Remembrance)

Again this year, on September 18, WL TreeFriends participated in the annual Saluting Branches event. This is a day dedicated to our veterans and to tree care at veteran's homes across the country. Local efforts focused on Indiana Veteran's Home in West Lafayette, where certified arborists as well as community volunteers from throughout Indiana gathered with awesome equipment (cranes, grinders, log trucks, bucket truck chipper combos, etc.) to plant, mulch, prune, and remove dead trees from the grounds. It was truly a day of giving and gratitude!



We were proud to be part of the 151 volunteers who

- Removed 31 dead trees
- Did 20 risk-based live tree immediate removals
- Cleaned 20 deadwood crowns
- Ground 36+ stumps
- Funded and planted 9 trees
- Mulched 100+ trees
- Inventoried 500 trees and stumps
- Risk-assessed 20 trees
- and reported NO injuries.

See salutingbranches.org for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:00

Wednesdays in the Wild
Lilly Nature Center
wl.in.gov/parks or 765-775-5172

Tuesday, November 12

West Lafayette Tree Friends Monthly Meeting
Happy Hollow Complex (Old Happy Hollow Sch.)
1200 North Salisbury St.
11:00-noon
Please join us!

Tuesday, December 10

West Lafayette Tree Friends Monthly Meeting
Happy Hollow Complex (Old Happy Hollow Sch.)
1200 North Salisbury St.
11:00-noon
Please join us!

Tuesday, January 14

West Lafayette Tree Friends Monthly Meeting
Happy Hollow Complex (Old Happy Hollow Sch.)
1200 North Salisbury St.
11:00-noon
Please join us!

FOR THE KIDS

Are you looking for some indoor children's activity for cold and inclement days - but still want to keep the focus on nature? Try the following websites provided by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Coloring Pages: <https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/coloring-pages/>

Carly's Kids Corner Activity Sheets: <https://www.arborday.org/kids/>

*Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree
- Emily Brontë*



Find previous issues of *Urban Leaves* [here](#).

Are you on our newsletter mailing list? [Sign up here](#)



Show your appreciation for someone and make a meaningful contribution to the health and beauty of West Lafayette! [For more information](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

