



Spring 2018 Grant Awards from TREE Fund

TREE Fund has awarded over \$260,000 for tree research and education in our Spring 2018 grant-making season. Please join us in congratulating our recipients and thanking the donors who make their work possible.

Hyland R. Johns Grant

Andrew Hiron, PhD and Henrik Sjöman, PhD, Myerscough College, UK

Safe Arborist Techniques Fund Grant

Alexander Laver and James Shippen, PhD, Tree Logic (Working with Coventry University, UK)

Utility Arborist Research Fund Grant

John Goodfellow, Bio-Compliance Consulting, Inc.

Sponsored Grant

Carolyn G. Mahan, PhD, Penn State Altoona

Ohio Chapter ISA Education Grant

Kent Roosevelt High School Forestry & Landscape Management Program

Bonnie Appleton Memorial Scholarship

Rebecca Pobst, Michigan State University

Fran Ward Women in Arboriculture Scholarship

Maria Tranguch, Oregon State University

Horace M. Thayer Scholarship

Brady Dauber, Cuyahoga Community College

John White Memorial Scholarship

Michael Tilton, U. of Massachusetts Amherst

Robert Felix Memorial Scholarships

Jackson Chandler, Brigham Young University

Katrina Henn, Mississippi State University

Kaitlyn Pike, DePaul University

“Nature welcomes inquiry. Nature does not hide its work. Just seek, and you will find.”

- Alex L. Shigo

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Learn more about the projects these scientists are pursuing on our [website](#).

Leading Thoughts

By J. Eric Smith, TREE Fund President and CEO

TREE Fund works hard throughout the year to raise money for tree research and education. Our usual pitch to donors can be boiled down to “more scientific knowledge leads to better management of urban forests, which then leads to a whole spectrum of benefits to people.” Because we are focused on practical applications of scientific knowledge, the human benefits we focus on in fundraising also tend to be the most practical ones, e.g. storm water, erosion and UV radiation mitigation, carbon sequestration, air quality, wind and sound barriers, etc. There are also a lot of economic benefits that we discuss, especially when making appeals to municipal or business leaders: increased property values and retail sales (along with increased tax revenues), attracting skilled workers, reducing property crime, etc.



We probably spend the least time discussing the “soft” benefits of urban forests – inspiring creativity, building sense of community, providing gathering places – because they seem the furthest removed from the hard scientific research we fund. But on some plane, those “heart string” stories are the ones that motivate and connect people at the most deeply personal levels to the trees in their lives. A personal example: as a young writer, long before I knew urban forestry existed as a profession (never mind how to spell “arboriculture”), trees moved me deeply enough that I published a poetry chapbook called *The Woods*. It didn’t make me much money, nor did it win me any acclaim, but it felt good to write and share, as an expression of how important trees were to me.

Over the past couple of years, I’ve watched another delightful tree-inspired creative endeavor unfolding: Jimmy Shen, a professional botanic photographer based in east China, connected with me via the TREE Fund website to tell me about his book *Ginkgo: The Living Fossil*. Jimmy lives and works near the mountain homes of wild and native *ginkgo biloba*, and has spent decades exploring and capturing their beauty, history, folklore, science, and importance in Chinese and global culture. You can learn more about his work by clicking [here](#) – and then maybe reflect for a moment on the myriad intangible ways that your support for tree research and education may, several steps down the line and in unpredictable ways, inspire or empower someone else to create a beautiful, life-affirming work like this one.

Volunteer Spotlight

We are happy to honor Wisconsin Arborist Association members **Ken Ottman, Dick Rideout** and **Nathan Schuettpelz** for their efforts to complete the Bob Skiera Memorial Fund campaign and realize Bob’s vision of fostering better dissemination of urban forestry principals and practices to municipal planning and development professionals.

These three have been fundraising and advocating for the Skiera Fund for many years through their involvement in auctions, the Tour des Trees, and other volunteer roles. Ken is a former Trustee and member of our Development Committee, Dick is a veteran Tour rider, and Nate is a TREE Fund Liaison. Thank you, Ken, Dick, and Nate, for all you do for tree research and education!



Lead Donors

We are grateful to the following people and organizations who contributed \$2,500+ to TREE Fund in June 2018. See the full list of [2018 Lead Donors](#) who make our work possible on our website. Thank you!

- Asplundh Tree Experts, LLC
- Canadian TREE Fund
- Corteva Agriscience, Agriculture Division of DowDuPont
- FirstEnergy Corp
- Independent Tree LLC
- Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation
- PECO Energy Company (an Exelon Company)
- Tree Care Industry Association, Inc.
- West Coast Arborists

Grant Applications Opening Soon

Applications for the John Z. Duling Grant and the Jack Kimmel International Grant will be open **August 1 to October 1**. Get [details and application instructions](#) on our website.



Tour des Trees Updates

The 2018 Tour riders are getting ready to roll on July 29, but they still need your help! Please [support them](#) with a gift today and cheer them on during the ride on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

And . . . it's not too late to do your own Virtual Tour! Learn more [HERE](#) and sign up [HERE](#) before August 4.



Congrats to **Joni Morgan** of Harriman, TN. She donated to Melanie Sherrod's Tour des Trees ride, and her name was drawn to win the Arborwear Stretch Cambium Jacket prize. Thank you to all who participated, and to **Arborwear** for donating a wonderful incentive that generated almost \$30,000 in one week!

TREE Fund at the ISA International Conference

August 4, 11:00 am, Franklin Park Conservatory

2018 Tour des Trees Finale

Come cheer the Tour des Trees riders as they arrive at the ITCC, completing their 530-mile ride!

August 5 – 7, GCCC Booth #707

Stop by TREE Fund's booth on the trade show floor to:

- Meet TREE Fund researchers and discuss how their work is shaping the future of arboriculture and urban forestry. And find out what *your* future holds!
- Pick up your **FREE** admission ticket to Tuesday night's TREE Fund After Hours Buckeye Bash.
- Buy your Golden Ticket! \$100 gives you a chance to win the auction package of your choice. This popular raffle only has 75 tickets available and they go *fast*.

Tuesday, August 7, 6:00 pm, Park Street Cantina

TREE Fund After Hours Buckeye Bash

- Auction – Trips and treasures for every budget
- Golden Ticket Raffle
- Ken Ottman Volunteer Award winner announced
- Free appetizers and two drink tickets

Learn more on the [After Hours](#) page of our website.



The Word on Webinars

Save the date for our next TREE Fund webinar on **August 23 at 12:00 p.m. (Central)**. Dr. Brian Kane of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst will speak on “Arboricultural Biomechanics” during this free one-hour program.



- Pre-registration is highly recommended and will open in late July.
- Earn 1.0 CEU from ISA, SAF, or NALP for the live broadcast.

Visit the [webinar page](#) of our website to get more information, see upcoming webinars, and watch past broadcasts.

Would you like to receive a print version of the TREE Press?

Contact [Karen Lindell](#).

TREE Fund is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to support scientific discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in the fields of arboriculture and urban forestry.

TREE Fund

552 S. Washington St., Ste. 109
Naperville, IL 60540

Contact Us

TREE Fund

552 S. Washington Street
Suite 109

Naperville, IL 60540

(630) 369-8300

treefund@treefund.org

Visit us online at

treefund.org.



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