



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund (TREE Fund) was established by the International Society of Arboriculture and Tree Care Industry Association in 2002, to fund programs that support the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in arboriculture and urban forestry. The TREE Fund experienced a challenging year in 2020, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting loss of its major fundraising events. The TREE Fund, however, adapted and survived. Highlights of the year 2020 include:

Webinars The TREE Fund increased from 1,000 to 3,000 its participant capacity, and from six to 10 the number of free webinars broadcast, in 2020. These educational programs were enjoyed by 9,318 participants.

- Soil Assessment for Urban Trees
- Why do Tree Branches Fail?
- A simple technique for online street tree inventories – it is right for my community?
- Sidewalks, Urban Plazas and Tree Roots
- The Calm Before: Tree Adjustments to Wind & Ice Storm Loads
- Fighting Microbes with Microbes to Protect Our Native Trees
- Protecting trees from construction impacts
- Enhancing Tree Health in Water Sensitive Urban Design: Role of Mycorrhizae
- Soil Assessment for Urban Trees—Part 2
- Measuring multi-stemmed trees.

Grants TREE Fund provided \$322,725 in support of 8 new and 14 continuing grants and four new and four continuing scholarships during 2020.

Outcomes During 2020, TREE Fund-supported research appeared in 24 peer-reviewed publications and was orally presented 16 times. This brings the publication total for the past 17 years to 215.

Publications *TREE Press*, the TREE Fund's newsletter, was published 12 times in 2020. The newsletter timely information, as well as regular features on volunteers, donors, webinars, the Tour des Trees, grants, and results from TREE Fund studies. The *Tree and Soil Research Newsletter* was published twice in 2020.

Tour des Trees The TREE Fund's signature event, the Tour des Trees, was postponed due to the risks and restrictions of COVID-19. By cutting our already lean operating budget by more than 25%, reallocating resources, and creating a virtual version of the tour, the TREE Fund survived the 2020 pandemic.

Strategic Plan 2021-2024 Our analysis of how to sustain the TREE Fund into the future revealed that our greatest strengths are our dedicated staff, our reputation for applicable research, and our endowed grants. Our primary goal is to strengthen our capacity to cover the full cost of our programs, respond to the emerging economy, and build for a sustainable future. When the TREE Fund can cover its full costs and maintain a reserve for crises, it will be a healthy, resilient nonprofit business on which we can depend for decades to come.

Over the coming years, the TREE Fund will build on the traditional generosity of the tree care industry by reaching out to donors who love trees but are not yet part of the TREE Fund family.

Mission The TREE Fund is exploring and sharing the science of trees contributing to the lives of people, communities, economies, and the environment, and of the planning, planting, and sustainability of urban and community trees.

The TREE Fund remains an effective nonprofit business. Since 2002, we've given more than \$4.5 million research and educational grants and scholarships. On average every dollar granted to research and education attracts another \$2.63 in support--dramatically amplifying the TREE Fund's effective support for trees and those who work among them.

Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund

\$25,000 and above

ACRT Services
Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC
Bartlett Tree Experts
Corteva Agriscience, Agricultural
Division of DowDuPont
The Davey Tree Expert Company
FirstEnergy Corp.
International Society of
Arboriculture
PECO Energy, an Exelon Company

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Arborist News
Arborjet
Bandit Industries, Inc.
Canadian TREE Fund
Green Manufacturing, Inc.
ISA Southern Chapter
KASK America
Lewis Tree Service
Pacific Northwest ISA
TCLA Magazine
Wright Tree Service

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Scott M. and Hali E. Asplundh
James and Ann Barborinas
Louise J. Desjardins
and Jacques H. Brunswick
CN Utility Consulting, Inc.
Ford Motor Company
Steven Geist
Indiana Arborist Association
Mid-Atlantic Chapter ISA
New England Chapter ISA
Ohio Chapter ISA
PacifiCorp
SavATree
Texas Chapter ISA
James Urban, FASLA
Western Chapter ISA
Wisconsin Arborist Association

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Paul and Kristin Fletcher, Jr.
Bruce Fraedrich, PhD
Midwestern Chapter ISA
Randall Harwood Miller
Minnesota Society of Arboriculture
New Jersey Arborists ISA
Wilbur Nutter
Vermeer Corporation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Arthur W. Batson, Jr.
Rachel Barker
Josh Beaver
Crawford Tree & Landscape
Hallie Dozier, PhD
Excel Tree Expert Co.
David and Gretchen Crary
Robert J. and Sheila D. Gansemer
Stephen Harrington
Ray Henning
George Hudler, PhD
Jeff Kenneth Iles
Iowa Arborist Association
ISA Michigan
H. Jaclyn Ishimaru-Gachina
Keven Gregory Jones
Kentucky Arborist Association
Allen J. and Christen Lentz
Carl Livingood
Michael Lueders
Jeffrey E. McMullen
Network for Good
New England Chapter ISA
Adam Nicklin
Graham Ray
Raymond Jungles Inc.
Bruce and Sally Rogers
Marya M. Ryan
Judy E. and David J. Scharfenberger
J. Eric Smith and
Marcia Brom Smith
David and Anita Staats
Katherine and Thomas Stoner
Wachtel Tree Science
Allan J. and Joyce C. West
Kristin and Gerald R. Wild
William M. Backer Foundation
Jeffrey S. Wilson
Becky Woodson

\$500 - \$999

Kurt Hyland Asplundh
Steven Gareth and Lisa Asplundh
Robert and Kate Bartlett, Jr.
Bruce M. Brown
Carl A. Cathcart
Dennis Clough
Mark A. and Kim M. Crane
Stuart M. Crow
Donna Davis
The Doggett Corporation
Jeffrey L. and Therese L. Edgar
David Patrick Franklin
Susan M. and James A. Gaulke
Linda J. Goldsworthy
Jason Goscha
Henry E. Gulich
Robert Heath and
Elizabeth Buchanan
Michelle Herrera
August Hoppe
Douglas A. Huneke and
Kathleen M. Gilmour
Karen Black Jenkins
Hyland R. Johns
Gary R. and Jill R. Johnson
Paul Josey
Gary J. Kohler
Donald R. Lewis
Sharon J. Lilly and
Joseph Kellerhals
Long Island Arboricultural Assn.
Barbara Y. and Michael S. Lupfer
Massachusetts Tree Wardens &
Foresters Assn.
Kim Miller-Thoresen
The Mulch Center
Michael A. Oxman
Penn-Del Chapter ISA
Ward D. Peterson
Richard Bates Rideout and
Debra A. Cole
William F. and Linda C. Roemer
Ruppert Family Foundation, Inc.
Paul Sellers
Ken Smith
Synergistic Arboriculture, LLC
David B. Temple

2020 Report of Major Gifts and 2020 Grants Awarded

\$500 - \$999 *continued*

Urban Forestry Solutions, Inc.
Utah Community Forest Council
Sam and Lisa Van Maanen
The Larry and
Dawne Burrows Fund
Bill Vitek
Thomas Wolf
Michael S. and
Elaine S. Zimmerman
Keil Zornow

Every donation makes a difference!

We appreciate the generosity of all of our donors, and we apologize for any inadvertent misspellings or recognition errors. Please contact us with any corrections.

Platinum Partners



Grants Awarded

2020 Barborinas Family Fund Grant

Impact of container type, substrate, and volumetric water content during transplant of bare root Cornus florida during production.

Amanda Bayer, PhD
University of MA, Amherst

2020 Hyland R. Johns Grant

Building Urban Tree Resiliency by Mitigating Below Ground Infrastructure Techniques.
Andy Kaufman, PhD
University of Hawaii

2020 Bob Skiera Memorial Fund Building Bridges Initiative Grant

Enhancing collaboration amongst urban forest stakeholders – An assessment of natural hazard risk perceptions in relation to the services and disservices of city trees.
Mysha Clarke, PhD
University of Florida

2020 Utility Arborist Research Fund Grant

Tree caused outages and relationship to stream and soil type.
Gregory A. Dahle, PhD
West Virginia University

2020 Jack Kimmel International Grant*

Did Armillaria pathogens track their hosts in the National Botanic Garden, Zimbabwe?
Luke Jimu, PhD
Bindura University of Science Education, Zimbabwe
*Sponsored by the Canadian TREE Fund

Ohio Chapter ISA Education Grant

Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Tree Steward Training Program

2020 John Z. Duling Grant

Analyzing timing and causes of individual tree loss after land development: Insights for urban forest management.

Susan D. Day, PhD
University of British Columbia

2020 Sponsored Grant

Long term effects of electrical right-of-way vegetation management on floral and faunal communities.

Carolyn G. Mahan, PhD
Pennsylvania State University, Altoona

Crown Partners



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Statement of Financials	FY2020	FY2019
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$416,077	\$148,619
Pledges receivable, net	\$257,976	\$329,339
Beneficial interest in investments held by Chicago Community Trust	\$4,903,422	\$4,701,956
Prepaid expenses	\$3,874	\$3,948
Property and equipment, net	\$734	\$1,470
Total Assets	\$5,582,083	\$5,185,332
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$6,987	\$65,754
Accrued expenses	\$14,590	\$8,237
Grants payable	\$323,615	\$362,649
Total Liabilities	\$345,192	\$436,640
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	\$(163,215)	\$(416,122)
With donor restrictions	\$5,400,106	\$5,164,814
Total Net Assets	\$5,236,891	\$4,748,692
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$5,582,083	\$5,185,332

Statement of Activities	FY2020	FY2019
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$456,763	\$476,298
Special Events	\$151,775	\$433,000
In-Kind	\$17,244	\$121,020
Grant Management Fees	\$12,382	\$12,065
Merchandise Sales	\$115	\$169
Increase in interest value	\$591,527	\$690,885
PPP Loan Forgiveness	\$74,523	
Total Revenue	\$1,304,329	\$1,733,437
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$535,696	\$717,955
Administration/General	\$189,219	\$253,816
Fundraising	\$91,215	\$310,252
Total Functional Expenses	\$816,130	\$1,282,024
Change in Net Assets	\$488,199	\$451,413

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Cultivating Innovation

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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