



# TREE PRESS

August 2021

*Around me the trees stir in their leaves  
and call out, "Stay awhile."  
The light flows from their branches.  
And they call again, "It's simple," they say,  
"and you too have come  
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled  
with light, and to shine."  
— Mary Oliver, When I am Among the Trees*

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## Leading Thoughts

*By Russell King, president and CEO*

"Hope begins in the dark" wrote Anne Lamott, "the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come."

When the pandemic hit in 2020 and shut down nearly every fundraising event that benefitted the TREE Fund—including the Tour des Trees and the many events annually held by ISA chapters and TREE Fund partners—things looked very dark. Indeed, the heartbreaking loss of lives, health, and jobs, and the unspeakable grief that followed, shrouded the year with a heavy pall. A remarkable combination of quick action, budget cuts, creativity, and generosity sustained the TREE Fund into 2021.

Thankfully, we are still here in 2021. We are still funding the time-honored grants and scholarships, still committed to supporting the research and education that contributes so much to arboriculture, our communities, our economy, and our planet, as well as enriching our lives in myriad ways.

Unfortunately the pandemic is also still here. As of this writing, a surge of new infections is preventing us from either returning to normal or creating a new normal. Still, we press on through the dark.

It's in this long darkness, as Lamott noted, that our hope is born. The TREE Fund is determined to "show up and try to do the right thing." So the Tour des Trees returns as a live event in a couple of weeks, with prudent precautions in place and a virtual option for those who prefer it.



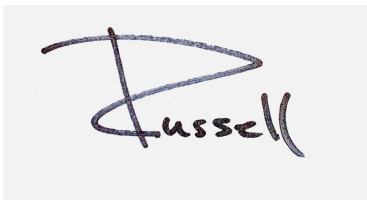
The Tour des Trees is important for many reasons. It's our prime opportunity to talk to the public about how vital trees are. It's a great opportunity to raise awareness of our mission and to find new donors who support the science that supports the trees that sustain us all. And it's a chief method of raising funds to pay the indirect costs of the grants and scholarships the TREE Fund awards.

**That's where you come in:** We need you to also "show up and do the right thing." On behalf of the recipients--past, present, and future--of TREE Fund grants and scholarships, the Board of Trustees, the many volunteers who give so much of their time and talent, the TREE Fund staff, and all those who will benefit (even if they don't realize it) from the research we fund, I'm asking you to show some "stubborn hope" by supporting the Tour des Trees.

This year, we have only half as many as usual in-person riders, so we need them to attract more than the usual level of support. Please, go [here](#) to donate in support of a rider, team, or virtual participant of your choice. If you prefer, join the virtual Tour des Trees (see below) and raise money to support the TREE Fund in the ways you enjoy most. And, as always, you can go [here](#) and simply make an unrestricted donation to the TREE Fund. Any method you choose will serve a great purpose and earn our deepest gratitude.

The world is changing in unpredictable ways, and the woods in which we walk are pathless and dark. We feel blessed to have you making this journey with us. Together, we will find our way.

Thank you,



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## Join the Tour des Trees--Virtually!

You can still support the TREE Fund annual fundraiser by participating virtually in the Tour des Trees. Sign up now and get access to streaming videos only available to virtual participants during the event. Registration for the virtual event is free with no fundraising minimums!

Virtual participants will receive links to the following activities (all times Mountain):

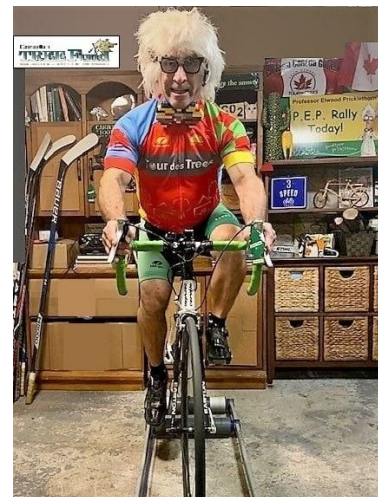
### Monday, Aug. 30

- 4pm- Yoga with Lisa from OneTreeLove

### Wednesday, Sept. 1

- Noon- Demonstration from Professor Pricklethorn
- 8pm- Meditation with Dr. Hallie Dozier

Additional videos from the road will also be emailed out during the week.



For more information on the virtual ride and to register, visit [www.treefund.org/virtual-ride-option](http://www.treefund.org/virtual-ride-option). Please register by August 25 to receive emails for virtual events.

### Fundraising incentives!

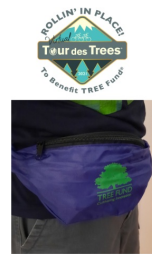
- Virtual participants that raise at least \$250 will receive a TREE Fund fanny pack.
- Virtual participants that raise at least \$500 will receive a TREE Fund sticker pack and a KASK climbing helmet.

### VIRTUAL TOUR DES TREES

**\$250 raised:** TREE Fund  
Fanny Pack

**\$500 raised:** TREE Fund  
Sticker Pack and KASK  
Helmet

FREE  
TO  
SIGN  
UP



All participants can upload cycling miles or other activities directly to their fundraising page to show donors their progress and measure their miles against each other. Nothing like a little friendly competition!

Click [here](#) to register and create your fundraising page.

## The New Virtual TREE Fund HQ

The pandemic experience has shown that the TREE Fund staff works very well in a virtual environment, so to continue mitigating health risks and to dramatically reduce the indirect costs of grants and scholarships, the TREE Fund headquarters is moving "to the cloud."



The main telephone number remains the same: 630-369-8300. There, you will find a menu of options for reaching individual staff members or leaving a message.

The mailing address is now:  
TREE Fund  
1755 Park Street, Suite 200  
Naperville, IL 60563

## Fall Grant Cycle is Open

### John Z. Duling Grant Program

Provides start up or seed funding to support innovative research and technology transfer projects. Up to \$25,000 (minimum \$10,000). Letters of inquiry (LOIs) of no more than 100 words are accepted Aug. 1 to Sept. 15, 2021. For approved LOIs only, applications accepted Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021

[Read more here.](#)

### **Jack Kimmel International Grant Program**

Provides funding for arboriculture research by applicants working primarily outside of the United States. Up to \$10,000 (minimum \$5,000). Letters of inquiry (LOIs) of no more than 100 words are accepted Aug. 1 to Sept. 15, 2021. For approved LOIs only, applications accepted Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021

[Read more here.](#)

### **Safe Arborist Techniques Fund Grant Program**

Supports original research that creates a safer work environment for people working in the tree care industry and the general public they serve. Up to \$15,000 (minimum \$5,000).

Letters of inquiry (LOIs) of no more than 100 words are accepted Aug. 1 to Sept. 15, 2021.

For approved LOIs only, applications accepted Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021

[Read more here.](#)

### **Bob Skiera Memorial Fund Building Bridges Initiative Grant Program**

Supports projects which will help arborists and urban foresters communicate the value of trees and urban forests on a global basis through technology transfer and engagement with developers, builders, civil engineers, city planners, elected officials and other policymakers. Up to \$30,000 (minimum \$10,000).

Letters of inquiry (LOIs) of no more than 100 words are accepted Aug. 1 to Sept. 15, 2021.

For approved LOIs only, applications accepted Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021

[Read more here.](#)



### **Tree and Soil Research Fund Grant**

The TREE Fund Board of Trustees is launching the new Tree and Soil Research Grant, made possible by a permanently restricted endowment fund supporting areas of research of interest to the landscape architecture community with special focus in the area of trees and the soils that support them. Up to \$10,000 (minimum \$5,000).

Letters of inquiry (LOIs) of no more than 100 words are accepted Aug. 1 to Sept. 15, 2021.

For approved LOIs only, applications accepted Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021.

[Read more here.](#)



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## **Lead Donors**

We are deeply grateful to the following people and organizations who contributed \$2,500 or more to the TREE Fund in July 2021:



**Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC**  
**Corteva Agriscience, Agriculture Division of**  
**DowDuPont**  
**FirstEnergy Corp.**  
**ISA Rocky Mountain Chapter**  
**Randall H. Miller**  
**PacifiCorp**  
**PECO Energy (an Exelon Company)**  
**Veatch Charitable Foundation**  
**West Coast Arborists**



See the full list of lead donors who make our vital tree research and education work possible on our [website](#).

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## **TREE Fund Webinar Series 2021**

The TREE Fund is proud to partner with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System to bring you free education offerings. We are now able to accommodate up to 3,000 participants! Mark your calendars for these upcoming free webinars from TREE Fund:

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

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central  
Carolyn Mahan, PhD, Penn State Altoona

### **Digging into the Science of Tree Planting and Removing Packaging Materials**

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 12 p.m. Central  
Richard Hauer, PhD, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point  
Andrew Koeser, PhD, University of Florida  
Jason Miesbauer, PhD, The Morton Arboretum

### **Growing trees in paved sites**

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central  
Alessio Fini, PhD, University of Milan

The TREE Fund's 1-hour webinars are free and offer 1.0 CEU credit for live broadcasts from the International Society of Arboriculture, the Society of American Foresters, the National Association of Landscape Professionals and sometimes the Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System. Registration information becomes available on our website approximately one month before each webinar date.

Missed a webinar? Watch it anytime on our [website](#).

### **CEU Credit for Recorded Webinar**

TREE Fund now offers ISA CEU credits for two recorded webinars: "Loading of

a Tie-in Point While Climbing" and "Planning for the Next Three Letter Urban Tree Canopy Changer: Lessons Learned with DED, EAB, ETC." If you missed either one of these webinars, you can now watch the live recordings and earn ISA CEU credits by completing a 20 question quiz with 80% accuracy. Learn more on our [website](#).

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## TREE Fund Achieves Highest Rating Again

For the third consecutive year, the TREE Fund has reached GuideStar's highest level of achievement for nonprofit transparency--the platinum award. GuideStar is the world's largest and most authoritative source of information on nonprofit organizations. Major donors tend to look to GuideStar as the "seal of approval" before making donations.



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Visit our Website

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## THANK YOU TREE Fund Crown Partners!



### TREE Fund

552 S. Washington St., Suite 109, Naperville, IL 60540  
(630) 369-8300

treefund@treefund.org  
www.treefund.org

Donate now

TREE Fund is a 501(C)3 nonprofit with a mission to explore and share 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.