



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



TEXAS TREES
FOUNDATION

Creating Healthy Communities Since 1982



2022 Year in Review

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Texas Trees Foundation provides education, trees, and other support needed to create more livable communities and better land stewards through a variety of initiatives, programs, projects and partnerships.



 People Newspapers



Letter from Leadership

Robert Kennedy once said, “The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better.” I would add the word “together” at the end of his statement.

This year, the Texas Trees Foundation celebrated our 40th Anniversary, and it’s apparent that the collective energy, support, and vision that has encircled the Texas Trees Foundation over the past 40 years, to become who we are today, has been essential to our success in creating healthier spaces and places in our communities for people. We thank all our partners and supporters for your wisdom, guidance, acceptance, trust, and support. We couldn’t have achieved what we’ve accomplished without you. You will see in this report the great accomplishments that we’ve been able to attain this past year.

Our focus moving forward into 2023 will be on investing in trees and people. Our 2022 Equity Tree Mapping Report is guiding the process of where we plant trees for the many benefits that the trees provide, especially to protect and enhance human health. The Cool Schools program provides our youth with a connection to nature through outdoor learning areas, and the Southwestern Medical District Streetscape Initiative is modeling how we design a once major highway into a healthy campus beyond the footprint of our exceptional hospitals in the Southwestern Medical District. The Nature Lab will provide research and education to underpin our programming. All our work is to mitigate the urban heat island effect and bring the benefits of trees to the doors of every individual.

The new year brings new opportunities. We are launching our new Green Jobs Workforce program to help us strategically plant and maintain even more trees across the landscape and to create a pipeline into urban forestry and arboriculture jobs and to advance educational opportunities so there are more people of color working in the field of urban forestry. The need for diversity in this important area of work will be instrumental to having an equitable tree canopy that serves everyone.

The new year will also bring a new strategic plan for the organization that will provide a roadmap for the future. A map that will help guide how we continue to invest in one of our most important natural resources – trees.

We hope that you will continue to support the work of the Foundation, and we look forward to working together to advance our important work.

Janette Monear
President and CEO
Texas Trees Foundation

About Us

The Texas Trees Foundation has a vision for our community. It is a community comprised of beautiful, well-maintained parks, shady tree-lined streets and boulevards, hiking, biking, and nature trails, and other outdoor amenities which combine to form a living and working environment that enhances the economic value of its commercial areas and its neighborhoods, and nurtures the health, safety and quality of life of all its citizens – a community in which its citizens actively participate in building and sustaining its “urban forest.” The Foundation will serve as a catalyst for creating such a community through the greening of North Central Texas.

TEXAS TREES FOUNDATION MISSION:

- Plant trees to enhance the beauty and beneficial use of public lands and right-of-ways
- Expand, maintain, and protect the permanence of the urban forest
- Mitigate urban heat by making spaces cooler, greener and cleaner
- Make tree canopy more equitable across historically underserved and overlooked communities
- Educate people of all ages to be good stewards of our most natural resources – trees



40th Anniversary Celebration



The Texas Trees Foundation, formerly the Dallas Parks Foundation, was established in 1982 by business leaders Robert Dechard and Trammell Crow as a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to supporting Dallas parks. In 1987, the Dallas Parks Foundation merged with Dallas Junior League Treescape/Dallas Inc. and became known as the Dallas Trees and Parks Foundation. In doing so, the organization gained an even greater ability to impact urban landscape projects by building on Treescape's successful history of attracting and utilizing volunteers and in-kind donations of services and products to implement programs cost-effectively. In 2003, the organization was renamed the Texas Trees Foundation to expand the scope of work beyond Dallas to mitigate environmental challenges through the use of trees and green infrastructure.

Today, the organization remains committed to the greening of North Central Texas. The 40th Anniversary of Texas Trees Foundation was commemorated by an October 11th celebration at Pegasus Park with nearly 200 supporters and friends.

Texas Trees Foundation was also pleased to receive a resolution from the Office of Senator Nathan Johnson in honor of our 40th anniversary as well as a formal acknowledgment from Dr. Elba Garcia, Dallas County Commissioner for District 4 in Texas.



Volunteer Support

GROWING WITH OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Texas Trees Foundation planted 3,543 large trees and provided 5,200 seedlings for a total of 8,743 trees resulting in \$15,085,784 of environmental benefits measured over the course of 50 years.

We engaged over 944 volunteers, who provided 3,401 hours of in-kind service valued at \$101,851.*

**as per 2022 accepted value for volunteer time.*

WORK OUR VOLUNTEERS HELPED US COMPLETE IN 2022 INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

- Participated in 57 tree planting projects within North Texas
- Helped to maintain and improve the aesthetics and safety of the TXU Energy Urban Tree Farm and Education Center
- Pruned and tended trees at the tree farm
- Potted 1,545 30-gallon trees
- Helped distribute 2,345 trees
- Spread 100+ cubic yards of mulch



“I’m really passionate about our Dallas parks and trees and making sure that we have a lot of trees for the future of Dallas.”

-Community Volunteer







Southwestern Medical District (SWMD) Streetscape Project

TRANSFORMING THE DISTRICT FOR HEALTH AND NATURE

Rooted in the City of Dallas for more than a century, the Southwestern Medical District (SWMD) is a premier medical center surrounded by active neighborhoods. The Texas Trees Foundation is leading the effort to transform Harry Hines Blvd from a hot, tired highway to a safe, connected, and healthy Green Spine corridor and therapeutic 14-acre park. Together, with project partners, we are reimagining a livable and environmentally friendly Medical District for the four million practitioners, staff, patients, students, businesses, and neighbors living in and around the District.

Sitting in a sea of impervious surfaces and heat-absorbing materials the Medical District sits at the epicenter of one of the worst urban heat islands in the city. The Foundation is strategically positioned to combat the problem. Using innovative methodologies Texas Trees is piloting an array of thermal comfort sensors that will be used to build models and simulations of the Medical District. These new technologic advancements in evidence-based design will predict the most effective and environmental solutions to create a healthier, equitable, and stronger SWMD community.

The Foundation focused on listening and learning in 2022 to understand the complex mobility challenges facing the institutions and diverse user groups of Harry Hines Blvd while considering the dynamic expansion demands of a growing Medical District and DFW region. Holistically balancing needs and opportunities to design a livable corridor and park central to the SWMD campus, the project partners generated a five-pillar framework to measure progress: traffic and mobility, safety and security, user experience, human and environmental health, and campus character and livability. Texas Trees is leading the effort to build an iconic, cohesive, people-friendly corridor that links the footprints of the businesses and institutions.

Building upon the framework and innovation established in 2022, the Foundation is working with our heads and our hearts to design a Medical District that heals the mind, body and spirit and offers a sanctuary for all who work, visit, and are healed in this special place.

What they're saying...

“This is an extraordinary project—one that brings health and healing to the SWMD through nature, while pushing the envelope in terms of innovation and environmental sustainability.”

-Best Practice Advisor

“[In Medical Districts] you have this sense of gravity to take care of people’s health, but no room for the people actually working there to breathe. There’s a missing mental health element.”

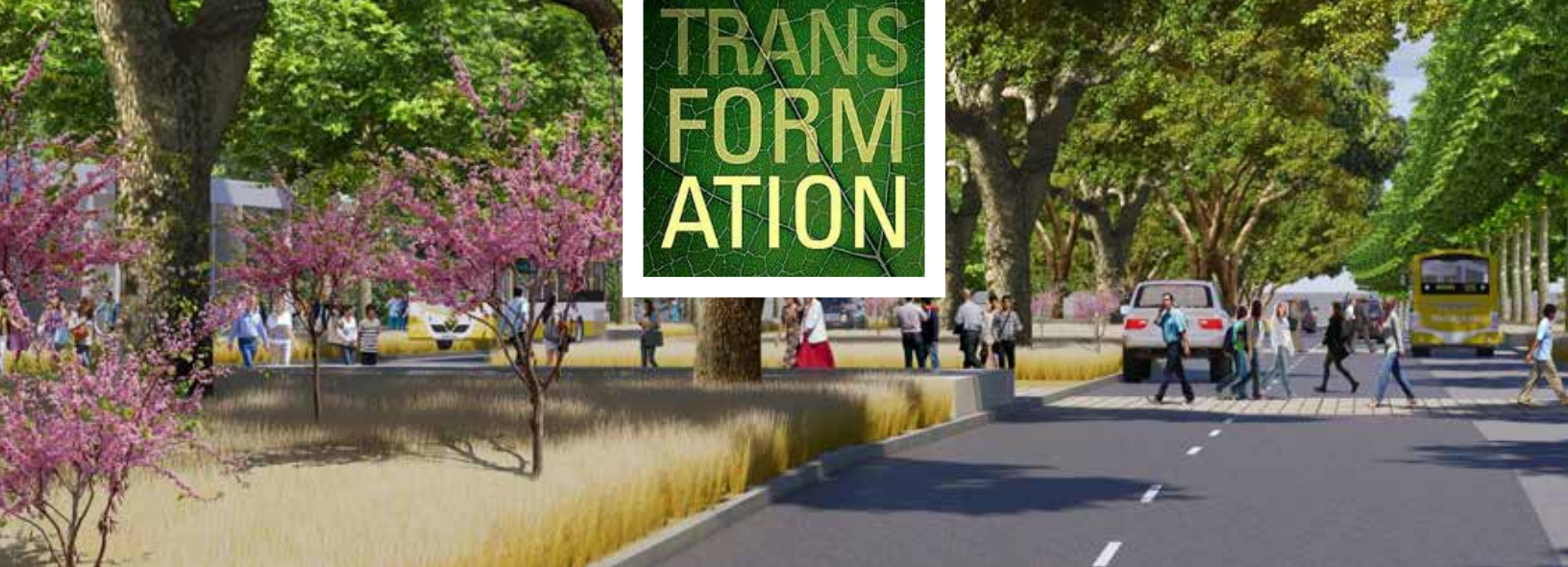
-Community Member

“What makes us [SWMD] unique is that this District is not about an individual or a group. When we’re at our best, it’s when we’re focused on something bigger than ourselves.”

-Hospital Employee



S W M D
TRANS
FORM
ATION





“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

-Margaret Mead



 **Sun's Out!** 

Summer 2022

Texas Trees Foundation is utilizing innovative thermal sensors to capture urban heat data. Stay tuned: swmdtransformation.org

Nature +

Nature Lab

Nature Lab is a grassroots initiative that Texas Trees Foundation launched in 2022. Dedicated to making real change in environmental health, Nature Lab will shift the eco-paradigm from conversation to action. This will be accomplished through robust research, science education, policy change, and strategic green collaborations. Nature Lab is a green “Think-and-Do” tank with one purpose – build awareness around nature and health so that healthy environments can be created and maintained for all. Nature Lab will do this through education, research, and policy change.

A series of carefully curated initiatives has been created for Nature Lab. Each initiative is a stand-alone action strategy for generating change. These initiatives are designed to be flexible, adaptive, and fundable; rollouts and scaling can be determined and calibrated by funding cycles, partnering opportunities, and Texas Trees Foundation priorities. Together, and in unison the initiatives are a powerful network for creating change at the intersection of nature and health.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? The Nature Lab is a human-centered ecosystem that brings together scholars and students, citizens and civic leaders, academic institutions and non-profits, government and business to collaborate for real change. Where can you help?

NAT LAB SCIENTISTS: Train to become a “nature scientist” for community advocacy

NAT LAB SNAPS: Create/post eco-messaging on social media, blogs, podcasts

NAT LAB TIPS: Help create tip sheets that are easy to read one-pagers geared toward blogging, academic publications, op-eds, and white papers

NAT LAB CHATS: Host/support community eco-chats

NAT LAB STORYTELLING: Document citizens’ oral histories and experiences for Dallas EcoHealth living

NAT LAB WATCHDOG PACTS: Small clusters of individuals who come together for explicit purpose of creating action and building awareness for environmental change through government and public policy

NAT LAB RESEARCH HUBS: Directing and facilitating research and data sharing

Health

Cool Schools & Community Parks

From tree plantings to outdoor classrooms and completing Phase 1 of the Cool Schools Neighborhood Parks initiative, the Cool Schools Program has accomplished a lot in 2022!

This year, we activated 10 outdoor learning areas tailored to provide educational opportunities and environmental experiences to teachers and students. Students ranging from pre-K to high school will engage with nature in these outdoor classrooms as they learn about urban forestry and environmental stewardship through the supplemental Cool Schools curriculum that is aligned with Science Technology Engineering Art and Music (STEAM) and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Additionally, we opened seven new neighborhood parks across Dallas, increasing accessibility in communities that lacked park access. These parks round off Phase 1 of the program, launching 25 Cool School Neighborhood Parks. We have kicked off Phase 2 of the program with Dallas ISD, with plans to invest in another 20 Cool School Neighborhood Parks throughout Dallas in the next four years.

PARTNERS: Dallas ISD, Dallas Park and Recreation Department, Texas Trees Foundation, and other sponsors.





A Look at the Numbers in 2022

Planted 746 large trees with the help of 2,489 students and 260 volunteers

Worked with 10 Green Teams to customize outdoor learning areas that engaged 6,274 students

Opened seven Cool Schools Neighborhood Parks that provide
park access to over 46,000 Dallas residents

Our newest Cool Schools Neighborhood Parks

San Jacinto Elementary | L.O. Donald Elementary | Nancy Moseley Elementary

F.P. Caillet Elementary | Stephen Foster Elementary | Mark Twain School for the Talented & Gifted

Walnut Hill International Leadership Academy

Our newest Cool Schools Basic and Plus Campuses

South Oak Cliff High School | K.B. Polk Center for Academically Talented & Gifted

Jesus Moroles Expressive Arts Vanguard

Urban Forestry



Branching Out

Growing within our Parks

The Branching Out program began in 2018 in an effort to reforest and beautify Dallas' aging urban canopy. For each planting the Dallas Park and Recreation Department, Texas Trees Foundation, organization donors, and community volunteers work together to strategically plant trees with intention to increase tree canopy coverage in Dallas, while providing shade and other health benefits. In 2022, the Texas Trees Foundation co-organized 14 tree plantings, in partnership with the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department, across North Texas parks through the Branching Out program with the assistance of more than 750 volunteers.

BISHOP FLORES PARK: Planted 50 trees with Salesforce and American Forests

WILLOUGHBY PARK: Planted 95 trees with American Forests, Salesforce, One Tree Planted, Origins Green the Planet™

SEATON PARK: Planted 100 trees with American Forests and Salesforce

COLLEGE PARK: Planted 50 trees with Arbor Day Foundation, Verizon, and Spirit Realty

LAWNVIEW PARK: Planted 100 trees with American Forests and Salesforce

GABE NESBITT PARK: Planted 40 trees with American Forests and Salesforce

CAMPBELL GREEN PARK: Planted 50 trees with American Forests and Salesforce

WILLIAM BLAIR JR. PARK: Planted 60 trees with Atmos Energy

JW RAY PARK: Planted 50 trees with The Budd Family Foundation

GLENDALE PARK: Planted 50 trees with Arbor Day Foundation and Edward Jones

WESTMOUNT PARK: Planted 50 trees with Arbor Day Foundation and PwC

GRAUWYLER PARK: Planted 50 trees with Crow Holdings

GRAY BRANCH PARK: Planted 50 trees with Arbor Day Foundation and Clayton Homes

TIMBERGLEN PARK: Planted 50 trees with One Earth One Chance, American Forests, Sales Force, and One Tree Planted

Urban Forestry Projects



Fort Worth Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP)

In Fall 2022, Texas Trees Foundation and the City of Fort Worth announced the development of an Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) for managing the City's trees to enhance quality of life in Fort Worth.

The urban forest plays a critical role in maintaining a healthy environment in the midst of ongoing development. As the 12th largest, and one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S., Fort Worth is feeling the impacts of rising temperatures and poor air quality common in urban areas. Loss of existing tree canopy magnifies these impacts.

The Urban Forest Master Plan will create a shared vision and provide tools for urban forest managers to preserve, care for, and grow the city's forest resources more effectively and equi-

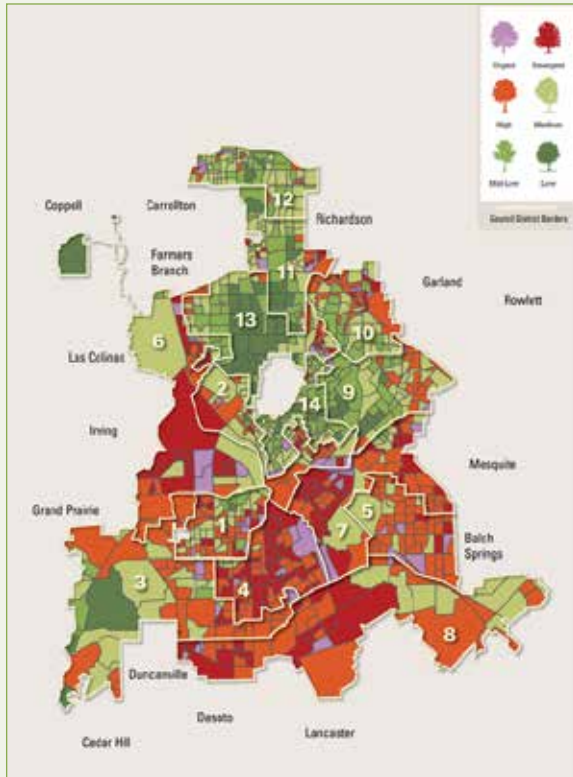


tably. When properly managed, trees provide a myriad of benefits, including stormwater mitigation, heat reduction, air quality improvement, and improved health, wellness, and quality of life. A comprehensive master plan is essential to ensure this resource is available to meet current and future needs of Fort Worth residents and visitors.

This marks the second Urban Forest Master Plan published by Texas Trees Foundation. The Dallas UFMP was published in 2021.

Urban Forestry Projects (cont'd)

Dallas Tree Equity Planting Map



Texas Trees Foundation published the Dallas Tree Equity Planting Map in 2022.

The report provides a roadmap, through data-driven research, of where investments are needed to increase tree cover for a more equitable urban forest. When trees are left out of the equation of urban planning and tree planting decision-making, risk rises especially for health. Higher concentrations of CO₂, particulate matter, and urban heat result in a spike of health issues, even death. Addressing tree equity gaps is an opportunity to improve people’s health, address or meet environmental challenges, reduce energy costs, reduce crime, and invest in neighborhoods that are marginalized and desperately need support.



An intentional, focused approach to expanding the tree canopy in areas of need must be a priority for the City of Dallas. Texas Trees Foundation is here to support and help with this effort. Let us begin, together, to plant trees in places that need this vital green infrastructure and continue to build a cooler, greener, cleaner, and healthier Dallas.

This report was produced with the help of these generous sponsors:



“Tree equity and inclusion are critically important if we are to create a sustainable and resilient Dallas.”

*-Janette Monear, President & CEO
Texas Trees Foundation*



NeighborWoods

GAVE AWAY 300 TREES TO COOL SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH THE NEIGHBORWOODS PROGRAM

10/13 Nancy Moseley Elementary – 11/1 San Jacinto Elementary
11/4 L.O. Donald Elementary – 11/11 Stephen C. Foster Elementary
11/11 Walnut Hill Leadership Academy



Tree Giveaways

CITY OF PLANO, CITY OF WYLIE, ARLINGTON PARK, NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION,
CITY OF FARMERS BRANCH, LINCOLN CENTRE TRINITY FOREST ADVENTURE PARK/FAMILY FUN DAY



In the Community

Texas Trees Foundation spearheads community discussion on forestry across Texas and beyond. TTF creates educational resources about trees, urban forestry, urban heat islands, and many other related topics for educational reference.

Learn more: texas-trees.org/educational

EMERALD ASH BORER INFORMATION SESSIONS



Summer 2022: Hosted two information sessions open to the industry and public on EAB Crisis

The EAB [Emerald Ash Borer] has been around for a long time," says Janette Monear, CEO of Texas Trees Foundation. Effective reduction of this invasive wood-boring species, now present in Dallas County, will require "expansive collaboration, cooperation, and support," to preserve a significant portion of Dallas' tree canopy, says Monear. She also expressed gratitude that Dallas' City Council "fully supports all efforts to address this issue."



The Texas Trees Foundation (TTF) & Texas A&M Forest Service teamed up on March 10, 2022 in Fort Worth (at Hardwicke Interpretive Center) & June 30, 2022 in Dallas (at Dallas College Richland Campus) for informative, hands-on, community-wide training sessions entitled "Identifying & Managing Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)."

The information sessions were primarily designed for industry professionals in a combined effort to mitigate imminent effects of the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive, wood-boring beetle set to destruct nearly two million ash trees across Dallas. In the Great Trinity Forest, 23% of the tree population is at risk.

Representatives and small business owners from organizations ranging from landscaping to tree services attended and received general information on this invasive species believed to have arrived via packing materials from Asia.



URBAN HEAT & URBAN DESIGN

Thursday, October 20, 2022

El Paso, TX

SWMD Transformation team provides expertise to statewide and local audiences

Using Science to Manage Heat: An Evidence-Based Approach to Urban Design

American Planning Association, TX Chapter 2022 (APATX-22)



IMPACTNIGHT SUMMER SPECIALS @ SMU

September 12, 2022

Dallas, TX

Our SWMD team presented on extreme heat and its impact on public health, urban design, and equity. Community members learned more about the transformation of Dallas’ Southwestern Medical District as it becomes a new model of what a medical district can be – a more holistic district that spurs good health, safety, calm, and a respite from stress.



ARLINGTON PARKS ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD

Fall 2022

Dallas, TX

Partnering with Texas A&M Forest Service, TTF conducted community surveys in the Arlington Park Estates Neighborhood to expand tree canopy. Located in District 2 of Dallas, this area was established in 1949 in honor of Black WWII veterans.

The full scope of involvement from TTF with the Arlington Parks Estates Neighborhood included neighborhood surveys, community meetings, tree giveaways, a block party with free water hoses, a tree planting at Thomas J. Rusk Middle School, Sleepy Hollow Park Planting, and cemetery cleanup.

Proud partner:





TXU Energy Urban Tree Farm and Education Center

In partnership with TXU Energy and Dallas College Richland Campus, the Texas Trees Foundation was a hub of activity during 2022 as tree farm improvements continued throughout the year.



The tree farm serves as a staging area for numerous planting and tree giveaway projects, as well as our efforts to keep previously planted trees alive during the intense summer drought. Many trees grown at the tree farm were planted at various sites across the metroplex - including Dallas, Plano, McKinney, and more. Educational and volunteer activities were also held at the tree farm to both improve the farm and to improve the ecological and arboricultural knowledge of local people, and students.



VOLUNTEER EVENTS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Approximately 70 volunteers with Deloitte descended on the tree farm in early June for a day of service. Volunteers pulled weeds, pruned dead branches, filled holes left over from the original pot-in-pot system, and engaged in other improvement tasks.

A volunteer day for Microsoft employees, mentioned in the previous biannual report, was postponed until later in the year due to scheduling conflicts. These volunteers are expected to undertake many of the same tasks as the Deloitte volunteers, and further enhance the aesthetics and function of the tree farm.

WORKSHOPS AND EDUCATION

A group of landscape architects with Kimley-Horn and Associates visited the tree farm for an internal training day in September. They discussed and demonstrated numerous tree planting topics.

TREE FARM SIGHTS AND COLORS

A new sign was installed at the tree farm thanks to Dallas College Richland Campus. The sign has greatly increased the visibility of the tree farm.

Beautiful fall foliage marked the end of an abnormally hot and dry year. Recent rains should help trees in the landscape to recover.



2022 Highlights of Tree Farm Activity

<p>40 trees from the farm were planted at Nesbit Park in McKinney during a well-attended March planting.</p>	<p>66 trees from the tree farm were planted at Alex W. Spence Talented/Gifted Academy and Harold Wendell Lang Sr. Middle School.</p>
<p>10 trees from the farm were planted at several Dallas ISD Cool Schools</p>	<p>20 trees from the tree farm were used to replace trees which died due to the summer drought at select Dallas ISD schools.</p>
<p>TTF partnered with Children’s Health to plant four large trees from the tree farm at their campuses in Dallas and Plano.</p>	<p>1 tree from the tree farm was planted at the UNT Dallas campus in conjunction with that university’s Arbor Day celebration.</p>
<p>Girl Scouts visited the tree farm and learned about forestry and the importance of trees.</p>	<p>650 seedlings were bagged and tagged at the tree farm for various Arbor Day giveaways.</p>
<p>Electricity, a new lamp post, and security cameras were installed at the tree farm!</p>	<p>50 seedlings were bagged and tagged at the tree farm for a community engagement meeting in McKinney.</p>
<p>Hundreds of native wildflowers – including bluebonnets, black-eyed Susans, and bee balm – have been observed growing and providing bees and other insects with a new source of food.</p>	<p>50 seedlings were bagged and tagged at the tree farm for a tree planting event at J.W. Ray Park in Dallas.</p>
<p>Many non-native weeds have been spotted growing in the area, especially Queen Anne’s lace, and plans are currently being made to fight these unwanted plants and to further enhance the area.</p>	<p>The tree farm continues to be used as a staging ground for hand watering activities throughout Dallas. TTF currently waters trees at roughly 10 Dallas ISD schools and two Dallas city parks.</p>
<p>Our biannual inventory of the trees grown at the tree farm was completed in early July.</p>	<p>Most trees at the tree farm performed remarkably well during the extreme drought and high temperatures of this past summer, however some were lost while others experienced dieback. These trees will be pruned and monitored for their future planting value.</p>
<p>100 trees for an Arbor Day giveaway with the City of Plano were taken care of at the tree farm.</p>	





Staff



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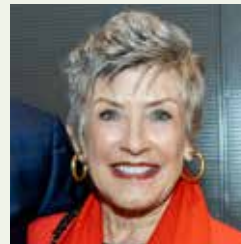
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Manager, Marketing Services
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Brad Watson
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Vistra Energy



TEXAS TREES
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Creating Healthy Communities Since 1982

