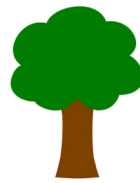




*Planting and promoting  
a healthy community*

1915 Scott St  
Lafayette, IN 47904  
[www.treelafayette.org](http://www.treelafayette.org)



## *Our Summer 2020 Newsletter*



Volume XIV, Issue 1



SUBARU of INDIANA AUTOMOTIVE, INC.



*Earth Day trees on Seventh St,*

### **Earth Day 2020 - The 50th Anniversary!**

April 22nd of this year was the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, a nationwide event! Locally, Subaru Indiana Automotive (SIA) sponsored the purchase of 19 trees to celebrate this momentous occasion. The trees are on South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, between Lingle Terrace and Kossuth St. Due to COVID-19 we were forced to cancel our volunteer planting of these trees and revert to contractor planting.

The trees are in the ground, adding greenery to this lovely neighborhood street, cleansing the air, benefiting the environment, and, like us, looking forward to all the future Earth Days!

**Tree Lafayette is very grateful to SIA for their support of this project.**

### **Arbor Day 2020**

The Duke Energy Foundation sponsored the purchase of 63 trees to celebrate this year's Arbor Day. We had planned a volunteer planting, as is our tradition for the Arbor Day Celebration event. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions at the time, the event, scheduled for May 2nd, 2020, was canceled and the purchased trees were planted by a local contractor.

Located on Shenandoah Drive between South Street and Union Street, the trees add to the verdant community landscape.



***Thank you Duke  
Energy for your  
funding of these  
trees, and your  
community spirit!***



### **Status of Earth Day and Arbor Day Recognition Celebrations**

We are still hoping to celebrate these events, and pay tribute to our sponsors, most likely this fall. Once we determine the dates of the recognition events, we will announce them on our website, [TreeLafayette.org](http://TreeLafayette.org), and via Facebook, *like us @TreeLafayetteIndiana*.

## Tree Lafayette Membership

...a note from the Tree Lafayette Executive Director

Greetings to all our members, supporters and donors, and a sincere wish that health and safety prevail in our daily, coronavirus-filled lives. This summer poses a challenge to us all, that of enjoying the wonderful weather and great outdoors, yet maintaining the anti-virus-secure practices recommended by the scientists.

As documented in other parts of this newsletter, our Earth Day and Arbor Day tree plantings could not be carried out in our traditional all-volunteer fashion. These events were scheduled during the time period when Covid-19 was initially running rampant, and we decided that volunteers exerting in close proximity would be an unsafe activity. As a result, we hired a contractor (Custom Cuts) to do all of the planting of the 82 trees. This was an unplanned expense, not covered in our budget for the year, yet we felt a very necessary expense, for the safety of our volunteers.

The trees for Earth Day and Arbor Day were funded by two very generous commercial community partners, SIA and Duke Energy, respectively. We are extremely grateful for their support. And here is where we are calling on our membership and supporters for help, to cover the \$7K cost to plant these trees.

By renewing your membership today, or making an additional donation if you've already renewed for this year, using the enclosed donor envelope (or Paypal via our website, [treelafayette.org](http://treelafayette.org)), you can help Tree Lafayette defray the cost of these plantings. With your support, we will cover this unanticipated expense, and still have funds available to plant some fall trees.

Please consider supporting us in this time of need. By doing so, you can help us maintain our tradition of *planting and promoting a healthy community*. Thank you!

Bill Arthur



## Tree Watering in Times of Drought

Drought can have a major impact on tree health and survival, by slowing and reducing growth. Drought reduces carbohydrate production, which significantly lowers energy reserves and production of defense chemicals in the tree. If drought is severe enough or lasts for a prolonged period of time, such as we have already experienced this season, it also can cause death to all or portions of the tree.

What to do? Obviously we cannot prevent drought. However, there are some measures we can take to make trees more drought tolerant and reduce the long-term effects of prolonged dry conditions.

- ♦ Water trees whenever rainfall is insufficient for extended periods, especially on newly planted trees and those less established. A proven recommendation is to use the 5 + 5 rule, which says to provide 5 gallons of water *plus* 5 gallons for every inch of tree trunk diameter tree. This should provide plenty of water to help the tree during times of inadequate moisture.
- ♦ In landscape plantings, the equivalent of ½ gallon of water per square foot of mulched area should be applied at ground level with slow rates to reduce evaporation and runoff.
- ♦ For mature and well-established trees, a good rule is to provide 1 inch of supplemental water every week or so to keep leaf moisture adequate. To determine the amount of irrigation, place a tuna can or similar catch device to measure the amount of irrigation provided to the root zone of the tree planting space. It is advisable to water plants through the fall until the ground is frozen, so that trees have adequate moisture to survive the winter months and are ready for spring growth.

Lindsey Purcell  
Purdue University, Urban Forestry Specialist  
Tree Lafayette Board Member





## One Super Volunteer, John Slaven!

Our Tree Committee volunteers are a very active group. They are the team that finds locations to plant new trees, assists in planting school trees, and waters, prunes, and mulches all of our existing trees. A very essential member of the group is John Slaven.

John has been volunteering with Tree Lafayette since 1994, shortly after he retired from his professional life. When asked how he first got involved, he claims Arlan Stavnheim asked him to "...help plant a few trees." More than 3500 trees later, John and Arlan are still at it (with the help of many other volunteers).

John grew up in Martinsville, IN, and first came to the area as a Purdue mechanical engineering student in the mid '50s. He spent his career overseeing plant utilities for Lilly Corporation. His first assignment was in Indianapolis, and then in 1969 he was transferred to the local facility, and he and his wife Janet have called Lafayette home ever since.



John Slaven.

As a Tree Committee member, John keeps track of our "In-fill" locations, or those places along our city streets where trees are needed. Each year we plant well over 100 in-fill trees, (made possible by a very generous grant from **Tipmont Envirowatts**) most of which are in spots John has designated.

If you do not know John Slaven, you need to meet him. He is energetic, always smiling and with ready laugh, and he's as healthy as a horse. When asked what he likes best about working with Tree Lafayette's Tree Committee, he says, without hesitation, "the group camaraderie, and the field work." By the way, just between us, John is only 83 years young!

For all you do for Tree Lafayette and our community, we thank you John Slaven!

### More Tree Lafayette News and Information...

- ◆ Our Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 11:30AM Wednesday, November 11th, at the Lafayette Country Club. As that time approaches and as the virus conditions evolve, we will confirm the event. Stay tuned at our website, [TreeLafayette.org](http://TreeLafayette.org).
- ◆ Tim Detzner, our City Forester, reports that the Tree Lafayette 3000th tree, a yellowwood planted two years ago on the south side of City Hall, has died due to poor drainage in the planter. City departments, including Lafayette Renew, Facilities, and Streets are addressing the drainage problem, so that soon a tree can be replaced, along with the plaque commemorating it. Thanks Tim for keeping on top of this!
- ◆ Our Education Committee's spring plan to make 3rd grade presentations and plant trees at five local elementary schools became a victim of the virus. Be assured this is a major focus of Tree Lafayette, and the classroom sessions will resume once conditions allow.
- ◆ The second half of our Community & Urban Forestry \$10,000 grant for trees at the Crosser Softball Complex was recently approved. Thank you Indiana DNR.



**One local non profit helping another!**  
*Food Finders Food Bank reached out to us, requesting assistance in the purchase & planting of five trees on their parking lot border. Tree Lafayette was glad to oblige!*

### Tree Lafayette 2020 Board of Directors:

Gene Kroeschen, *President*  
Barry Bruce, *Vice President*  
Tim Lacey, *Treasurer*  
Bill Skrobitt, *Secretary*  
Bill Arthur, *Executive Director*  
Lindsey Purcell, *Director*  
Shirley Sterling, *Director*  
Eric Summerfield, *Director*

### Committee Chairs:

Tim Lacey, *Development Committee*  
Laura Sietsma, *Education Committee*  
Jeri Massey, *Marketing Committee*  
Larry Rose, *Tree Committee*

### Advisors:

Tim Detzner, *Lafayette City Forester & Sustainability Coordinator*

Tree Lafayette is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered with the Secretary of the State of Indiana. All donations are tax-deductable to the extent of the law.

Check out our website - [www.TreeLafayette.org](http://www.TreeLafayette.org)



Like us on Facebook @TreeLafayetteIndiana



Follow us on Twitter or Instagram  
@TreeLafayette

Send donations to: Tree Lafayette  
1915 Scott St.  
Lafayette, IN 47904

**Our Mission:** Tree Lafayette promotes a healthy community by providing education, leadership, and inspiration in planting and caring for trees.

**Our Vision:** Tree Lafayette's vision is a green and beautiful urban landscape in our community.

Interested in serving on a Tree Lafayette committee or volunteering in the field? Contact us at: [info@TreeLafayette.org](mailto:info@TreeLafayette.org).

**Your support will help us fulfill our mission and vision. *Thank you!***

*"Planting and Promoting a Healthy Community"*

**TREE LAFAYETTE**

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Lafayette, IN 47904

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