



2025 Annual Meeting

November 12, 2025



Welcome

Barry Bruce

President of the Board

Gene Kroeschen

Executive Director



Agenda:

- ❖ **Welcome**
- ❖ **Lunch**
- ❖ **Keynote Speaker**
- ❖ **Business Meeting**
 - ❖ **Minutes from 2024**
 - ❖ **Treasurer's Report**
 - ❖ **Committee Reports**
- ❖ **Election of Board Members**
- ❖ **Awards and Recognition**
- ❖ **Upcoming Events**

Tree Lafayette Board Members

Barry Bruce – *President*

Jenelle Rotar – *Vice President*

Bill Arthur – *Treasurer*

Pat Rosebrock – *Secretary*

Zonda Bryant

Cheryl Talley

Matt Green

Sona Choudhary

Gene Kroeschen – *Executive Director*

Mission Statement:

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

Vision Statement:

Our vision is a sustainable urban forest providing the benefits needed by our community.



Lunch



AI generated pictures



Keynote Speaker

Aren Flint

Senior Associate Consultant | Urban Forestry
Davey Resource Group, Inc.

The Davey Tree Expert Company provides research-driven tree services, grounds maintenance and environmental solutions for residential, utility, commercial and environmental partners across North America. As one of the largest employee-owned companies in the U.S., Davey has been dedicated to creating and delivering sustainable solutions for 140 years.

**Transforming Urban Forestry With Smart
Tree Inventory – Grow Stronger Urban
Forests with Smart Tree Management**

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Approval of Minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting

Pat Rosebrock, Secretary



Copies of the minutes are on the tables.

Treasurer's Report 2025 YTD through 10/31/2025



		<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget, Year</u>
<u>Opening Balance</u>	1/1/2025	\$108,271.12	\$108,271
<u>Income</u>			
Support		26,259.29	32,000
Grants_Restricted		35,389.00	} 60,000
Grants_Unrestricted		4,838.00	
Reimbursement		3,765.45	3,800
Interest		2,592.91	3,500
Misc Income		0.00	0
Total Income		<u>72,844.65</u>	<u>99,300</u>
<u>Expense</u>			
Development		177.26	150
Education		2,525.69	2,800
Governance		3,580.80	4,200
Marketing		4,126.75	6,500
Tree		45,789.06	75,000
Total Expense		<u>56,199.56</u>	<u>88,650</u>
<u>Closing Balance</u>	10/31/2025	\$124,916.21	<u>\$118,921</u>

Accounts

PayPal	774.24
PFCU Checking	34,017.08
PFCU Money Market	90836.34
PFCU Saving	148.56
PFCU Credit Card	-860.01
Gift Cards	0.00
	<u>\$124,916.21</u>

Our Endowment at Community Foundation of GL

Lafayette Tree Fund in Honor of Larry L. Rose	
January 1, 2025	\$208,111
end of Q3, 2025	\$225,695
2025 Distribution	\$9,028

Bill Arthur, Treasurer

Tree Committee – 2025

Members:

Larry Rose, John McGraw, Arlan Stavnheim, Pat Rosebrock, Gene Kroeschen, Barry Bruce, Bruce Bresnahan, Rich McDaniel, Dick Murray, Jim Vahle, Bill Bombassaro, Ryan Stumph, Cliff Sadof, Connie Shoemaker, Greg Shaner, Allyson Steselboim, Sona Choudhary, David Windhorst, Garrett Gaskins, and Kris Brown

Helpers: Bob Massey, Jenelle Rotar, Anne Marie Markun, Steven Schultz, Sarah Halun, Bill Arthur, Melissa Campbell, Chase Fisher, Jonathan Fisher, Eve Neuman, Brad Joyce, Mei Ng, Jasmine Greer, Keith Woeste, Kate Kollman, Tom Walsh, and Caterpillar employees.

Chair: Bob Gump

New storage/loading/unloading station

The 53-foot enclosed trailer is used to store the water tanks. The handling and loading/unloading of the water tanks onto the pickup trucks is much easier and safer. Thanks to Wabash for letting us use the trailer.



The platform is also used to store the trees before the school plantings. The loading/unloading of the trees is much safer and easier.



Tree Committee – 2025

Trees Planted (and still to be planted):

18 – McCaw Park – Earth Day

62 – Pipers Glen Drive – Arbor Day

28 – Elk Street

9 – Perrine Street

5 – South 18th Street

12 – Ferry Street

35 – Sagamore Parkway center medians (25 Fall – between Main St. and Teal Road)

26 – Kensington Drive (14 Fall)

14 – South 28th Street

13 – Salem Street

61 – Replacement & Infill (46 Fall)

22 – School 3rd Grade Program

8 – Battle Ground Golf Club

Total = 313 trees

Total trees planted since 1993: 4,988



Tree Committee – 2025

Trees Pruned: 1,064

**Weekly Wednesdays and monthly Saturday mornings.
Structural pruning, limbing up, remove dead wood and
pruning for clearances for sidewalks, streets and signs.**

Trees Watered: 3,821

**Watering crew of 13 water tanks and 11 personal pickup
trucks plus two City trucks water trees as needed.
Approximately 200 gator bags for watering. Thanks to the
City for providing two+ trucks for our operations.**

Trees Re-Mulched: 487+





Marketing Committee – 2025

Chair:

Jennifer Boss

Members:

Jessica Townsend, Larry Rose, Jeri Massey,
Bob Barker, Bob Gump, Cheryl Talley, Sona
Choudhary, Andrew Smith, and Gene
Kroeschen

Marketing Committee – 2025



Education Committee – 2025

Pat Rosebrock, Chair
Mickey Penrod, Larry Rose,
Connie Shoemaker, Allyson
Steselboim, Bob Gump, Cheryl
Talley and Sona Choudhary

3rd grade classroom presentations and planting of trees at elementary schools continued this year. Twenty-one classroom presentations were held, and the 3rd Graders helped plant twenty-two trees in their school yards. Pat Rosebrock, Connie Shoemaker and Cheryl Talley did the classroom presentations.

Spring:

- Miller Elementary School
- Cole Elementary School
- Miami Elementary School
- Glen Acres Elementary School
- Oakland Elementary School
- St. Mary Cathedral Elementary

Fall:

- Murdock Elementary School
- Edgelea Elementary School
- Vinton Elementary School
- Earhart Elementary School
- Miller Elementary School
- Cole Elementary School
- Glen Acres Elementary School



Cole, Edgelea and Vinton are recognized as Tree Campus K-12 schools by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Education Committee – 2025



Greg Shaner, Rich McDaniel, Bob Gump, Larry Rose, Bruce Bresnahan and Gene Kroeschen did the outside presentations.



Teaching children the value of trees in our schools and neighborhoods, giving them hands-on experience in planting a tree!

Development Committee – 2025

Gene Kroeschen –
interim chair

Larry Rose

Bill Arthur

Tiffany Chiang

**The Development
Committee is in need of a
chairperson.**

**We are very thankful for major 2025 support
from:**

- **Fairfield Township**
- **Duke Energy/Duke Energy Foundation**
- **Subaru of Indiana Automotive (SIA)**
- **CenterPoint Energy**
- **Lafayette Life Foundation**
- **1st Source Bank**
- **Risk Family Foundation**
- **The City of Lafayette/Lafayette Parks & Recreation**
- **Indiana University Health**
- **Bennett's Greenhouse**



**And our many other faithful
members, donors, and supporters.**

Major Grants, Sponsorships and Donations for 2025

- ▶ **Fairfield Township – \$10,000 – Plant trees in Fairfield Township**
- ▶ **Duke Energy/Duke Energy Foundation – \$7,500 – Arbor Day 2025**
- ▶ **Subaru of Indiana Automotive (SIA) – \$5,000 – Earth Day 2025**
- ▶ **Lafayette Life Foundation – \$3,500 – education**
- ▶ **CenterPoint Energy – \$5,000 – Plant trees Spring 2025**
- ▶ **1st Source Bank – \$3,000 – Plant trees Spring 2025**
- ▶ **Bennett’s Greenhouse – 10 trees for early Summer 2025 planting and 15 trees for Fall 2025 planting**

A huge thank you to these companies and organizations.

Consider Tree Lafayette in your estate plan

Long live your values, your love of trees and the community, and your love of the Earth.

Want future generations to be able to thrive and to continue to enjoy the many benefits of trees in Lafayette?

There are several ways that you can leave a lasting gift for future generations.

- ▶ **Include Tree Lafayette in your will or estate plan. Everyone should have a will and an estate plan**
- ▶ **Designate Tree Lafayette as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy**
- ▶ **Designate Tree Lafayette as a beneficiary of your trust, IRA, retirement plan, financial account, etc.**

Consult with your financial advisor, tax advisor, or attorney.

www.treelafayette.org/donate/

"Tax Smart" Donations

Supporters can also choose to donate using these methods which are usually more "tax-smart" than giving cash.

- ▶ **Donor-Advised Funds**
- ▶ **If over 70.5 years old, save money on taxes and use your IRA to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution. If over 72, with your Required Minimum Distributions.** (check current IRS regulations)

Consult with your financial advisor, tax advisor, or attorney.

www.treelafayette.org/tax-wise-giving/

Governance Committee - 2025

Barry Bruce – Chair

Bill Arthur, Pat Rosebrock, Jenelle Rotar, and Gene Kroeschen

- **Oversaw timely filing of IRS 990 Tax and Indiana Business Entity forms**
- **Did annual review of finances**
- **Reviewed and projected cash flow and expense streams**
- **Reviewed all insurance coverages**



Celebrating Earth Day



Earth Day - April 22, 2025
McCaw Park



Sponsored by:





Allyson Steselboim – Event leader

David Teter – Photographer
Gary Higgins – Video

18 Trees Planted in McCaw Park on April 22, 2025



Sponsored by:



Celebrating Arbor Day, May 3, 2025 Pipers Glen Drive



Jeri Massey – Event leader



Bob Massey – Photographer



62 Trees Planted on Pipers Glen Drive for Arbor Day

2025 Tree Planting Projects:

- **42 trees planted Spring 2025 on Elk Street, Perrine Street and South 18th Street sponsored by CenterPoint Energy and 1st Source Bank**
- **35 trees planted in Sagamore Parkway center medians (25 to be planted Fall 2025 and 10 trees donated by Bennett's were planted early summer 2025)**
- **54 trees planted Fall 2025 on Kensington Drive, South 28th Street, Ferry Street and Salem Street**
- **14 trees donated by Bennett's to be planted Fall 2025 on Kensington Drive**



Election of Board Members



Ballot for Board of Directors

As outlined in Tree Lafayette's bylaws, the Board of Directors has accepted the following three candidates and is submitting them for approval by the general membership, for the term of office 2025-2027.



Zonda Bryant

A current appointed member of the Tree Lafayette Board.



Matt Green

A current appointed member of the Tree Lafayette Board.

Ballot for Board of Directors



Sona Choudhary

A current appointed member of the Tree Lafayette Board.

Please fill out a ballot. There are three openings on the Board.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



AWARDS

Volunteer of the Year Awards

Environmental Award



Volunteer of the Year Award

Ryan Stumph

For his enthusiasm and dedication in helping Tree Lafayette with Saturday pruning events.

Congratulations Ryan and thanks for all you do for Tree Lafayette and the community!



Volunteer of the Year Award

Bob Gump

For his enthusiasm and dedication in helping with the Tree Committee, Education Committee, and Marketing Committee.

Congratulations Bob and thanks for all you do for Tree Lafayette and the community!



Environmental Award

Huston Electric/Solar

For partnering with the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation to plant approximately 3,000 trees in Prophetstown State Park. Since 2022, they have participated in three corporate-sponsored tree plantings through the Indiana Tree Project, planting a total of 8,000 trees, many of which are in Prophetstown State Park.

Congratulations to Huston Electric/Solar and thanks for your work for the community and the environment.



“Our Rock” Awards

For a non-profit to survive, the organization needs a sturdy and strong foundation to build upon. Tree Lafayette is no exception. We had ten and would like to recognize five more.



"Our Rock" Awards

Our foundation supports to be honored are:

- **Jenelle Rotar – Current board member and Highland Park self-designated volunteer since 2016 to coordinate and plant 152 new trees in Highland Park**
- **Barry Bruce – Current board member, current Board president, former Tipmont REMC EnviroWatts board member, and Saturday pruning coordinator**
- **William "Bill" Arthur – Current board member, past president, past Executive Director, past Earth Day and Arbor Day project managers, and presently the keeper of our books since 2014**
- **Robert "Bob" Barker – Former board member and our chief photographer since forever**
- **Mayor, Tony Roswarski – Truly a great supporter of trees, our neighborhoods, our community, and Tree Lafayette**



Congratulations to all of them and thanks to them.

Donor Recognition

Awards for 5 years of Donations

- **Tara L. Balfe Clifford**
- **William Cross & Karen Hodgkin**
- **Matt & Ashley Green**



Donor Recognition

Awards for 10 years of Donations

- **Bob & Ellen Barker**
- **Esther Chosnek**
- **Bob & Mary Beth Downing**
- **Wilbur & Beverly Hancock**
- **Mickey Penrod**
- **James & Liz Solberg**
- **Shirley Sterling**



Donor Recognition

Awards for 15 years of Donations

- **Larry Lewellyn**

Awards for 25 years of Donations

- **Robert & Carol Galbraith**
- **Larry & Marianne Rose**

***And thanks to all of our
donors and supporters.***



What is Coming Up?



Earth Day 2026 is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 10 am. It will be held at McAllister Recreation Center where 18 trees will be planted.

Arbor Day 2026 is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026. It will be held on Commanche Drive in Pipers Glen neighborhood. Approximately 60 trees will be planted by volunteers during the event.

5,000th Tree Planted will occur during the Earth Day 2026 event.



*We Have **Great** Volunteers!!! Thank you!*