



Arbor Day 2025

Arbor Day is a community-based celebration of our trees across the country! The official date for the national Arbor Day in 2025 is April the 25th while Tennessee's statewide Arbor Day is on the first Friday of March. This will be Tennessee's 150th Arbor Day with the State celebration being held in Newport this year. Newport was heavily impacted by hurricane Helene, and this event is part of the Tennessee Division of Forestry's continued efforts to support these communities. Arbor Day is a great way to bring communities together and highlight the valuable services trees provide in increased air and water quality, access to shade, animal habitat, and natural beauty!

For more information about Arbor Day please visit the link below!



Arbor Day Foundation®



The city of Bartlett celebrating their Arbor Day next to a newly planted magnolia tree



Student poster competition winners from Norris Arbor Day 2023



Norris Commons Arboretum hosts 53 different identified trees!

Community Spotlight:

Norris

Norris is celebrating their 46th anniversary as a Tree City USA this year. This makes Norris Tennessee's oldest Tree City! Norris hosts numerous outdoor recreation activities including parks, walking paths, tennis courts, and a disc golf course! Norris has an 82% city tree canopy coverage making outdoor activities during the summer comfortable and fun!

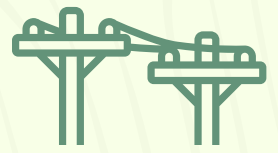
Plan activities and outings through the Norris Parks and Recreation page



Keep up with Norris at their tree commission Facebook page



Tree Line USA: Recognizing Utility Companies for 33 Years



For 33 years, Tree Line USA has recognized utility companies who voluntarily practice a higher standard of integrated vegetation management (IVM). Tennessee has 16 of these utility companies. Tyler Meroney recently spoke with Middle Tennessee Electric (MTE) on how their proactive approach to IVM has positively impacted their budget and the communities they serve. Vegetation Specialist Bryon Smith explained that the program helps ensure trees are kept away from powerlines and increases communication between the utility and customer due to community outreach and engagement efforts required to receive the recognition. Educational programs like Tree Wise and the Tree Replacement Program have been foundational to MTE's success.



U&CF Partnership Coordinator Tyler Meroney with the Middle Tennessee Electric vegetation team in Murfreesboro TN

The TN U&CF Program's goal is to expand the TreeLine USA program throughout the state. Not only does Tree Line save money in the long term from a proactive based approach; it encourages community engagement, proper pruning techniques, and a well thought out management plan. If trees could talk, we would listen! For now, we will speak for them by being stewards of their success and maturation.

*For more information about Tree Line USA, please contact the U&CF team.

Memphis City Beautiful

Established in 1930, Memphis City Beautiful is the oldest beautification commission in the nation, dedicated to fostering a cleaner, greener, and more beautiful Memphis.

For over 90 years, the organization has engaged residents in litter prevention, beautification, recycling, and community greening efforts. A key component of this mission is the planting and preservation of trees, which play a vital role in the city's environmental and aesthetic landscape.

Memphis City Beautiful works alongside the Memphis Tree Board, the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (West TN Chapter), and other local organizations to coordinate the official City of Memphis Arbor Day tree planting and ceremony. This annual event highlights the importance of trees in urban environments and celebrates their role in improving air quality, reducing heat, and enhancing the city's natural beauty.



Aerial view of Tom Lee Park and surrounding City in Memphis TN

One of Memphis City Beautiful's most impactful initiatives is Plant the Parkways, a large-scale tree-planting effort designed to revitalize the historic Memphis Parkway System. In partnership with Leadership Memphis and Volunteer Memphis, this program mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to plant native trees along the parkway's medians, bringing life back to this vital 11-mile corridor. Through these efforts, Memphis City Beautiful continues to inspire residents to take an active role in caring for their urban environment.



Memphis City Beautiful volunteers planting a tree



Memphis City Beautiful teaching tree care

March Tree Care Tip - "No-Mow-Zone"



Mowing season is in full swing across the state of Tennessee. But what happens when grass care causes accidental damage to your beloved trees? One of the most common accidents in both neighborhood yards and in city parks is mechanical damage from mowers and weed trimmers. This can be devastating to trees as it damages the bark, opening the tree up to infection and disease similar to when we get a cut or scrape. Methods to prevent this can include installing a trunk protector or establishing a "no-mow-zone" by creating an area around the tree with mulch, rocks, or flower beds. Care should be taken to ensure trunk protectors are not too tight and mulch is not too deep. The U&CF team is available to offer trainings, workshops, and lessons on proper planting, mulching, and pruning techniques!



Trunk protector



Rocks and Mulch



Flower beds

*For more information about Tree Care Workshops, please contact the U&CF team.

Upcoming Community Forestry Events

March 18th - Williamson Library Garden Maintenance (Franklin 9:30am-12:00pm)

March 21st - Spring Hill Tree Planting (Spring Hill 9:00am-12:00pm)

March 28th- Antioch Park Cleanup (Antioch 9:00am-12:00pm)

March 29th - Tennessee Tree Day (Statewide)

April 2nd - Whitfield Park Cleanup (Nashville 1:00pm-3:00pm)

April 5th - Knoxville Tree Fest (Caswell Park 10:00am-2:00pm)

April 19th - Nashville Earth Day (Centennial Park Bandshell 11:00am-5:00pm)

April 23rd - Cornelia Fort Airpark Maintenance (Nashville 9:00am-12:00pm)

*If you have an event coming up that you would like to be featured here, please let us know.

U&CF New Hire Spotlight

Megan Farrell

Megan earned her M.Sc. from the University of Memphis where she studied geography and forest health. Megan previously worked for the Office of Sustainability and Resilience for Shelby County.



Tyler Meroney

Tyler earned his A.A.S & B.S. from Hiwassee College. He has experience in arboriculture, utility vegetation management, wildfire suppression, and forestry. He is also a certified arborist with ISA.








Alex Bremner

Alex earned his M.Sc. at the University of Tennessee Knoxville researching structural hardwood lumber for use in mass timber. He has experience in forest restoration, conservation, and management.



Additional Resources

-  [Urban & Community Forestry Page](#)
-  [Arbor Day Tree Resources Page](#)
-  [ISA Trees Are Good Page](#)
-  [Vibrant Cities Lab Page](#)
-  [U&CF Society - City Trees](#)

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TN

Department of
Agriculture

Forestry

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