

Taking Root Spring 2016 Newsletter



Invasive Trees

Over the past few weeks I have been enjoying the spring blooms in my neighborhood. The magnolias have been especially wonderful this year, but one blooming tree I am not enjoying are the Callery pears right outside the front window of my apartment. No matter how much I glare at them, they continue to bloom, almost as if they're mocking me. I tried to convince my landlord to let me replace them but he can't be swayed so what else can I do but fantasize about "accidentally" backing my car into them, one after another. Callery pears spread fast, begin producing fruit at a young age and grow quickly. You will see them in bloom along the region's interstates muscling their way up through dense patches of honeysuckle without breaking a sweat. Because of the invasive nature of this tree we do not recommend planting them and encourage their removal in wild areas.

In the mean time I've got my fingers crossed for a spring blizzard with heavy, wet snow and lots of wind. The brittle trunks of the pears will split under the weight, the trees will topple and almost as if I had the entire thing planed I show up with 3 beautiful, native replacements... a guy can dream.

To learn more about Callery pear Click Ohio Division of Forestry's Weed of the month link below.

Also check out the link to:

"The Beginning of a New Invasive Plant: A History of the Ornamental Callery Pear in the United States"

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THERESA M. CULLEY AND NICOLE A. HARDIMAN

Happy Spring Everyone!

Weed Of The Month

Callery Pear

Get Involved

If you log on to www.takingroot.info you will now see a menu on the right called "Volunteer Spot". There, you will find all of the events that we are seeking volunteer help for. By clicking on the event name in the drop down menu you can get more information and sign up to help us out! Check back frequently as The list of events and projects will be updated often.

We are currently seeking help with the following events:

We ordered 3,000 seedling trees purchased through the generous donation of a private donor to be distributed to 3rd grade students in Hamilton County. In addition we purchased 2,000 Seedlings to be distributed to families at the Lollipops, Celebrate Earth Concert on April 16th. We need about 50 volunteers to help bag and pack the 5,000 seedling trees for distribution. (April 13th 7PM - 9PM)

[Seedling Tree Bagging Event](#)

Staff the Taking Root display at the Greater Cincinnati Flower Show. Assistants will receive free admission to the show on the day you volunteer. I will send more detailed information to everyone the week before the show. Thank you for helping out and enjoy the Show! (April 13-17, Multiple shifts [click for details](#))

[Greater Cincinnati Flower Show](#)

We are looking for assistance at our table in the Kids Fun Zone as well as help handing out trees to each family after the concert. (April 16th 9:00AM-12:00PM)

[Cincinnati Symphony Lollipops Kids Concert](#)

Boone County Arboretum is celebrating Arbor Day and we are looking for a couple of people to staff a booth from (April 23rd 12PM-4PM).

[Boone County Arboretum,
Arbor Day Celebration](#)

Clermont County Soil and Water Conservation District is looking for a few people to help pack and organize trees for their annual tree sale, tree pick up. (April 28th 10AM-4PM)

[Clermont County SWCD Tree Sale Prep](#)

We will be planting 9 trees at Grailville this morning. Tools will be provided, we recommend you bring a pair of work gloves. (April 30th 9AM-12PM)

[Tree Planting Event \(Grailville\)](#)

Event Calendar

Check the calendar to see where taking root will be and to find other tree related events.

[Event Calendar](#)

Taking Root Is Seeking Tree Planting Projects

Taking Root would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for your commitment to reforestation. Since our kick off in September 2013, over 188,000 trees have been registered in communities throughout our region.

Taking Root is working to identify sites for reforestation and other tree plantings so we can seek funding and resources from local donors, investors and businesses, offering them the opportunity to invest in your community projects.

Taking Root is seeking to assist with funding, logistics and labor for tree planting projects throughout the region with the help of our donors and funders. These can be sites suitable for reforestation or smaller projects and located on public lands (parks, rights-of-way, etc.) or lands with private but willing property owners (nonprofit organizations, businesses etc.). In order to pursue funding please fill out the application at the link below. Projects evidencing a clear investment of funding and/or other resources including a clear long term (3 year) care plan for newly installed trees will be given first consideration. The deadline for spring 2016 projects is March 31st. Projects received after March 31st will be considered for the fall planting season or as opportunities arise. Several large corporations have already expressed interest in tree planting as volunteer opportunities for their employees or projects for funding.

Although we can't guarantee we'll be able to secure funding or resources for any particular project we'll be actively working to assist with as many projects as possible. By submitting your projects, you'll be helping to ensure healthier forests for Southwest Ohio communities and residents.

[Submit a Project](#)

A Special Thank You To Our Major Supporters:



Ingenuity Growth Foundation

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