

# Taking Root Summer 2016 Newsletter



## Make a Difference Day Team Wins National Award!

Make a Difference Day is a national day of volunteerism. Last year, Taking Root participated in a BIG way with 32 teams consisting of over 400 volunteers that planted 1,096 trees in 21 communities spread across 5 counties. Gayle Ficken-Clarke and Bobbi Strangfeld's hard work and dedication paid off this spring when they were invited to Washington, D.C. to receive a \$10,000 award as one of ten projects in the nation to receive a grant award from the Make a Difference Day Foundation



This year, we plan to make the event even bigger and plan to plant more trees in more communities. You can learn how to organize a team in your neighborhood or at your school, church, business etc. by attending our free class at the Civic Garden Center on August 15th.

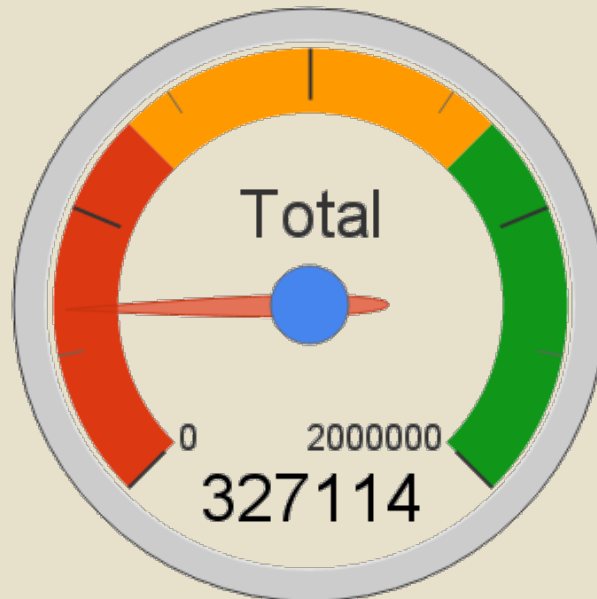
Congratulations Gayle and Bobbi and the entire MaDD crew for your great work!

Featured Project

## What a Spring!

Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers, Partners and supporters for another record-breaking spring. At this time last year we had 146,844 newly planted trees registered. You have since registered an additional 180,270 trees! Over 82,000 of these were registered between March 1st and June 30th.

If you have not yet registered your recently planted (since January 2013) trees, Please do so. If you own a nursery, you can register the trees you sell. You can register any tree planted from January 2013 on.



Since January 1st of this year Taking Root has been involved in over 30 outreach events connecting with over 5,300 people. We've launched our new project application, have a new volunteer sign up page to help connect you to volunteer resources for your projects and have received administrative funding from Greater Cincinnati Foundation for a second year to support our mission.

The Duke Energy Tree Fund was used to support 7 projects this spring.

- Tree Bagging Event.-Through funds from a private donor and Duke Energy we were able to distribute over 3,000 seedlings to school kids in Hamilton County.
- Cincinnati Pops Kids Earth Day Concert Tree Giveaway. We distributed 2,000 seedlings to kids and families.
- Olden Park tree planting event. We matched a \$1,000 gift from Macy's and coordinated the planting event in East Price Hill with Macy's employee Volunteers. We enlisted the expertise of Holscher and Hackman, a local garden center and Taking Root partner to source the trees and provide planting expertise on the day of the event. In total 10 trees were installed.
- Flying Pig Tree Planting Event. We partnered with the Flying Pig Marathon for the second year to plant trees along the flying pig race course. This year, in cooperation with Elevate Walnut Hills we were able to plant 5 trees along the race course.

- Mount Airy Trail crew is a non-profit focused on removing invasive plants and reforestation in Mount Airy Forest. Taking Root was able to support their mission by purchasing trees and planting supplies to help them achieve their planting goals.
- We Coordinated a tree planting event with Grailville in which we were able to get 10 trees planted.
- We awarded \$1,500 in matching funds to Kenton County Soil and Water Conservation District to help them purchase trees to create habitat for an endangered species of insect.

[RegisTree](#)

[Event Photos](#)

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## Duke Energy Tree Fund

Does your organization want to plant more trees on its property - or remove honeysuckle or other woody invasive plant - if it only had the manpower, expertise, training, or funding? The Duke Energy Foundation awarded Taking Root \$25,000, and we would like to share it with you! We are now accepting applications for tree planting projects in need of funding assistance.

For fall projects, applications can be submitted between March 1st and June 30th. You will be Notified in August if your project is selected.

For spring projects, applications can be submitted between September 1st and December 31st. You will be notified in February if your project is selected.

If you need assistance with selecting the appropriate trees for your project or have tree related questions, we are happy to help you find the answers you need. We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to help get more trees planted and are grateful to the Duke Energy foundation for supporting Taking Root.

### **Ingenuity Growth Foundation Tree Fund for Schools**

In addition to the Duke Energy Grant, Taking Root received a \$25,000 gift from Ingenuity Growth Foundation to help schools with planting projects on their campuses! I encourage all of you to share this information with teachers and other school staff. How cool would it be for schools throughout the region to plant trees on campuses on national Make A Difference Day?

For more information and to apply for these funding opportunities please visit the link below:

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## Need Volunteer Assistance With Your Project?



If you need volunteer help with a tree planting, reforestation or invasive plant removal project, let us know. We will post your project on [www.takingroot.info](http://www.takingroot.info) in the "Volunteer Spot" to help you find the assistance you need. If you would like to have your project posted, please [email me](#) the following info:

- Contact person's name, phone, and email
- Project location and full address
- Date of project and start and finish times
- Number of volunteers you need.

I will email volunteer contact information to you before the event.

If you would like to volunteer to help address the tree crisis in our region check the Volunteer Spot for current opportunities.

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## Bleed For The Trees!

Taking Root has teamed up with Hoxworth Blood Center again this year for the bleed for a Cause Campaign. Give blood at any Hoxworth Blood Center between July 18th and August 13th to help us earn points toward a \$10,000 award!



**Here's how it works:**

Donate blood at any Hoxworth location. Be sure to write GREEN UMBRELLA/TAKING ROOT on the top of your form or we will not receive points for your donation.

**Points are awarded as follows:**

- Whole Blood donation = 1
- Red Cell/Plasma donation = 2
- Platelet donation = 3

**1st time donors will receive 2 bonus points!**

**The Prizes:**

- 1st Place: \$10,000
- 2nd Place: \$5,000
- 3rd Place: \$2,500

[Where to Give](#)

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[Event Calendar](#)

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**A Special "Thank You!" To Taking Root's Major Supporters:**



## Ingenuity Growth Foundation

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