



Winter Newsletter

Volume 3, 2016

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GET INVOLVED

Upcoming Events

Saturday

February 13th

The Great Tree Summit

[TAKING ROOT CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)



Taking Root needs your help!

We are seeking volunteers for the



What's Going On

Within a few hours of starting my new job at Taking Root, I was handed the responsibility of helping to plan the second annual Great Tree Summit. Right from the get-go, the momentum of this organization swept me off my feet, and it has not slowed down in the

least. Over the past year we have made great strides in our outreach efforts and tree planting campaign. I have had an opportunity to meet and work with incredibly passionate, dedicated, and talented people. It has been an honor to be a part of Taking Root, and I am looking forward to continuing the great work we are doing in 2016.



Taking Root has received grants totaling \$106,000 from the Duke Energy Foundation, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Arbor Day Foundation, and Ingenuity Growth Foundation. Duke Energy has made a commitment to support our mission again in 2016 with an additional \$25,000. This generous support has given us the resources to continue working toward our goals. Over 112,000 trees were registered in 2015 - nearly double the number registered during the previous year and half - for a current total of 171,601. With the help of our partners, we were also able to conduct 95 presentations, events, and tree plantings, reaching 6,250 residents.

Our goal is for 2016 to be even busier! We plan to seek funding for tree planting projects throughout the region. We are expanding on the Taking Root in My Community Initiative to engage directly with communities on a grass roots level, and funding will also be used to get the Taking Root in Our Schools initiative off the ground. If you are interested helping with these projects, please contact me for more information.



Make A Difference Day!

following events.

Contact [Matt](#) if you are interested in helping out

Home and Garden Show Booth
February 27&28 and March 2-6

Tree Bagging Event
Wednesday April 13th 6-9 PM

We are bagging several thousand seedling trees for giveaways at several events

Lollipops, Celebrate Earth Concert
April 16th 9-12
Passing out trees and staffing an activity table in the family Fun Zone

Contact [Matt](#) if you are interested in helping out



Sign the pledge, join in our mailing list and/or volunteer to help combat the local tree crisis!



Taking Root is incredibly lucky to have so many dedicated volunteers without whom we would not be able to function effectively. Two such volunteers are Gayle Ficken-Clarke and Bobbi Strangfeld, organizers of the October 24th National Make a Difference Day event. If you are unfamiliar with this event, it is a national day of volunteerism sponsored by *USA Today*. Gayle and Bobbi spent countless hours hosting meetings, making contacts, recruiting, advocating, and organizing training classes - making our first annual Make a Difference Day Event a smashing success! Their efforts brought together 29 teams (approximately 300 volunteers) who planted 1,072 trees in 22 communities throughout the region. Because of the hard work and dedication of Gayle, Bobbi, and the Make a Difference Day team, this event exceeded all expectations. Great job! Are you interested in participating in Make a Difference Day 2016? Whether you want to help in the planning process or to plant trees in your neighborhood, please get in touch with [Gayle](#) or me and we will help you get started.



Welcome Taking Root's New Partners

We are excited to welcome the following partners to Taking Root.

Welcome Arborjet!



Welcome to Spring Grove Cemetery!



Welcome to Boy Scouts of America, Dan Beard Council!



BECOME A PARTNER

A Partner is an organization or entity that helps advance the goals of Taking

Root by providing services or resources to the campaign. Partners are critical for enabling the campaign to become more effective in addressing the tree crisis and to developing the collaborative strategies needed to restore and expand healthy tree canopy. Taking Root Displays partner logos on it's website (logos may also be displayed on campaign materials or communications) and partners are invited to meetings of the Taking Root Council.

To become a Taking Root Partner, please complete the short online application [HERE](#). Upon approval by the Taking Root Steering Committee we will request your organization's logo.

If you have any questions, please contact Matt at mstenger@takingroot.info

→ Madisonville Team



The Madisonville team hosted its second annual tree planting event on October 23, 2015. Local businesses responded to the team's fundraising efforts with donations that enabled the purchase of 68 trees. Nine teams made up of Seven Hills students planted the trees on over 40 properties throughout Madisonville, helping to beautify the community for generations to come. Great job and keep up the good work!

If you are interested in getting involved with the Madisonville team contact [Karen](#) or [Joan](#).

→ Northern Kentucky Team



The Northern Kentucky team had a big year! Partnering with organizations like the Driftwood Institute, Green Umbrella, and the Kenton County School District, the NKy team organized tree plantings, assembled tree information packets for delivery to almost 30 NKy municipalities, met with the NKy Chamber of Commerce President, and helped organize the first region-wide tree planting event on Make a Difference Day. And let's not forget to mention that almost twice as many trees were planted in Northern Kentucky this year as compared to last! Great job everyone!

2015 Trees Boone: 9,460 Campbell: 228 Kenton: 5,171 Total: 14,859

2014 Trees Boone: 1,608 Campbell: 4,382 Kenton: 1,567 Total: 7,557

Lastly, through a recent grant from Duke Energy, Taking Root is excited to offer the Northern Kentucky team \$1,000 to expanding the memorial grove at Tower Park in Fort Thomas Kentucky, honoring Mary Kathryn Dickerson, whose lifelong efforts supporting conservation and the environment won her many honors, including the Kentucky Environmental Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Taking Root - Northern KY 2016 meeting schedule:

February 11

May 12

August 11

November 10

All meetings are at 6:30 pm at the location below unless otherwise noted closer to the meeting date.

Planning and Development Services of Kenton County
2332 Royal Drive Fort Mitchell, KY 41017

Contact [Loma](#) or [Jessica](#) for more information.

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Please Consider The Environment Before Printing This newsletter

