



While Earth Day 2015 was held on April 22, temperatures felt like winter. Thirteen trees were planted outside the Greenbush Cemetery.

Our Urban Forest

Winter Soon To Arrive: Prepare Your Trees!

Winter is Tough for Trees

Contrary to what you might expect with all of the snow and cold temperatures, trees have a hard time getting enough moisture in the winter, writes Lindsey Purcell in the article, "Winterize Your Trees," published by the Purdue Extension. Therefore, if you take some steps to help your trees make it through the winter, they are more likely to have a better spring, summer, and fall, and grow tall.

"Keeping plant cells hydrated in winter is critical for survival," he writes.

Here are some ordinary steps that you can do to help protect your trees during the winter months, and in so doing, secure a more healthy growing season for your tree (s). Purcell suggests late fall or early winter to prepare before the deep freeze sets in:

1. **Use Mulch** - See our "How To" Column on Page 2 of this newsletter. Mulch helps water absorption, and insulates the tree's roots from the extreme cold, he says.
2. **Water in the fall** - Keep watering your trees throughout the fall until the ground freezes, advises Purcell. If the winter seems dry and lacking the usual precipitation,

you can water in the winter when the temperature goes above 40 degrees

3. **Fertilize**—This is optional because not all trees need fertilization to grow well. If you have a fertilizer that has worked well in the past, use that.
4. **Prune** - Pruning means trimming or cutting, and Purcell says do a little trimming to get rid of dying branches in late fall or the beginning of winter.

For more information, read Purcell's guide, "Winterize Your Trees," www.fnr.purdue.edu, Document: FNR-484-W

Don't Forget The Tree Lafayette Annual Meeting

Arbor Day 2015 (pictured to the right), Earth Day, and tree plantings at schools, will be some of the events highlighted at Tree Lafayette's Annual Meeting to be held on November 11, 2015 from 11:30 to 1 at the Lafayette Country Club.

All volunteers, supporters, and tree and plant enthusiasts are invited to attend for lunch and good conversation.

Contact:

Matt Green, matt.green@treelafayette.org for reservations. Cost is \$15 a person. Pay at door. Or send in your check early.



Photo by Robert Barker, Video by Earl McCoy

More photos and video are on our Web site.

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Earth Day, Arbor Day 2015 Are the Best Yet!

Both Events Attract Big Crowds

Tree Lafayette kicked off the planting season with its annual Earth Day, this year held on April 22, 2015. Thirteen trees were planted outside the Greenbush Cemetery, 1408 N. 12th St., Lafayette. The plantings were to promote the restoration project of the cemetery undertaken by Fairfield Township, where the Greenbush Cemetery is located. In keeping with the Civil War theme, several participants wore period costumes, including the Master of Ceremonies Larry Rose and Mayor Tony Roswarski. The mayor read the annual Earth Day proclamation, which asked every citizen to be good stewards of the environment. Although participants had to bundle up in winter clothing, more than 30 turned out for the event.

Arbor Day at Jefferson High School, May 2nd

Many thanks go out to all who took part in Tree

Lafayette's Arbor Day 2015 (picture on page 1). It was hard to contain the excitement when more than 200 people, the vast majority students, planted 70 trees on the grounds of Jefferson High School. Corporate and individual supporters made the event a great success. Congratulations to Arbor Day Project Manager Deb Browning, who organized everything; to Marketing Committee Chair, Marti Sackett, who staffed the registration table; and to Sam Biederstedt, who organized the groups for tree planting. Matt Green was the Master of Ceremonies. Arbor Day was a good example of how everyone...school, park, city, volunteers, can work together to do something positive for the environment.

School Plantings Promote Love of Trees to Next Generation

Tree Lafayette's education program is continuing with success this year. In total, 82 trees were planted at Jefferson High School, including those planted on Arbor Day. Amelia Earhart Elementary School can expect a new look with flowering trees outside the school. Forty-one trees and eighteen shrubs were planted this summer and two additional trees are planned for the fall.

Introducing Our "How To" Column: How to Mulch Trees

By Greg Shaner, Chairman, Tree Committee

Mulching newly planted trees has several benefits. A layer of mulch moderates soil temperature, conserves water, and is good for the roots. Mulch around the tree, sometimes called "a mulch ring," enhances its appearance, and keeps lawnmowers and gardeners away from the trunk of the tree.

I prefer organic materials for mulch. Tree Lafayette uses shredded hardwood bark mulch. Homeowners can make their own mulch from chipped wood, shredded leaves, grass clippings, or vegetable kitchen waste. Compost all of these materials before using as mulch. Garden centers also sell organic mulch.

Apply the mulch in a ring around the trunk of the tree, starting a few inches away from the trunk. Do not pile it around the base of the tree. To get your tree ready for winter, wait until the first hard frost to apply mulch. Put new mulch around trees at least once a year.



Tree Lafayette Executive Director Larry Rose, and Past President Jonathan Fisher talk with Mayor Roswarski during Earth Day on April 22 at the Greenbush Cemetery. The theme was Commemoration of the Civil War 150 years ago.

Photo by Bob Barker

Want to help prune trees and water trees? Then Tree Lafayette needs you! It is an excellent chance to get outside, meet some new people, and help the environment. Contact: Tree

Committee Chairman, Greg Shaner at the following e-mail address: Gregory_Shaner_454@Comcast.net

Tree Lafayette Endowment Still Available for Giving

Send to the Community Foundation at 1114 E. State St., Lafayette, IN 47905. Thank you for your generosity.

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