

2010 Plant for the Planet! Final Report & Summary

FINAL REPORT

The 2010 Joint Highlands Arbor Day Committee met at 7:00pm on Thursday, 8 April 2010, at 2360 Carlton Terrace. Jack Francis, Phyllis Fitzgerald and Stephen Spanyer were present.

Finances were approved. Event funding was \$299.75. Francis, Fitzgerald for the Master Gardeners program and Spanyer received \$26, \$50 & \$53 respectfully as reimbursement for event expenses - printing, supplies, food, and stamps. What to do with the balance of \$158 was discussed and voted on. (\$3 Staples rebate plus \$10 Kroger's gift certificate made up the difference.) A two-to-one vote decided us against splitting the balance with the Olmsted Parks Conservancy and for applying it towards the purchase of trees and event expenses in 2011.

The committee discussed: 1) the possibility of a greater variety of tree species, including the silky dogwood; 2) increasing the understory dogwoods and paw paws given the special needs of city-dwellers with small lots; 3) asking visitors how they learned of the event when signing UNEP pledge; 4) reducing the order size to 1,800; 5) what a good job the chief forester and the Douglass CC staff did; the same for Sarah Wolff

Also reported: 6) Thanks to the Olmsted, the Joint Highlands Arbor Day Committee helped our community plant 1,886 trees, mainly in Jefferson County. After cull-outs, the average cost was \$0.6050 per seedling planted. Our target zip code 40205 benefited with about 400 seedlings. Olmsted volunteers set 509 seedlings (oaks, tulip poplar, redbuds, and walnut) in Cherokee Park near Willow Pond and 12 water oaks along Beargrass Creek near the Frisbee field. Sarah Wolff found private placement for 40 water oaks and all remaining black locusts. An estimated 200 hickories, cherry bark oak, white pine, bald cypress and river birch were picked up by staff at the Blackacre Nature Preserve.

We intend to hold Plant for the Planet! next year on Saturday, 2 April 2011, at the Douglass Community Center. If we place our tree order among the first, our choices will be better and ordering once rather than many times will make the task easier, more efficient.

We encourage neighborhood associations wishing to support arbor day in 2011 to decide at a summer meeting. Please mail checks by September 15, 2010, or arrange to drop them off with me by then. \$100 to \$150 is recommended. Please make checks payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer. I'll order the trees, then contact sponsors for volunteers in January 2011. I anticipate sub-committee meetings and one Final Meeting after event.

Stephen R. Spanyer for Final Committee Meeting, Organizer
Plant for the Planet! A Joint Highlands Arbor Day Committee
www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign
www.HighlandsArborDay.info



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SUMMARY

A local community group, the Joint Highlands Arbor Day Committee, partnered with Plant for the Planet! to celebrate State Arbor Day on Saturday, 3 April, at the Douglass Community Center. Now in its fourth year, Plant for the Planet! has planted over 10 billion trees worldwide. Supporters in the Highlands this year included the Bonnycastle, Deer Park, Highlands-Douglass and Upper Highlands Neighborhood Associations, the Metro Council Districts of Tom Owen and Tina Ward-Pugh, individual donors, and community businesses. The project's major facilitator is the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), whose goals include reforestation, canopy rejuvenation, the prevention of erosion, the slowing of global warming, and biodiversity. Greeting visitors at the Douglass Center was a huge bunch of colorful, ribboned balloons, courtesy of the Blossom Shop. All visitors first signed the UNEP pledge to plant the trees given to them and nurse these trees to adulthood. The Master Gardeners from the Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service had a wealth of general information about tree planting on display, as well as specifics on the types of trees offered. Outdoors, volunteers from Bellarmine's Biology Club and the neighborhood associations helped soak and wrap the trees in Courier-Journal bags under the supervision of Chief Forester Robert Bean. The seedlings were displayed in marked buckets - loaned from Horton's Hardware - for a quick assessment of the types available. This year's species, purchased from the Kentucky Division of Forestry, included white oak, bur oak, Shumard oak, water oak, cherry bark oak, mixed hickories, black walnut, pecan, black locust, river birch, Kentucky coffeetree, yellow poplar, white pine and bald cypress for the canopy trees, and dogwood, redbud and paw paw for the understory. Visitors lingered with the Chief Forester and the MGs to talk about trees over light refreshments and coffee thanks to Heine Brothers-Douglass Loop, The Bakery at Sullivan University, the Highlands Kroger's, the antique dealers at the Loop and home-cooks. Turnout was light due in part to an hour's cold rain mid-morning and also to the event-day falling between spring and semester breaks. In all, 291 visitors walked away with about 1,100 bare-root seedlings. The Olmsted Parks Conservancy received the extra trees the following Monday and by week's end had arranged with its own volunteers to plant 521 trees in Cherokee Park near Willow Pond and along Beargrass Creek. The black locusts and about 40 water oaks were placed privately. The remainder, an estimated 250 seedlings, went to the Blackacre Nature Preserve. Highlands zip code 40205 benefited with about 400 native trees. Altogether throughout Jefferson County and southern Indiana, 1,886 trees were planted this year. Kudos to all, but especially to Sarah Wolff with the Olmsted Parks Conservancy, Bill Hinklin and staff at the Douglass Center, and Chief Forester Robert Bean for helping us run such an enjoyable and informative tree giveaway. Please plan to celebrate State Arbor Day with us next year at the Douglass Community Center. Join us for free trees on Saturday, April 2, 2011 and Plant for the Planet!

Please use the 2010 Plant for the Planet! Summary in your newsletters as news copy or as an announcement in that issue appearing just before 2 April 2011. Please include "Save the Date!" or list in your calendar with community events. Edit freely.

05/06/2010 Note: Alan with Blackacre emailed that he counted 20 white pines, 25 river birch and 50 bald cypress for a total of 95 trees.

Trees bought	2000	
Cull-outs	114	104 visitors from zip code 40205 of 291 total visitors
Blackacre	95	= 35.74%
Private	~130	35.74 x 1270 = 403 trees planted in zip code 40205
Olmsted	521	
Visitors	~ 1140	