



TreesUpstate

2025 Annual Report

CHAIRPERSON

Linda Hannon

TREASURER

Brandy Ford

SECRETARY

Allison Tucker

BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Carlson

Chris Fincher

Fredalyn Frasier

Derek Gracely

William Gray

Hollie Grein

Todd Horne

Keith Jones

Lynn McBride

Jane McCutcheon

J. Dabney Peebles

Alison Rauch

Drew Smith

HONORARY BOARD MEMBER

Anna Kate Hipp

RED MAPLE SOCIETY CHAIRPERSONS

Susan and David Wilkins

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aaron Davis

EXECUTIVE COUNSEL

Joelle Teachey

STAFF

Kelly Byers

Deputy Executive Director

Shannon Elrod

Business Manager

Mandy Oglesby

Director of Corporate

Partnerships

Sarah Avera

Community Forester

Hannah Farr

*Community Engagement
Coordinator*

Liene Kukainis

Urban Forestry Technician

Dear friends,

Every spring, trees sprout new leaves and needles to remind us that there is hope for the future. The place on the tips of shoots and roots where this happens is called the growing edge – scientifically named the apical meristem. While apical meristem is not a conversational phrase recommended to make you a sought-after dinner guest, in some ways it symbolizes the growth of TreesUpstate. In the past 12 months, we've been on the growing edge. We added four rockstar staff members: Shannon Elrod – Business Manager, Kelly Byers – Deputy Executive Director, Mandy Oglesby – Director of Corporate Partnerships, and Liene Kukainis – Urban Forester. History was made in 2025 with over 8,400 runners who “Ran for the Trees” at the Turkey Day Race. We planted over 1,500 trees at 40 locations with over 1,400 volunteers and achieved our best revenue to date. All this with less than 10 staff.

We can achieve so much because of our many volunteers and supporters. I'm here with two of our wonderful supporters, Becky and Bobby Hartness. Bobby has built his own state-of-the-art greenhouse, which you'll learn more about later, and plans to propagate native trees for TreesUpstate in the near future. Every large canopy tree started as a small seed before it became a towering giant in the community, just like the many of you who plant seeds to support our life-giving work and want to improve the quality of life for those in our area.

Since the ancient story of the Garden of Eden, trees have offered humans a choice in how we want to live. In modern times, that choice is between cutting them down and surviving in harsh landscapes or thriving in shaded parks and beautiful neighborhoods with fresh air and clean water. As a magazine-style



Annual Report, these pages tell stories about some of those who have chosen trees in their lives and homes. From the saving of a grand 100-year-old magnolia, to the Hartness greenhouse, to a local garden containing hundreds of species and cultivars from across the world — these stories inspire all of us to do more to plant, promote, and protect trees.

Thank you for your unwavering financial and volunteer support of TreesUpstate in 2025. Because of you, we are on the growing edge — bringing the benefits of trees to more communities, students, and wildlife in the Upstate. We couldn't do it without you, and we are pleased to share with you this year's report.

Sincerely,

Executive Director





Thank You 2025 Volunteers

2,199 Hours

1,406 Volunteers



Red Maple Society

Tree tour events with \$1,000 + annual donors



Kenneth and Martha Severens



*Pat Hartness, David O'Bryant,
Mary Lou Hartness, Riley Murray*



*Jay Martin,
Linda Hannon*



*Jim Day,
Brandy Ford*



Nick Rubio, Gabe Rubio, Derek Gracely



*Allen and Nikki Grumbine, Bill and Anne Masters, Pat and Mary Lou
Hartness, Jane McCutcheon, Aaron Davis, Ann and Joe Jennings*



*Tour guides - Stewart Winslow,
Scott Carlson*



Scott and Melissa Anderson



Jeff Outten, Sharon Wilson, John Brigham



*Glenn Hilliard, Dabney Peoples,
Lynn McBride*



Jenny and Kenny Collins



*Kate and Tony Brown,
Marilyn Grist, Maggie Glasgow*



Bob DiBella and Carol Savage



Leslie Walz, Andrea Greene, Cindy Walsh



Sometimes there's a special tree that, rather than simply being admired by its own family, stretches its branches beyond property lines into the hearts of an entire neighborhood. Storytellers near and far are drawn to these trees — their history, their beauty, and even their ability to stir controversy when threatened with removal.

We shouldn't be too quick to assume that trees themselves have no agency in their own survival. They have been attracting living beings for eons. Magnolias in particular have been luring insects to pollinate them for roughly 100 million years, making them one of the most



successful and captivating groups of trees in Earth's history.

Magnolia's methods of pollination are so ancient that they predate bees, relying instead on beetles to carry pollen. Their flowers use a process called thermogenesis to warm the interior of the bloom by 10 to 15 degrees — giving beetles a cozy refuge where they can linger and do what beetles do. The heat also releases rich aromas that draw both beetles and humans alike. And aren't we all drawn to things that smell wonderful?

TreesUpstate Board Member Lynn McBride has one of those trees. It is among the grandest Southern magnolias in South Carolina — *Magnolia grandiflora*, as botanists name the species. This tree has

made such an impression that it became the subject of several city planning meetings and came close to being felled by developers, until Lynn and her husband Mike permanently secured its future by purchasing the property.

The story begins in 1907, when Greenville formalized an effort to invest in parks and line streets with trees through an initiative called Beautify Greenville. Chester Elbert Hatch and a colleague went about planting trees throughout the city in that spirit. One of his favorites was the deodar cedar, native to the Himalayas. Deodars have blue-gray needles that droop in graceful layers, creating a pyramidal shape in their younger years and a more irregular, monumental form as they age. If you spot a towering deodar in Greenville today, there



Lynn and Mike McBride's grand magnolia tree from the front



Human trees delight guests at the Once Upon a Tree event

is a good chance Chester Hatch planted it. He also planted the now-famed magnolia at his home near the corner of Augusta St. and McDaniel Ave. in 1918, and it has been a community icon for at least the past 50 years.

About a century after the tree was planted, the property came up for sale and was purchased by a developer who planned to subdivide the lot into nine homes. The blueprint called for removing all the trees to make way for impervious surfaces and multi-family housing. Neighbors — including TreesUpstate supporters — knew they had to act.

They partnered with Sally Roberts, a previous owner and Chester Hatch's granddaughter, to document the tree's

history and pursue historic tree designation. Sally and other neighbors submitted petition letters to the City of Greenville Planning Commission, making the case for the tree's significance to the community and asking that the proposed development be rejected until a public or private owner could guarantee the tree's long-term health.

The Southern magnolia belongs to a much larger genus of magnolias found primarily in

Asia and North America. The eastern United States is home to around eight native magnolia species, heavily concentrated in the zone stretching from Appalachian coves down through the Gulf Coastal Plain. Five of those eight are native to the Upstate: bigleaf magnolia, Fraser magnolia, umbrella magnolia, sweetbay magnolia, and cucumbertree magnolia. The Southern magnolia, by contrast, is native to the coastal region of South Carolina. While the Southern is evergreen — holding its leaves through winter — the other five are deciduous, with the exception of the sweetbay, which can retain its leaves closer to the coast. These five native magnolias survive in forest coves near the Blue Ridge Escarpment because they were never wiped out by

glaciers, and the sharp elevation drop into the Piedmont creates the only temperate rainforest on the East Coast — conditions that allow large-leafed trees to flourish. The bigleaf magnolia holds the record for the largest leaves of any tree in North America, reaching up to 32 inches long and 12 inches wide.

Based on the community's advocacy, the planning commission rejected the developer's subdivision plans — but the tree's survival was not yet “out of the woods.” Lynn and Mike McBride fell in love with the property and purchased it as a single-family lot. Lynn asked her friend, landscape designer, and fellow TreesUpstate board member Dabney Peeples of Dabney Collins Design to create a landscape that not only saved the tree but preserved its character for the whole neighborhood. Dabney wove the entire design around the existing trees, drawing inspiration from the stonework and architecture of the Cotswolds, as Lynn had envisioned.

On October 25, 2025, the tree and home were opened to neighbors and TreesUpstate Red Maple Society members for a celebration called Once Upon a Tree. Guests received a children's book of the same name — a fictionalized account of TreesUpstate's founding by elementary art teacher Katie Jones. The Greenville Symphony provided several string quartets,



Inside the magnolia tree



Mike and Lynn McBride



Once Upon a Tree, October 25, 2025

including one that performed inside the magnolia tree itself.

Because of its extraordinary form, this magnolia offers something most Southern magnolias do not – ample space to wander beneath its branches. Most Southern magnolias are pruned to a single main trunk. But when a Southern magnolia has room and no competition from neighboring trees, it will produce multiple trunks through a process called ground layering. When the tree's branches are allowed to rest on the ground, the bark is thin enough that a mild abrasion triggers the flow of the plant hormone auxin at the point of contact, initiating rooting and, over time, the growth of entirely new trunks. Left undisturbed for decades, the result is a canopy that recalls a tropical banyan – layered, sprawling, almost temple-like in its structure.

Dabney designed a permeable terrace beneath the canopy – similar to a boardwalk through a forest – so that the

McBrides and their guests could move freely underneath without compacting the soil or disturbing the roots. During the event, guests meandered through the tree's cathedral-like interior while a string quartet played and friends found one another under the stringed lights. Actors costumed as trees greeted

arrivals at the far end of the terrace. Some guests quietly shared memories of youthful mischief that had unfolded under those very branches.

By the end of the evening, \$140,000 had been raised to continue TreesUpstate's mission to plant, promote, and protect trees across the Upstate. What began in 1918 as a single act of planting brought a community together in an entirely new way more than a century later. It is a reminder that when people care enough about their natural environment, good things happen – for trees and for the people who love them.

Whether you are more of a tree person or a people person, one thing is certain: your gifts make stories like this one possible, again and again, across the Upstate. Thank you for helping us plant trees that will inspire generations to come.



In the spring of 1775, a young Philadelphia naturalist named William Bartram crossed the Tugalo River and climbed into the Cherokee mountains of what is now upstate South Carolina. He was on foot, commissioned by a London physician to catalog the flora of the American Southeast, and what he found on the ridge above the river stopped him in his tracks. He named the summit Mount Magnolia and recorded finding there “a charming circle of mountain vegetable beauties, Magnolia auriculata” — the tree we now call Fraser magnolia — blooming among rhododendron, wild azalea, and trillium in the mountain air.

Bartram had already spent years walking the Carolina lowcountry, where he observed that “the pompous Palms of Florida, and glorious Magnolia, strikes us with the sense of dignity and magnificence.” But it was in the southern Appalachian foothills and cove forests of the Upstate that the magnolia family reaches its fullest expression in North America. Five native species grow here, each occupying its own niche in the landscape, each carrying the same ancient architecture that makes magnolias among the oldest flowering trees on earth.



M. macrophylla

The five species differ



M. fraseri

most dramatically in their leaves. Sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*) is the most adaptable — a semi-evergreen of stream edges and wet seeps, with narrow, silvery-backed leaves that flash in the wind. Umbrella magnolia (*M. tripetala*) and Fraser magnolia (*M. fraseri*) both carry enormous leaves, but Fraser’s are distinguished by two distinctive ear-shaped lobes at the base — the auricles that gave Bartram’s original Latin name *auriculata*. Cucumbertree (*M. acuminata*) has more conventional pointed leaves and is the only species to grow into a full canopy tree. And bigleaf magnolia (*M. macrophylla*) produces the largest simple leaf of any tree in North America — up to thirty inches long — which Bartram celebrated as leaves with “radiated wings,” each branch “supporting an expanded umbrella, superbly crested with a silver plume, fragrant blossom, or crimson studded strobile and fruits.”



M. tripetala

Their flowers are equally varied. Magnolia flowers do not have petals in the technical sense. What appears to be a petal is called a tepal, an undifferentiated floral part that preceded the evolutionary separation of petals and sepals. This is a signature of the family’s age. The flowers range from the small, greenish-yellow blooms of the cucumbertree, easily overlooked in the canopy, to the enormous white flowers of the bigleaf — ten inches across, with purple basal blotches — that appear in May before the leaves fully unfurl.



M. virginiana



Thanks to runners, volunteers, and sponsors we

Ran for the Trees

raising a total of

\$343,555

to plant, promote, and protect trees!



2025 Turkey Day Run



Presented by



8,465 Participants

8K finishers: 1,841

5k finishers: 5,461

Top Male 8k: Ricky Flynn @ 24:43
Top Female 8k: Kennedy Roush @ 28:09
Top Male 5k: Liam Novak @ 16:39
Top Female 5k: Hattie Jennings @ 17:52

3RD Largest Race in SC
& The Largest 8k
in South Carolina





When Becky and Bobby Hartness take on a project, it nearly always ends the same way. Friends and neighbors walk away with some of the finest gifts imaginable — peonies, tomatoes, muscadine grapes, and experiences that linger long after the visit. Becky's ebullient peonies are famous throughout Greenville, each bloom calling to mind a vibrant, multi-layered Victorian ball gown. Their tomato plants are selected and tended with the care of laboratory scientists. Their muscadine vines run to five different varieties, some bearing grapes almost too large to fit more than one in your mouth.

A couple of years ago, the TreesUpstate Red Maple Society toured their gardens,



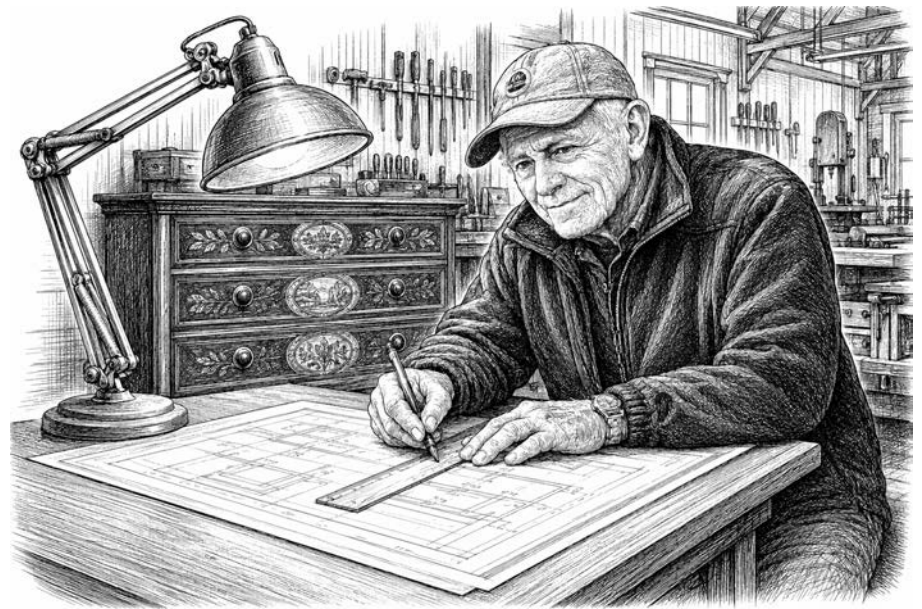
Bobby Hartness during construction

enjoying camaraderie among friends and trees alike. Deodar cedars, sugar and Japanese maples, a shrub-like ginkgo, live oak, Savannah holly, magnolias, bald cypress, hinoki cypress, and a shortleaf pine standing sentinel by a historic barn delighted the group. The tour ended in Bobby's woodshop, where he crafts fine furniture with a precision that has earned him an enduring reputation. His craftsmanship is so widely admired that the Greenville Woodworkers Guild — founded in 1981 — named its highest annual honor after him: the Hartness Award for Excellence in Woodworking.

Having explored nearly every dimension of smaller-scale woodworking in recent years, Bobby turned his attention to his aging greenhouse. White flies — a pest familiar to any greenhouse gardener — and other control challenges sent him on a quest to build something new: not just a functional replacement, but an engineer's dream and, before long, will be the talk of the town.

Greenhouses are big business worldwide. It is estimated that there are over 60 billion square feet of greenhouse space across the globe, ranging from simple

plastic tunnels in rural China to high-tech glass structures in the Netherlands, with miles of them lining the countryside in Kenya. The need for year-round food



production, climate stability, and efficient use of water and land makes them an increasingly vital part of how our world is fed.

The concept is ancient. In the first century C.E., Roman Emperor Tiberius was said to eat cucumbers year-round. Roman gardeners would wheel plants outside in favorable conditions and cover them with specularia — translucent sheets made from oily cloth or thin mica — that admitted sunlight, trapped heat, and shielded plants from cold and wind. Nearly two millennia later, in 1851, the head gardener of Chatsworth House erected an iron-and-glass structure for London's Great Exhibition that covered 19 acres

and contained 300,000 panes of glass. Rather than felling the elm trees in Hyde Park, the design was built around them. The Crystal Palace, as it came to be known, transformed both modern agriculture and modern architecture. Today, advances in greenhouse technology have produced highly engineered ecosystems that some envision as precursors to food systems for future civilizations — perhaps even in space.

A trained engineer by background, Bobby approached his greenhouse the way he approaches woodworking: with deep research, ingrained passion, and exacting care. He poured his heart and mind into selecting the most efficient materials, determining the optimal layout and orientation, and finding the right aesthetic character for a structure that would serve both plants and people. Beneath the floor

sits a thousand-gallon tank to collect and reuse rainwater. The beams and frame are constructed from recycled fiberglass and hydrocarbon composite materials — twice as heavy as wood, and immune to rust and rot. Rather than glass, which can create harsh light and deep shadows, Bobby chose a polycarbonate covering that costs less, diffuses light evenly, and offers meaningful climate control at an R-value of 2.9. He jokes that the word “greenhouse” is something of an oxymoron: “You build them to take in as much sunlight as possible, and then you add shade cloths and screens to stop overheating and plant burn. We build a structure to maximize sunlight... and then spend time and money reducing that sunlight.”

Getting the temperature right is a study in Upstate ingenuity. Three stacked layers of pipes are installed at depths of 3.5, 5.5, and



The old greenhouse which produced thousands of tomatoes. The new greenhouse is in the distance



The unfinished greenhouse from the outside

7.5 feet for geothermal climate control, connected to analog controls and four 12-inch manifold pipes with fans that push warm daytime air into the ground — cooling the interior to 85 degrees or below. That stored warmth is then drawn back up during cooler nights to keep temperatures at 58 degrees or above. When outside temperatures drop below 45 degrees, a heat pump takes over.

When complete, guests will enter through one of two gabled porches, flanked by terraced landscaping on the adjacent sides of the structure. The door opens with a pressurized burst of air designed to keep white flies and other insects at bay. Inside, citrus trees, hibiscuses, tomatoes, and propagated plants will line the space, with speakers playing music for the benefit of

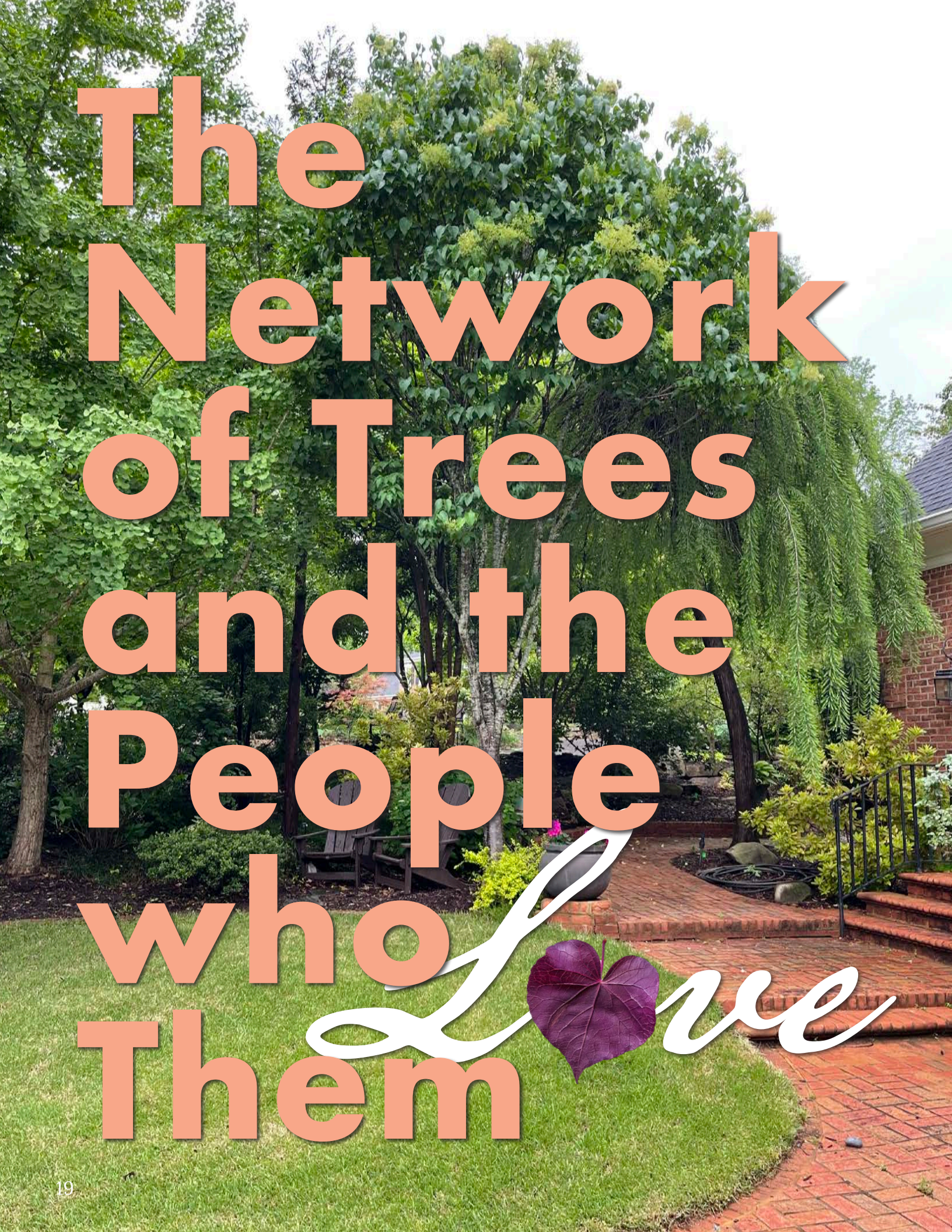
both the plants and the gardener. Bobby has even left open the possibility of a covey of quail taking up residence inside.

While the Red Maple Society has never toured the same location twice, we are already planning to make an exception. Becky and Bobby look forward to hosting us again when the greenhouse is complete — and Bobby has offered something that caught our attention: “When TreesUpstate has its own nursery, I look forward to propagating seedlings for the organization and the wider community.”

Since a nursery concept is already part of our strategic plan, that is an offer we are very glad to accept. We are deeply grateful for Becky and Bobby’s generosity and their passion for the benefit of all — and we cannot wait to experience the final unveiling together.

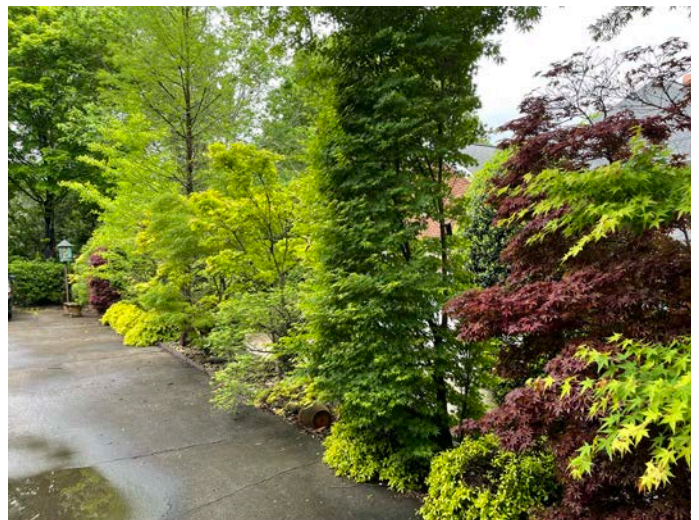
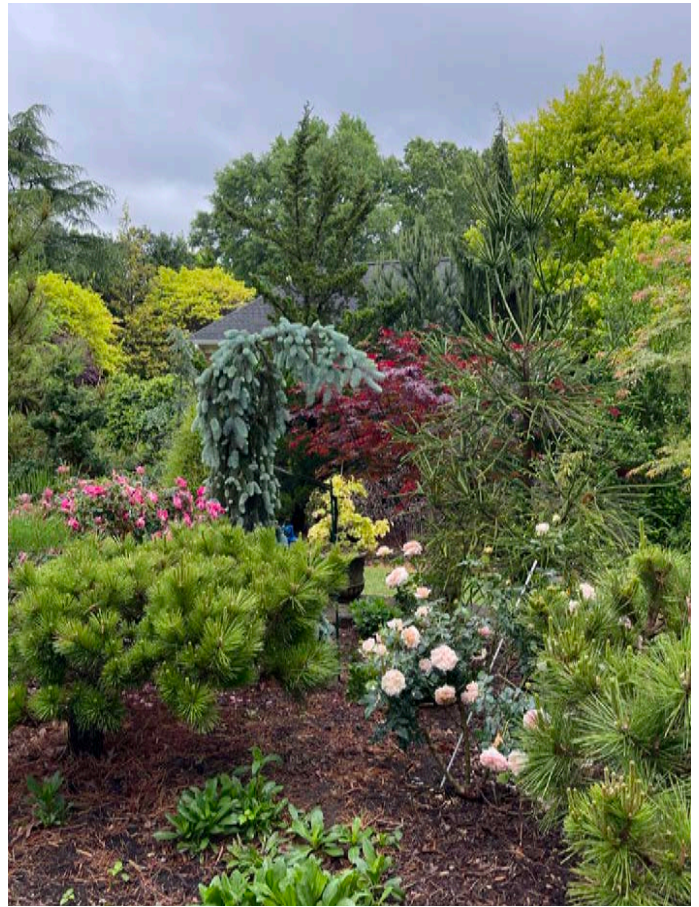
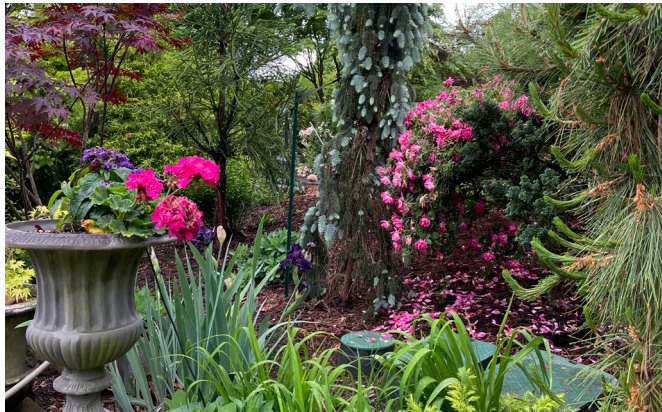


Aaron Davis's grandmother receives an arrangement of Becky's peonies

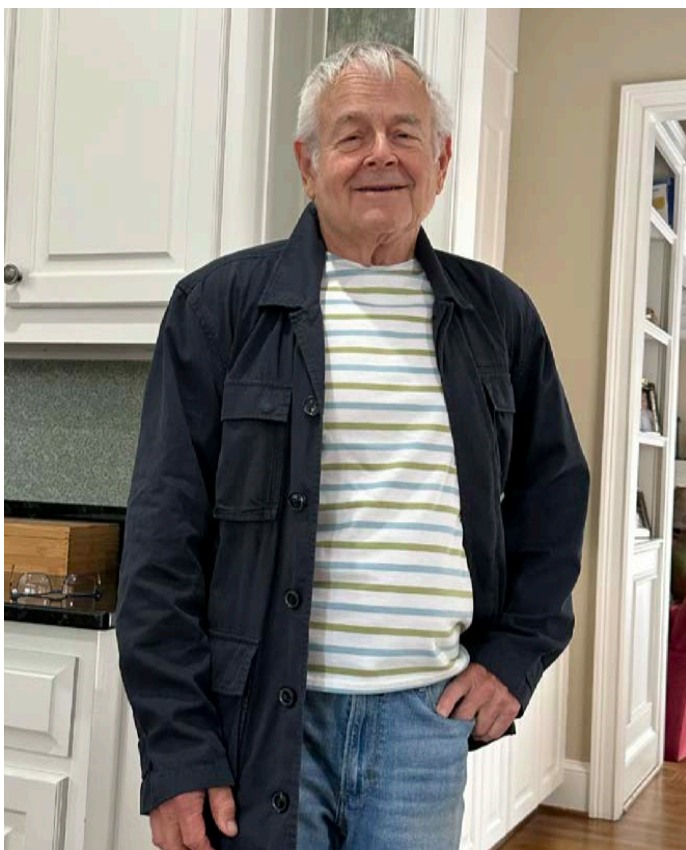


The Network of Trees and the People who Love Them

Red Maple Society Tours are a wonderful way to spend time with friends and fellow tree supporters in some of the most beautiful places in the Upstate. In the past four years, we've enjoyed garden tours together at the home of society members Becky and Bobby Hartness, Anna Kate Hipp, and Lynn and Mike McBride. There've been golf cart tours of several Spartanburg arboretums, led by inspiring guides. We've learned about North America's largest native fruit at the Greenville home of the South Carolina Pawpaw Festival and about the heroic efforts by Dr. Joe James to bring back the American



Lowrie's home and garden, "open to all on short notice – like a walk in clinic"



Lowrie Glasgow

chestnut tree in Seneca.

The more places we go, the more we know that we are often just scratching the surface of what the Upstate and surrounding region has to offer in hidden oases of plants and trees. While not on our circuit of events, Red Maple Society members Drs. Lowrie and Maggie Glasgow's home and garden in Chanticleer is one such oasis. Square foot by square foot, it has more plant and tree diversity than nearly anywhere in the Upstate. And it's more than that. Its caretaker, Lowrie, knows that like its own secret door in the garden, that when opened, points the way to other doors and a network of plants, trees, experts, and gardens across the world.

When asked why such a diversity of

trees and plants is such a passion, Lowrie, a retired physician from West Virginia, notes that he loves birds equally as much. He has a delightful Audubon collection in Maggie's and his home. But plants eventually won out for his primary attention. He says jokingly, "I'd go birdwatching, and those next to me didn't even need to look up to tell what type of bird it was. They knew by their sound. As I wasn't that gifted in hearing, I thought plants would be easier."

His garden, knowledge of plants, and decades of work to create it are anything but easy. He tends over 400 species and cultivars of trees and plants. Each type requires knowledge of the right soil type and maintenance needed. It isn't designed with a classically trained landscaping eye, but with a flowing, tender, loving care. Lowrie fills spaces with trees that feel and look right in the right spot, have marvelous color and texture contrasts, and bloom throughout the year. You'll see cultivars and species of trees that aren't found anywhere else in the Upstate, and there's a good reason. Because behind that secret door of knowledge, Lowrie is connected to plant societies that share knowledge and trees worldwide. It's a fascinating network that shares plant diversity around the world for their preservation and conservation.

The Maple Society network (not affiliated with our Red Maple Society) to which he belongs has access to an ever-changing number of maple trees,

including endlessly variable Japanese maples. He notes that the Executive Director of the Rhododendron Society lives near here and that on your way to Raleigh, you can visit Tony Avent's Juniper Level Botanical Garden, which has 27,000 taxa (categories) of plants. Arborcrest Gardens in Boone, North Carolina, has thousands of taxa and is run by Dr. Ron Stanley, a dermatologist. Kevin Parris, who led one of our Red Maple Society tours at the Milliken Arboretum, was a guest guide this year for the International Magnolia Society at the gardens of his friend Dr. Marilyn Grist who hosted our Spring 2026 tree tour. A walk through Glasgow's garden may find a dwarf conifer that his friend in the Conifer Society found through a direct source in Korea. You'll see trees that have variegated leaves and dwarf versions that you never knew existed. These collections carefully keep plants shareable and prevent them from becoming extinct; the wider distribution is the safety net.

These societies often hold annual meetings throughout the United States and beyond, learn about new developments in their chosen genus, and get access to private and public gardens at the host location. It is very uncommon to go on these tours without learning about a new plant or tree. Take, for example, the theme of this annual report - the genus of magnolia. Species and cultivars are found mainly in the Americas and Asia, with the latter having the

greatest variety. We know the iconic evergreen Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) well. If our knowledge is a little deeper, we may recognize the native Bigleaf (*Magnolia macrophylla*) or Sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*). Take an hour and a half trip to Bartlett Tree Research Labs in Charlotte, and you'll find one of the most important magnolia centers in North America with dozens of species and cultivars. If you time your trip right before spring, you may find a mixture of pink, red, white, and green blooms dazzling pollinators and guests alike.

Lowrie's love of gardening dates back to his earliest memories. He remembers sneaking out to the garden as a child so others wouldn't make fun of his hobby. His mother once told him that their uncle was the secretary of the Daffodil Society, which speaks to the legacy that can be carried from one generation to the next. He and Maggie share many interests in the natural world. They then share these interests and knowledge amongst friends, including many articles for TreesUpstate's monthly newsletters. Lowrie says that there are so many botanical things going on around us, and he wishes more people knew about them. Knowledge gets passed like a pass-along plant, from one garden to the next.

Lowrie notes that his garden is open to all on a short-notice and works like a walk-in clinic.

2025 TREE PLANTINGS



**In 2025, we planted trees in 43 parks, schools, and neighborhoods across the Upstate.
Here is a list of the places we planted in order of planting date:**

Governor's School, Nicholtown Presbyterian, Seneca Residential Center (6), League Academy, Prisma Health Swamp Rabbit Trail Greenline, Shoally Creek Elementary, Upper Shoals at Glendale, Greer Golf, Woodruff High, Suber Road Soccer Complex, Gable Middle, Sullivan Center, Legacy Tree - Dale Adams, Creekside, Greenville Textile Heritage Park, Legacy Park Trail Connector and Emerald Award Winner Verdae Development (8), Sudduth Farms (4), Gateway Park (2), Country Club Road Park, Harmony Ridge, AJ Whittenberg (7), Hope Tree, Westcliffe Entryway, Travelers Rest City Hall, History Museum & Gateway Park, Bennetts Crossing, West End (3), Rolling Green Village, Greenville County Aquatic Complex, Cleveland Forest, Woodruff Primary, Woodruff Elementary, Brutontown, Conestee Nature Preserve, Bryson Children's Nature Park, Wellford Academy (1), Drayton Townhomes/Dan Trail/USC Upstate -SC Arbor Day in Spartanburg (5)



THE NOBLE TREE FOUNDATION AND TREESUPSTATE

Planting trees to benefit
Spartanburg County
schools



as of December 2025

- ✓ 57 Planting Events
- ✓ 30 Student Events
- ✓ 1,621 Volunteers
- ✓ 2,960 Volunteer Hours
- ✓ 63 Tree Species

Schools Where We've Planted

Anderson Mill Elementary	Mayo Elementary
Boiling Springs Elementary	McCracken Middle
Boiling Springs High	New Woodruff High
Boiling Springs Middle	Pacolet Elementary
James H Hendrix Elementary	Pauline-Glenn Springs Elementary
Jessie S Bobo Elementary	Pine Street Elementary
Cannons Elementary	RD Anderson Applied Technology Center
Chesnee Elementary	Roebuck Elementary
Cleveland Academy	Shoally Creek Elementary
Cooley Springs-Fingerville Elementary	Spartanburg High
Cowpens Elementary	Sugar Ridge Elementary
Dorman High School	USC Upstate
Dorman High School Freshman Campus	West View Elementary
Drayton Mills Elementary	Welford Academy
EP Todd Elementary	Whitlock Flexible Learning Center
Fairforest Middle	Woodland Heights Elementary
Gable Middle	Woodruff Elementary
High Point Academy	Woodruff High School
Lone Oak Elementary	Woodruff Primary
Master Skills Center	

ENERGY-SAVING TREES GIVEAWAY 2016-2025

PRESENTED BY



29,869



Trees given
away through
December 31, 2025
at **128 events**



\$10,758,290

Cost Savings

20-Year forecasted iTree benefits of
29,869 Trees:

100,915,613
kwh energy saved



138,770,254
lbs of carbon sequestered/avoided



651,031,054
gallons of stormwater filtered



285,365
lbs of air pollutants absorbed



ENERGY-SAVING TREES is a
program of the **Arbor Day
Foundation** being
administered locally by
TreesUpstate with a grant
from the **Duke Energy
Foundation**.

2025 TREE GIVEAWAYS

Energy-Saving Trees through Duke Energy:

5,750 trees

State Farm Insurance: **750** trees

Flying Rabbit: **125** trees

TREESUPSTATE'S IMPACT REPORT 2025



TREES PLANTED

1,530 in 2025 at **43** events
17,270 total

2025 PLANTING LOCATIONS

35.7% in neighborhoods
38.1% in parks
26.2% at schools



TREES GIVEN AWAY

6,625 in 2025
36,737 total



TREESUPSTATE TREES

54,037 total from 2006-2025

*According to the independent sector, volunteer time in SC is valued at \$34.29/hour. Our volunteer time for 2025 is worth **\$75,403.71**.

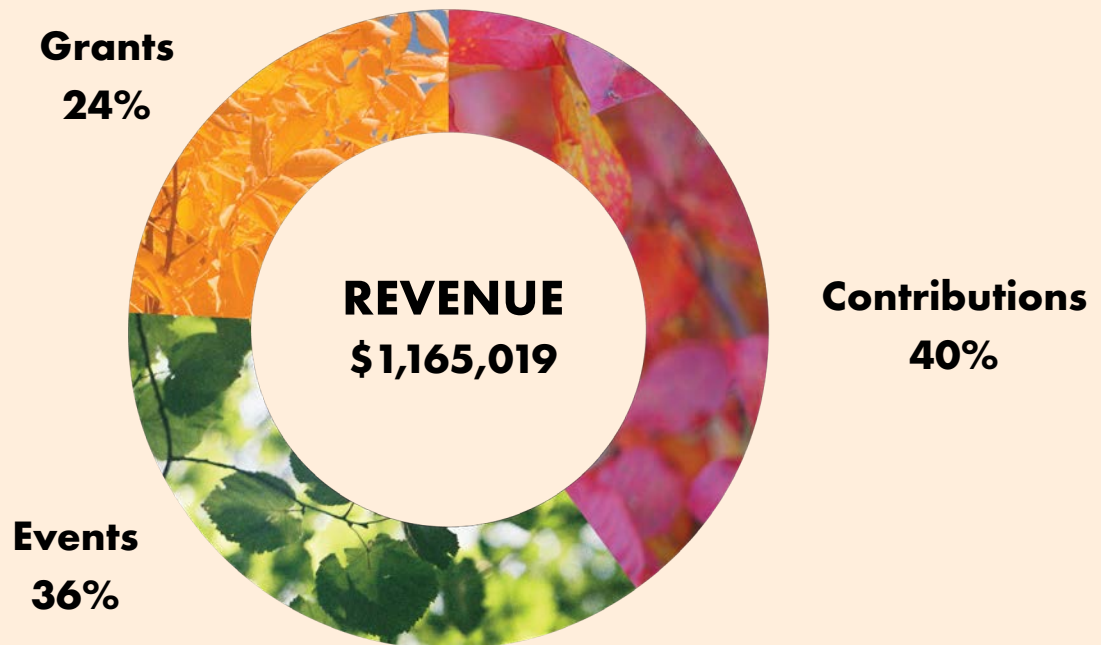
VOLUNTEERS

1,406 in 2025
2,199 hours*

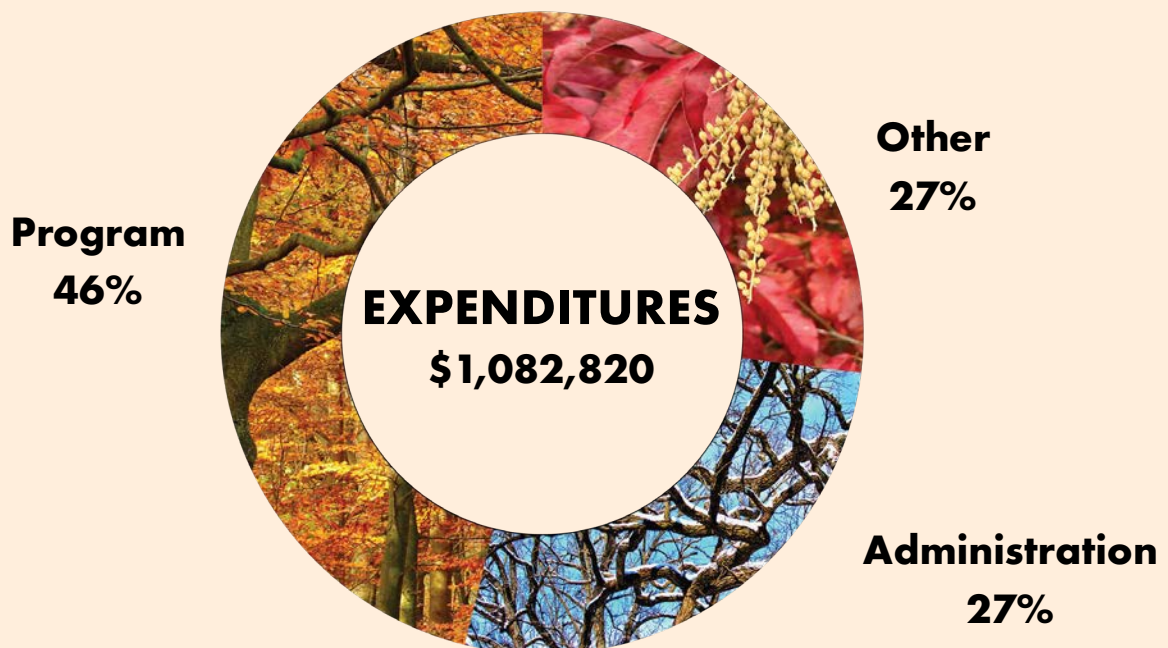


FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENDITURES



TreesUpstate's corporate partners are transforming the community through their commitment to a **cooler, more livable, and economically resilient** future.

TULIP POPLAR | \$10,000+

City of Travelers Rest
Greenville Journal
The Noble Tree Foundation
Sage Automotive Interiors
Schneider Tree Care
Signature Luxury Pools
Summit Media
TD Bank, N.A.
Think Up Consulting

BLACK TUPELO | \$5,000+

Balmer Foundation
BMW
First Bank
Grass Nerds
Greenville Water
Greer CPW
Greer Relief
Heidelberg Materials
The Heirloom Companies
Michelin, N.A.
NAI Earle Furman
Pacolet Miliken
Piedmont Natural Gas
Publix Super Market, Inc.
Rolling Green Village
Timberlab



WHITE OAK | \$20,000+

Central Carolina Community Foundation
City of Greenville
Dabney Collins
Duke Energy
Gabriel Builders
The Arbor Day Foundation
Target
Truist
United Way of Greenville

SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA | \$2,500+

AFL Global
Briles Co. Insurance
Canal Insurance
DRB Group
Fairway Subaru
First Horizon Bank Foundation
Foothills Rotary
Pintail Capital
Rotary Club of the Reedy
River Greenville
ScanSource
The Nature Conservancy
Wilson Associates

GINKGO | \$1,000+

Blue Ridge Outdoors
Colonial Trust Company
DP3
Earth Design
emedia Group
Fleet Feet Greenville
Freeland & Kauffman
Graycliff Capital Partners
Greenville 360
Greenville Spinners
Greer Centennial Lions Club
Goodwyn Mills Cawood
Katelyn Pinner Studio
Nelson Mullins
Rabble Wine
Ross & Enderlin, PA
Scout Mechanicals
Smith Hudson Law
Spinks Family Foundation
Stäubli
Swamp Rabbit Cafe
The Gallivan Group at UBS
Upstate Running Club
Wesley Commons
Without Limits



www.TreesUpstate.org

2025 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

RED MAPLE SOCIETY

\$25,000 +

Mary Lou and Pat Hartness
Anna Kate Hipp
The Waggoner Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

David Andrews
Judy Cromwell
Priscilla Hagins
J. Dabney Peeples & Arthur Campbell

\$5,000 - \$9,999

The Balmer Foundation
Fielding and Gally Gallivan
The Graham Foundation
Mary Lou and Lewis Jones
Jay and Stefanie Martin
Lynn and Mike McBride
Lea Rohrbaugh
Yuri Tsuzuki

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Melissa and Scott Anderson
Jenny and Kenny Collins
Mary and Doug Erwin
Will and Laurens Flanagan
Margaret and Lowrie Glasgow
Nikki and Allen Grumbine
Becky and Bobby Hartness
Susan and Les Hicken
Heather and Glenn Hilliard
Lindsay and Keith Jones
Anne Graham and Bill Masters
Susan and Tom O'Hanlan
Lavinia and Lee Plumblee
Martha and Kenneth Severens
Donna and Joe Sullivan
Sydney and Ed Taylor
Diane Smock and Brad Wyche

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Salli and Charles Alexander
Richie and Karen Andrews
Jennifer Buckner and Andrew Baird
Ed Barnett
Margaret and David Beisser

Sara Betts
Courtney and Robb Bohman
John Brigham and Jeff Outten
Kate and Tony Brown
Karen and William Brown
David and Kelly Buckshorn
Kelly Byers and Tom Wagner
Pam and Scott Christopher
Andrea and Edwin Cooper
Ashley and Aaron Davis
Jim Day
Carol Savage and Bob DiBella
Ron Doney and Michael Allard
Dorothy and Steve Dowe
Cindy Walsh and Brian Edens
Shelley and Alex Estevez
Kathy and Chris Fincher
Brandy Ford
Barb and Pat Fountain
Mary Beth and Nathan Galbreath
Katie and Clark Gallivan
Derek Gracely
Andrea and Zack Greene
Jean and Richard Greer
Nancy Hamilton
Ben and Linda Hannon
Seth Harrison
Jackie Highley
Anne and Frank Holleman III
Ann and Joe Jennings
Katie and Scott Jones
Kelly and Kent Jones
Sandy and Tom Kester
Linda Ketelaar
Lisa Larocque
Mary and Jeff Lawson
Martha and Ben Leaphart
Jill and Les Lewis
Laura Griswold and Tom Lonergan
Nancy and Erwin Maddrey
Alice and Scott McCrary
Jane McCutcheon
Vidya Kamath and Niranjana Pai
Ellis Pearce
Kym Petrie
Cheri Phyfer
Jane and Don Pilzer

Cindy Plating
Inge and John Rekers
Sherry and Jeff Rhodenbaugh
Alex Schmitt
Linda Schuett
Paul and Precia Shaw
Minor and Hal Shaw
Katie and Eric Skoloff
Emelia and Jim Stephenson
Sara and Arch Thomason
Will Traver
Karen Traxler
Betsy and Gordon Turnbull
Elizabeth and Adam Tyson
Joseph Wallace and Gaven Watkins
Leslie and Kyle Waltz
Bettina and Kirk Wehner
Janette Wesley
Reid Wesley
Susan and David White
Susan and David Wilkins
Anne and John Zuleger

CAROLINA SAPPHIRE

\$500 and up

Sarah and Ryan Beasley
Julie Beville
Jane Chambers and John Bissell
Alan and Jane Butcher
Jenny and Trey Cole
Millie Collins
Susan McWatters & Melba Eason
Richard & Kathy Fiddie
Tom & Leighann Markalunas
Eric Marshall
Leslie Milling
Dewey Oxner
Snow and John Parrott
Daniel Pasko
Louise Peden
Ken Simmons
Jeannette Wilcox and Craig Stine
Lois Taylor



Kelly and Bill Taylor
Ellen and Don Wall
Kelly and Charles Warren
Kathy and Charlie Whitmire
Stephen Woods

EASTERN REDBUD **\$250 and up**

Robin & Michael Aleksinas
Judy and Bob Bainbridge
Maxcy and Sylvia Boineau
Ralph Bouton
Annette Burdette
Mike Caputo
Thomas Croft, Jr
Suzanne and Denis
Dandeneau
Sara and Eric Dellinger
Caroline and Scott Dover
Karen York and James Elder
Carol Young Gallagher and
Brooks Gallagher
Lil Glenn
Dr. Donna and Steve
Graddick
Hollie Grein
Martin Hamilton
Mayme Baker and Rob
Haney
Chris and Katie Harrison
Beverly and Robert Howard
William Jackson
Ben and Nancy Ladner
Susan and John Lind
Courtne and Adam
Lindblad
Heather Lyndon
Alane and Tim Malinowski
Jean Martin
Margaret Dunford and Bill
Maxymuk
Michelle McCallum
Whitney McGregor
Eva McLeod
Brian McMorrow

James Morris
Marie Murdaugh
Christie and Bob Nachman
Andy Nicolai
David O'Bryant
Elysia and Will Pearce
Rob Phillips
Lauren Pinckney
Mary Ann Pires
Chad and Pam Prashad
Jane Pressly
Ann Marie Ravindran
Traci Reddekopp
Julie & Lindsay Smith
Debra and David Spear
Gaye and Joel Sprague
Allyson Steffen
Patricia and Dennis Strong
Whitney and Charles Villalobos
Bonnie and Bo Wallin
Pam and Neil Welsch
Jennifer Windsor

CAROLINA SILVERBELL **\$100 and up**

Barbara and Gilbert Allen
Rachel Allgood
Barbara & John Blanton
Sally Boman
Margaret Borry
Elsbeth and Matthew Chaney
Alice and John Claggett
Sara Collier-Byrd
Randall and Mary Lynn
Conway
Daniel Craig
Lynette and Eric Cummings
Nan Cunningham
Sheila Dezen
Andy Douglas
Gay and Frank DuPree
Debra Durnal
Robert Ellis
Cheryl Farah
Susan Gregg and Mark Fellers

Tracey Fleming
James and Nelle Burgess
Foundation
Debbie and Clyde Fowler
Sylvia Goodwin France
Madeline & Allen Freeman
Mary and Ted Gentry
Susan Gillespie
Ken Glenn
Kim and Brody Glenn
Laura and James Gossett
Dianna Gurrich
Glen Halva-Neubauer
Mary Ann Hipp
Erika and David Hollis
Sharon Johnson
Lauren Kindred
Joshua Long
John and Linda Marshall
Robert and Margaret Massing
Jeanie McDade
Richard Mead and Ruth Pollow
Ralph Melbourne
Andrew Merkle
Nancy Neal
Steven Nelson
Philip Patrick
Kai Peirce
Stephanie and Dane Pierce
Sandy and T.K. Rogers
Kelly Satcher
Marc & Sheri Saunders
Andrea Schechter
Margaret Scieszka
Lida Sease
Josh and Cara Sims
Jason Smit
Janet Snell-Kelly
Patricia Stamey
Marcy Stowell
Denise and Terhune Sudderth
Claudia and Richard Taylor
Amy and Dev Vaz
Doreen and William Wermuth
Elizabeth and Robert White
Sallie and Danny White
Chris Yaroach

Beth and Ron Zweigoron
John and Linda Marshall

TRIBUTES

In Memory Of

Mary Andrews
Karen & Richie Andrews
David William Fleming
Tracey Fleming
Richard Goodall
Susan and David White
Morris Greene,
Margo Hepler, and
Mary Ann McCullough
Lavinia and Lee Plumblee
Larry Kimsey
Richard & Kathy Fiddie
Callie Pray
Josh and Cara Sims
Shadow
Sara Collier-Byrd
George and Carol Tate
Lauren Pinckney
Helen Hunt Yates
Whitney & Charles Villalobos

In Honor Of

Satcher Kelly Barrow
Kelly Satcher
Beth Croft
Thomas Croft, Jr
Howard Davis
Julie Beville
Friends/neighbors
Sheila Dezen
Leslie Milling
Cheryl Farah
Dabney Peeples
Mary & Doug Erwin
VisitGreenvilleSC
Miles Partnership

