



www.ReTreeTecumseh.org
www.Facebook.com/retreetecumseh

RE-TREE TECUMSEH'S MISSION

- to establish and fund an ongoing tree-planting program in the City of Tecumseh, and
- to protect and preserve the existing urban tree canopy through care and education.

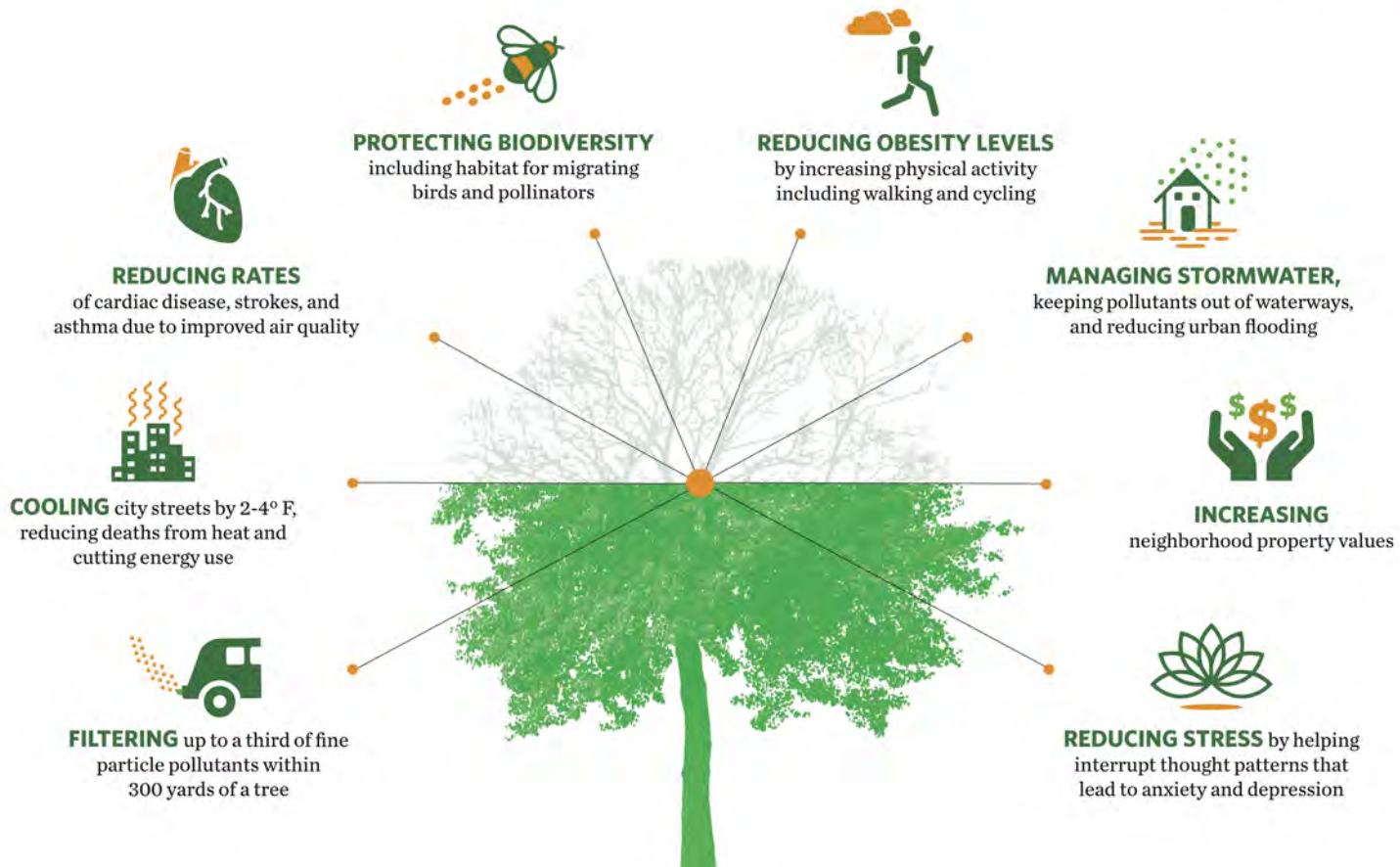


“to protect and preserve the existing urban tree canopy through care and education”

- educate the public about the value and benefits of trees
- train residents on all aspects of tree care: choosing the right tree, planting it properly, pruning it and maintaining it
- partner with City of Tecumseh to improve its tree policies

Benefits of Urban Trees

Research has linked the presence of urban trees to...



Trees are the only type of public infrastructure
that increases in value over time

100 Trees Over 40 Years

Benefits = \$161,000

- Improve air quality
- Provide stormwater filtration
- Save energy (heating & cooling)
- Raise property values

Expenses = \$89,000

- Planting, pruning
- Removal, disposal
- Irrigation
- Sidewalk repair

Payoff = \$72,000

Figures from Kevin Sayers, Michigan DNR Urban & Community Forestry Program, 2019

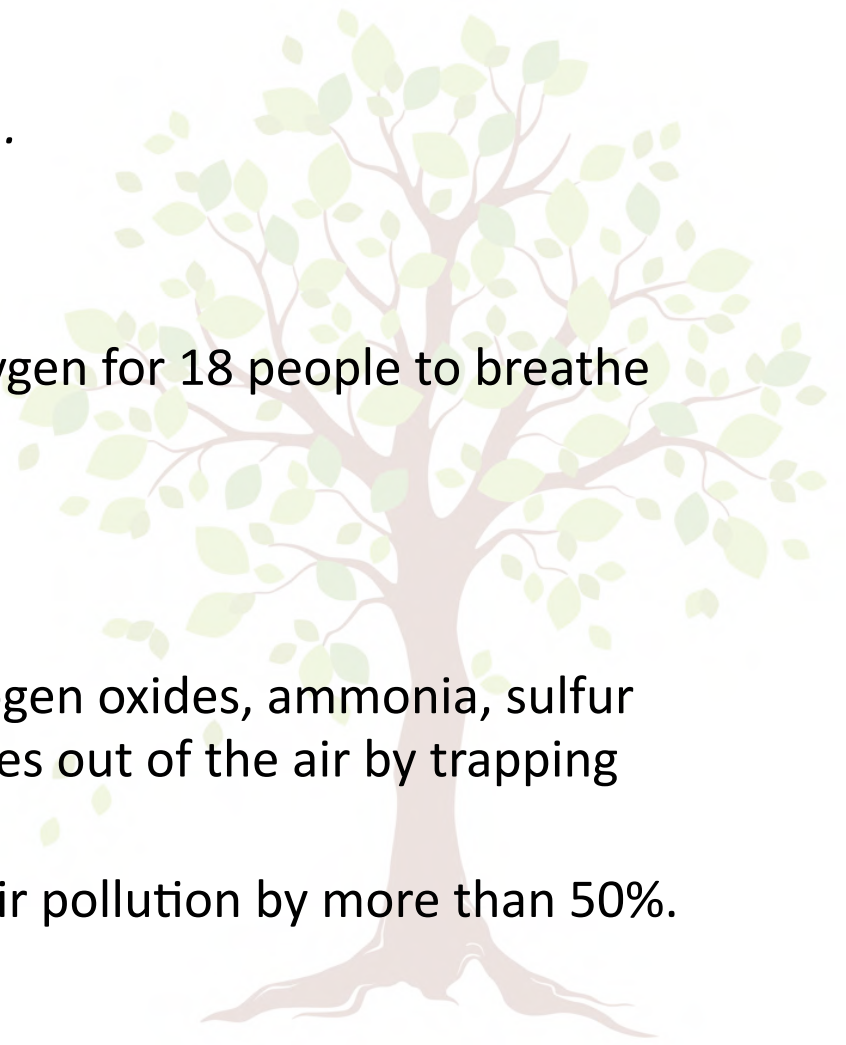
Just a few of the many benefits of trees...

TREES PROVIDE OXYGEN

- One acre of trees produces enough oxygen for 18 people to breathe for a year.

TREES CLEAN THE AIR

- Trees absorb odors and pollution (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.
- Roadside trees reduce nearby indoor air pollution by more than 50%.



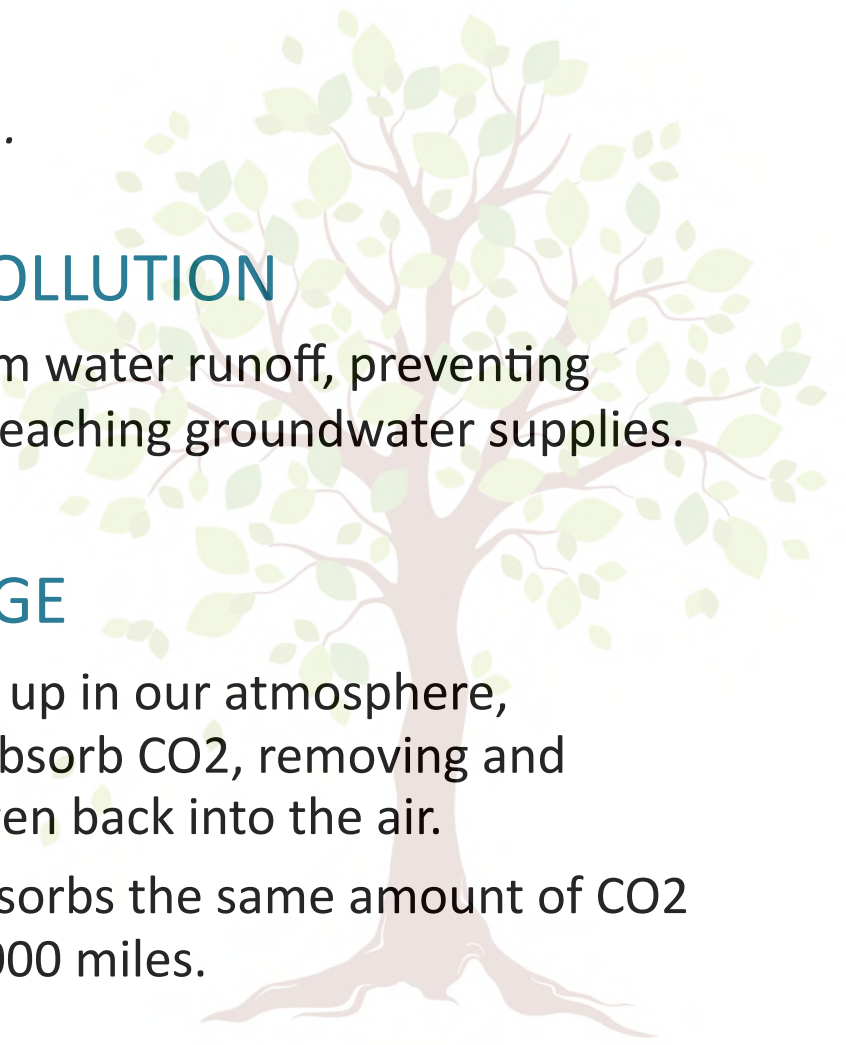
Just a few of the many benefits of trees...

TREES HELP PREVENT WATER POLLUTION

- Tree canopies and tree roots filter storm water runoff, preventing pollution like oil and gas residue from reaching groundwater supplies.

TREES COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

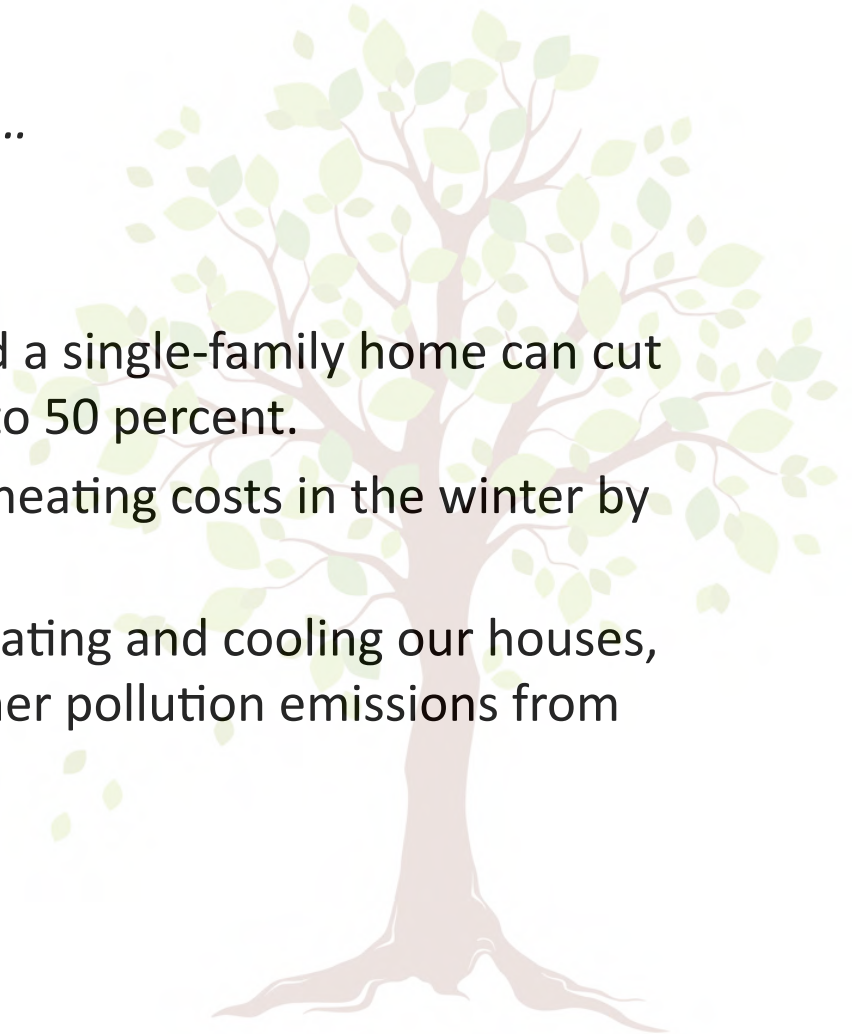
- Excess carbon dioxide (CO₂) is building up in our atmosphere, contributing to climate change. Trees absorb CO₂, removing and storing the carbon while releasing oxygen back into the air.
- In one year, an acre of mature trees absorbs the same amount of CO₂ produced when you drive your car 26,000 miles.



Just a few of the many benefits of trees...

TREES SAVE ENERGY

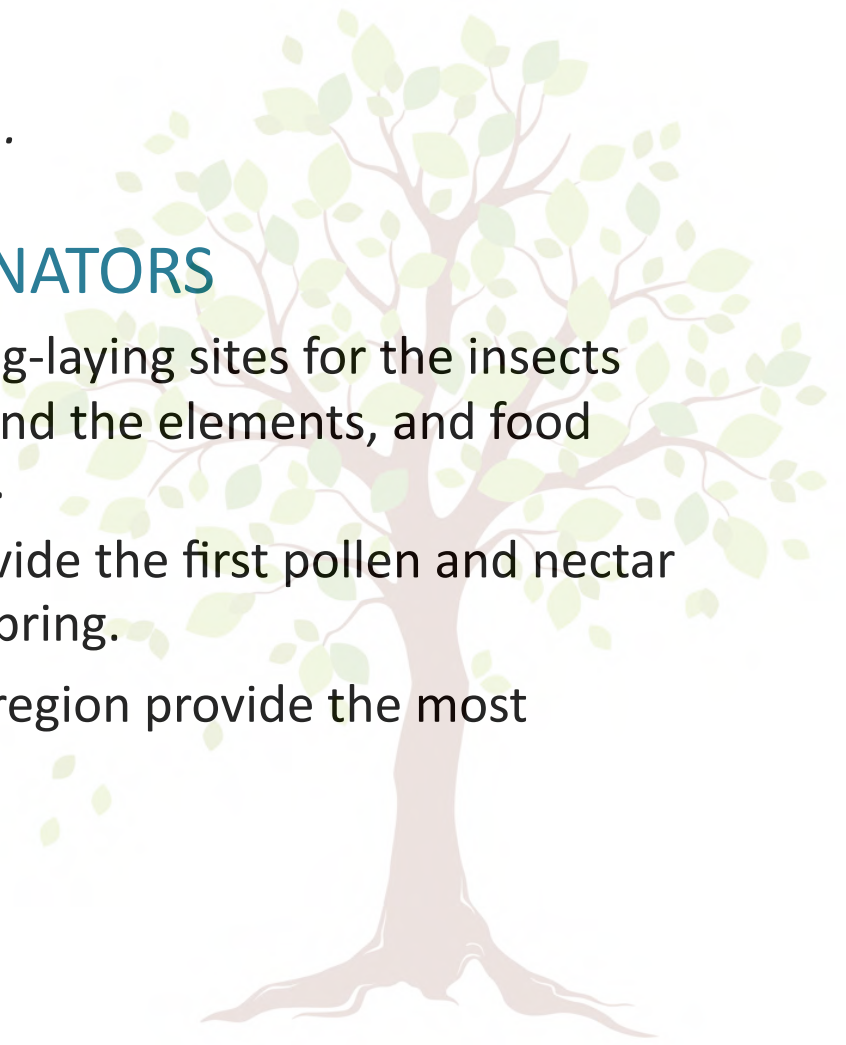
- Three trees placed strategically around a single-family home can cut summer air conditioning needs by up to 50 percent.
- Trees acting as windbreak can reduce heating costs in the winter by 10 to 30 percent.
- By reducing the energy demand for heating and cooling our houses, we also reduce carbon dioxide and other pollution emissions from power plants.



Just a few of the many benefits of trees...

TREES SUPPORT BIRDS & POLLINATORS

- Trees provide nesting sites for birds, egg-laying sites for the insects that birds eat, shelter from predators and the elements, and food sources such as leaves, nuts, and fruits.
- Early-blossoming trees like maples provide the first pollen and nectar for native bees and honeybees in the spring.
- Species of trees that are **native** to our region provide the most benefit.



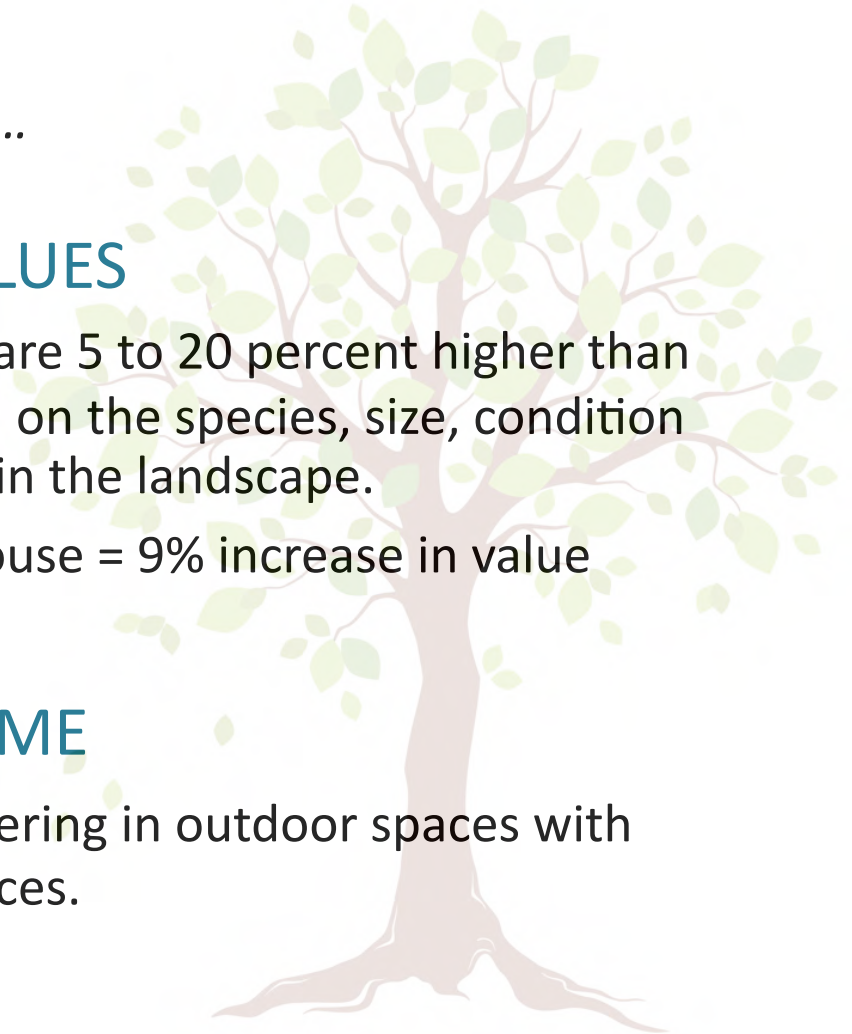
Just a few of the many benefits of trees...

TREES INCREASE PROPERTY VALUES

- Property values of landscaped homes are 5 to 20 percent higher than those of non-landscaped homes based on the species, size, condition and location of mature trees included in the landscape.
- One mature tree within 50 feet of a house = 9% increase in value

TREES HELP REDUCE PETTY CRIME

- There is less graffiti, vandalism and littering in outdoor spaces with trees than in comparable tree-less spaces.



URBAN DEFORESTATION

- Locally and nationally, we are losing mature trees faster than newly planted ones can grow.
- U.S. cities lose *36 million* trees per year.
- Nationally, when mature street trees are removed, less than 25 percent are replaced.
- Tecumseh currently doesn't have any money in its budget for tree replacement – and hasn't for many years.





- Founded in 2018 to plant trees in public areas
- Raised funds and planted 31 trees in 2019
- 2020 goal is to plant 75 trees on North Evans Street, finishing that project
- Then we'll choose our next area(s) to re-tree

- Re-Tree Tecumseh was founded in 2018 by a group of residents in response to the removal of over 50 aged & decrepit crabapple trees on North Evans Street.
- The crabapples had been planted in the 1950s and 1960s when River Acres subdivision was being built and had reached the end of their lifespan.
- The $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile North Evans Street corridor is a highly visible entrance to the city. According to MDOT, that's area's Annual Average Daily Traffic count is over 7,000.
- That figure is from 1984; it is assumed that the current figure is even higher.



- The city removed the old crabapples and ground the stumps, but there was no money in the budget to replace them.
- So Re-Tree Tecumseh stepped up and launched a fund-raising campaign to plant new trees in this area.
- RTT receives NO funding from the City of Tecumseh.
- RTT found that the 51 remaining crabapples needed extensive pruning to rejuvenate them.

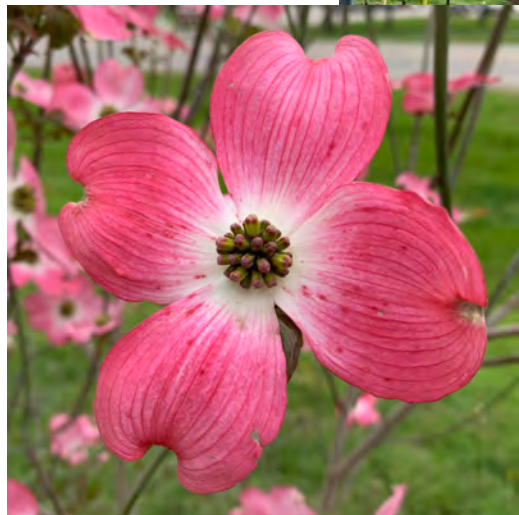
- In early 2019, RTT sponsored a two-part pruning clinic in partnership with Hidden Lake Gardens.
- A dozen volunteers learned the principles of pruning and practiced their new skills on the remaining “old” crabapples on North Evans, under the supervision of tree expert Jack Wikle and HLG director Paul Pfeiffer.



- In 2019, RTT raised enough funds to install 31 new trees on North Evans, all small flowering species like crabapple, dogwood, serviceberry, tree lilac, and star magnolia.
- More than 50 volunteers helped plant the trees on two separate work days.
- Experts from ReLeaf Michigan trained volunteers on current best practices for tree planting (releafmichigan.org)
- Karle Landscaping of Tipton donated the hole-digging. City of Tecumseh provided mulch.



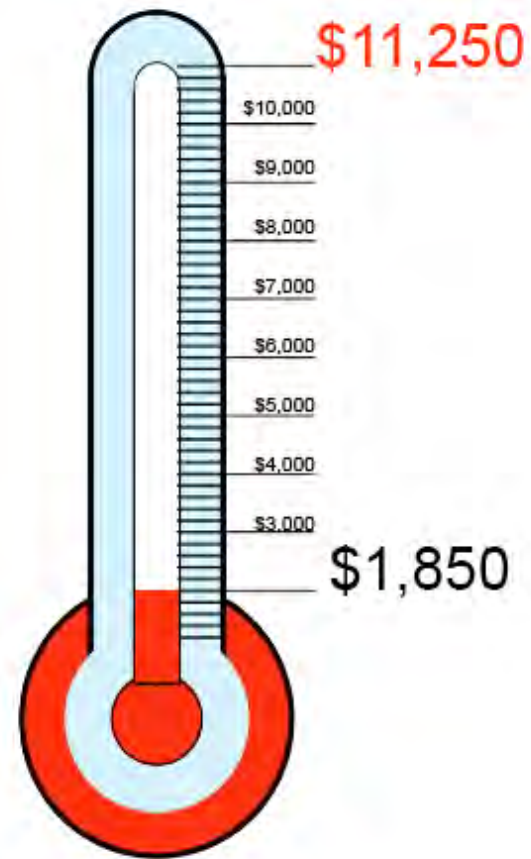
“Cherokee
Brave”
dogwoods



“Coral Burst”
crabapples



- 75 more trees are needed to complete the re-treeing of North Evans Street at an estimated cost of \$11,250.
- Re-Tree Tecumseh's #1 priority is raising the funds to complete this project in 2020.



How we'll reach that goal:

- **Grants** (do you have grant-writing experience?
Or non-profit experience?)
- **Donations** (would your employer donate, or host
a fund-raiser? Would your church or service club?)
- **Volunteers** (assist with work days and promotions.
→ You don't need to be able to physically plant a tree to help!)
- **Community partnerships** (reach out to schools,
churches, and service clubs for programs with mutual benefits)

Here are some of the things we have planned:

- “Tecumseh’s Tree Treasures” promotion
- Poster contest for high school artists
- Arbor Day event – details TBD
- Educational presentations by experts

“Tecumseh’s Tree Treasures” promotion

- Submit photos of trees in and around Tecumseh that are significant in some way
- For example, the largest of its species, the most picturesque, the most unusual or rare
- The nominated trees will be featured in a guide booklet and a walking or driving tour
- The trees will be marked with yellow ribbons during the week of Arbor Day (April 24)
- Details coming soon!



Just a few of
Tecumseh's Tree
Treasures...



Poster Contest for High School Artists

This year's theme is
“Pay it forward
– plant a tree.”

Last year's winner,
Iris Quass of Tecumseh



Save the Date: Pollinator Week Presentation

“Trees for Bees and Other Pollinators”

with Vincent Ste. Marie of Windy Rock Farm (Manchester, MI)

Thursday, June 25, 2020

6:30pm

Smith Rec Center, Tecumseh

Learn about Michigan native trees that support bees and other pollinators. Vince will have a selection of potted trees and perennial plants for sale after the presentation.

T-shirts and posters are available for purchase...





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