

SEEDS OF CHANGE



A TreeUtah Newsletter

October 2009

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Please Join TreeUtah in Thanking the Patagonia Outlet Store for their support!

TreeUtah was fortunate enough to be one of the three environmental organizations chosen by Patagonia store associates to participate in this year's Voice Your Choice campaign. The campaign was created to help community members get involved in local environmental issues and show their support for local environmental groups like TreeUtah. This was the 2nd year for the event, which allows Patagonia Store patrons to cast their ballot for who they feel should be awarded either \$2,500, \$1,500, or \$1,000 in critical funding from Patagonia. Please join with us in thanking the Patagonia folks!

TreeUtah and the Smiths Foundation Celebrate National NeighborWoods Month

TreeUtah and the Smiths Foundation came together to donate 126 trees to the Salt Lake City community. This event also served as the kick-off of TreeUtah's revamped Plant a Family Tree program, and is one of dozens of re-greening efforts throughout the country being promoted during October, which has been declared National NeighborWoods Month by Alliance for Community Trees (ACT), a national nonprofit. TreeUtah is a member of ACT's NeighborWoods Network. "It's great to be working on an important re-greening effort at a time when other organizations are doing so as well," said Kelly Washburn, TreeUtah's Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator. "Part of our goal is to draw attention to the good work being done at the grassroots level all across the country to improve urban and community forests."

The Plant a Family Tree event was a large tree giveaway. Participants signed up for their free tree on September 19th, and they were delivered on October 17th. TreeUtah selected eight species for their beauty, tolerance for our unique climate, and for their appropriateness for planting in yards and parking strips.

"Having local organizations like TreeUtah and the Smiths Foundation participate in National NeighborWoods Month helps us show the cumulative effect of a burgeoning urban and community forestry movement," said ACT Executive Director Alice Ewen Walker. Founded in 1993, the Alliance for Community Trees is a national coalition of 120 nonprofit organizations engaged in urban and community forestry. Its members are dedicated to grassroots community greening, public education, policymaking, job training, environmental design and other activities that support better urban forest stewardship.



NeighborWoods Month is sponsored through a generous grant from The Home Depot Foundation. "National NeighborWoods Month offers a unique opportunity for people to understand the contributions of trees to the health, beauty and livability of their communities," said Kelly Caffarelli, executive director of The Home Depot Foundation. "By partnering with ACT and local NeighborWoods organizations like TreeUtah, The Foundation is able to further its goals of investing in the overall health and success of our communities."

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Greetings TreeUtah supporters,

Since our last newsletter we have had a lot happening within our organization. Thanks to the good folks at the Patagonia Outlet store, TreeUtah, along with two other non-profit organizations, have been chosen to participate in the “Voice your Choice” campaign through which the organization with the most votes from their supporters, will be awarded an unrestricted \$2,500 grant.

Additionally, thanks to the Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau (SLCVB), you can now offset your carbon usage with an easy to use carbon calculator, directly from our website at www.treeutah.org or through the SLCVB’s website at www.visitsaltlake.com/visit/green/carbon_offset. The best part is that 100% of your donation goes directly to support TreeUtah plantings.

As the end of the year approaches, I want to take this opportunity to thank several people that help keep TreeUtah alive. First, it is with very mixed emotions that I share with you that TreeUtah’s Community Forestry Coordinator for the last 18 months, Kelly Washburn, will be moving on from TreeUtah to fill the position of the Southern Utah Urban and Community Forester with the State of Utah in Cedar City. We are excited for this opportunity for her, and look forward to continuing to work with her in her new position. However, this is a tre-

mendous loss to our organization. Kelly was instrumental in moving our community forestry program forward and helped to institute several new and improved projects within the program. Please help us wish Kelly the very best in her new career.

Additionally, we will be sending off our 2009 interns. Two of our AmeriCorps interns have already ventured into new opportunities: Tristan Call served as our EcoGarden Steward for the first half of the year until he moved to Nashville, Tennessee in August to earn his PhD at Vanderbilt University. Todd Murdock, who served as our Ecological Restoration Assistant until the end of September, has been hired-on full-time with the Bureau of Land Management in Moab, both of whom served critical support roles in our programs. Luckily, Jona Gerlach, our Community Forestry Assistant will be with us until December. Jona joined our team in mid-July and has done a wonderful job helping us further develop our community forestry program, assist in fundraising, and overall support of our organization. Thank you all so much for everything you have done this year!

Fortunately, due to federal stimulus funding, we were also able to gain three additional interns through the Utah Department of Workforce Services, Summer Stimulus Intern Program (SSIP). Ben Pearson was the first to join our team and worked on both our Jordan River Ecological restoration site and in our EcoGarden. He fully mapped (in amazing detail) all of our tree guilds at the garden, some of which are featured on page 5. Alexzandrea Lovato has been working with our team to help organize files, follow-up on past plantings, improve our institutional records, and more. Wendy Madrid has taken on the daunting task of EcoGarden maintenance. With the departure of Tristan in early August, the garden had several months of growing season, and without Wendy’s help we would have

lost months of momentum that Tristan had been working diligently to build. All three of these interns were provided to us free of charge, and have done an amazing job helping support our organization.

Just as we couldn’t do any of this amazing work without our team, we equally need **your** support. In the next couple of weeks you will be receiving our annual membership drive letter asking you to join or to renew your TreeUtah membership. Like many, TreeUtah has been severely hit by the downturn in the economy and while we realize that times are tough for many, we cannot express how imperative these funds are to our organization. Your donation helps support the critical work that we perform all year long. So please do not hesitate. Contribute what you can to help TreeUtah continue its vital mission!

One last reminder, as we head towards winter, please do not forget about your trees. Though trees in our climate go dormant, they still require some care. If we happen to have a dry winter, many trees will still require water to thrive come spring and summer. Alternatively, we must always prepare for the heavy snows that can break limbs off and severely damage trees, which is almost always preventable with proper pruning. The best time to prune the majority of Utah’s landscape trees is after they have dropped their leaves. If you don’t feel up to the task, you can hire a certified arborist that has been trained in the best techniques for the long-term health of your trees. A list can be found at www.utahurbanforest.org/certified.html.

Thank you all,
Jeff Ward
Executive Director

TREEUTAH THANKS ROB HUGHES

Art Warsoff Past Board President

Rob helped guide TreeUtah by providing overall strategic guidance and direction and allowing the staff to deal with day to day issues. Under his leadership TreeUtah increased community partnerships and solidified their financial position. He was a pleasure to work with.

Jeff Ward Executive Director

Rob was serving as Board President when I joined the TreeUtah team over three years ago, and through his guidance on the Board of Directors and dedication to our program, Rob was a tremendous asset to TreeUtah. I would like to thank Rob, not only for his selfless service to our organization, but on behalf of all of the people's lives that were impacted by TreeUtah efforts while Rob was at the helm of the Board of Directors. TreeUtah will miss Rob's vision for the future, legal expertise, and

sense of humor. We are extremely grateful for his years of service on our Board of Directors.

Laura Warnock Carrera Board President

When I was taking over as Board President of TreeUtah, I was doing so after a great example of how to lead. Rob Hughes was President before me. He showed me that no matter what your background or experience in leading a board, you can step up, rise to the challenge and succeed in leadership. Rob took his responsibility seriously and worked to improve the strength of TreeUtah. Rob helped lead the Board through an Executive Director search and improved the bylaws and contracts under which TreeUtah acts. These are just a couple of the many ways in which Rob left a lasting impression on TreeUtah.

Thank you Rob for all you have done for TreeUtah, the advice you have given to me, and the example you have been for all of us.

COMMUNITY EFFORTS PRESERVE THE URBAN FOREST AT TROLLEY SQUARE

In response to community concerns about the loss of urban forest at historic Trolley Square during its renovation process, representatives from Trolley Square formed a partnership with the community to steward the trees located on its property. For the past three years, plans have been in the works to try to preserve as many of the trees as possible or to find new homes for the trees being excavated. They have partnered

with Taylor Tree and Wind River Excavation who are donating their services to remove the 30 year old trees and relocate them to suitable locations within the community or to a tree farm until they have a home. Trolley Square also plans to replenish the urban forest on the site by planting new trees in the landscape next spring.

Esther Hunter, chair of the University Neighborhood Council, Trolley Square Management, Salt Lake City Urban Forestry, Salt Lake City Parks Department, TreeUtah, and others have played vital advocacy roles in the preservation efforts.

You can see three Trolley Square trees that have been relocated to the median on 600 East, between 400 and 500 South.



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DWS Summer Stimulus Interns:
Alexandrea Lovato
Wendy Madrid

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TREEUTAH RECEIVES RECOGNITION FOR NATIONAL NEIGHBORWOODS MONTH

By Natalie Dicou. Reprinted with permission from the Salt Lake Tribune

"Bob" and "Luigi" arrived at their new home Wednesday at Salt Lake City's Meadowlark Elementary School. Both received an enthusiastic greeting from students.

"Bob" and "Luigi" are freshly planted Ginkgo biloba trees. They were planted, along with six other trees -- each has been named -- by West High junior Tanner McIntire with help from Tree Utah, a nonprofit organization dedicated to "urban reforestation." McIntire, a former Meadowlark student, organized the project to earn his Eagle Scout certification. "I went to school here when I was little, and we didn't really have any trees around," Tanner said. "It was just one of those projects that helps out not only the school but the community."

Because of past problems with plant theft, the school decided to plant eight trees -- one for each grade -- so students feel ownership of their grade's tree. "We have had some theft in the past," said Principal Mike Sadler. "There's been a little bit of frustration [because] the district has come and planted some things, and other classes have planted

some things, and then they've been stolen the next day."

It's been disappointing for Donna McIntire, Tanner's mother, who has worked on the school's community council for the past decade.

"We'd had people drive in at night and yank [plants]," McIntire said. "Our whole idea was if each grade has its own tree, [students are] going to be protective of that tree. ... The hope is that its going to grow." Naming the trees helps drive the point of ownership home. Third-graders selected "Bob" over Woody, Weewee and Third-Grade Tree, while second-graders went with "Luigi." "In elementary schools, Bob is a very common tree name," said Tree Utah's Kelly Washburn.

To earn money for the project, Tanner submitted a grant proposal to Tree Utah. The organization, which granted Tanner \$1,500, offers "cost-share grants," which require recipients to work off the gift through labor. Volunteers earn \$22 an hour toward the grant.

"The kids are really going to like it, the teachers and parents," Tanner said. "It gives them a better school, I guess."

Two representatives from Tree Utah were on hand Wednesday at Meadowlark Elementary, located at 497 N. Morton Drive, for the



Third-graders at Meadowlark Elementary stand back to admire a Ginkgo tree they just planted on school property Oct. 7. Each student took a turn shoveling soil to help plant the tree which the class later named "Bob." There were several trees planted on the school yard with help of nonprofit organization TreeUtah as part of the national NeighborWoods campaign. Throughout October, re-greening efforts will take place throughout the country. Meadowlark Elementary is one of six schools in the state participating. (Al Hartmann / The Salt Lake Tribune)



Simote Tuifua, 9, a third-grader at Meadowlark Elementary, throws a shovel full of soil to help plant a Ginkgo tree on the school property. (Al Hartmann / The Salt Lake Tribune)

planting ceremony. Before voting on names and actually placing the tree in its new spot, Tree Utah representatives taught the youngsters about the new trees.

Students learned about trees' benefits, such as shade and cleaning the air.

They discussed photosynthesis and about how trees serve as homes for animals.

Tanner's project happened to fall in October, which is also NeighborWoods month. NeighborWoods is an initiative sponsored by the Alliance for Community Trees and the Home Depot Foundation.

"All across the country there are a lot of tree-planting projects going on in October in order to celebrate and highlight the importance of urban forestry," Washburn said.

Says Sadler, "We'll have a little more shade and a little more greenery. ... It's a nice situation for the school and for the community."

ndicou@sltrib.com

WELCOME NEW AMERICORPS INTERN



Jona Gerlach
Statewide Urban and Community Forestry Assistant

Wagner (leiser): Es wird ein Mensch gemacht.
 -Goethe, Faust II

“Whence,” as James Joyce wrote, “it is a slopperish matter, given the wet and low visibility... to idendifine the individuone,” I’ll nonetheless attempt an introduction.

I was born and made in Utah through the unique gamut of growing pains afforded to young people who tend to fall slightly outside the fold. As a child I spent most of my time in my imagination, an activity that led to a love of books which continued on into my studies as an English major at the University of Utah. As a young man I began to break out of my own world a bit to appreciate the stunning diversity of our landscapes, the stark difference between fresh (and freshly prepared)

food and the strange substances they sell in stores, and how much nicer it is to walk and ride your bike to where you need to go. This led to an extracurricular fascination with sustainable agriculture, which has led me halfway across the world twice, each time landing me back here, each time more impressed with This Place from which I come. I came to TreeUtah with a desire to help in some way transform our cities from wasteful, disconnected sprawl to beautiful, productive, close-knit communities. I’ve learned much in my time here, and with so much more to learn I find myself ready and excited to see where this road takes me.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO FORMER AMERICORPS STAFF

I would like to thank everyone at Tree Utah. My time here has been excellent. I am grateful that I was able to spend time at the restoration site as well as the EcoGarden. I have learned a great deal while working with Tree Utah staff and I hope to take everything that I have learned and put it to practice in the future. I am leaving Salt Lake City and heading south to start working with the BLM in Moab. I am excited for the change but will deeply miss Salt Lake City and especially Tree Utah folks. Thanks to everyone for your time, friendship, patience, advice, books and jam.

Adios,
Todd Murdock
Former AmeriCorps Ecological Restoration Specialist



Tristan Call
Former EcoGarden Steward

It was difficult to uproot myself just before the bulk of the harvest at the EcoGarden ripened, but I loaded up everything I couldn't make myself donate and trekked off to Nashville, Tennessee, to start graduate school.

I'm volunteering in the Vanderbilt campus greenhouse and taking classes on K'iche' language and political reconstructions of history- and longing for afternoons watching the coots on the Jordan River after a day of repairing irrigation and tending elderberries.

I'm trying to stay engaged with Utah by writing for the online Mormon Worker newspaper and working with friends on plans for launching a new urban permaculture farm somewhere on the Wasatch Front in 2012 (if anyone has available land to donate for cultivation, let me know!). The Cumberland bio-region that Nashville is in is a stunning place (figs and mulberries and mushrooms do great here!), but I think by the time my coursework is finished I will be ready to return to my home, the oasis in the desert, the wetlands of Utah Lake.



ECOGARDEN WRAPS UP A FRUITFUL YEAR

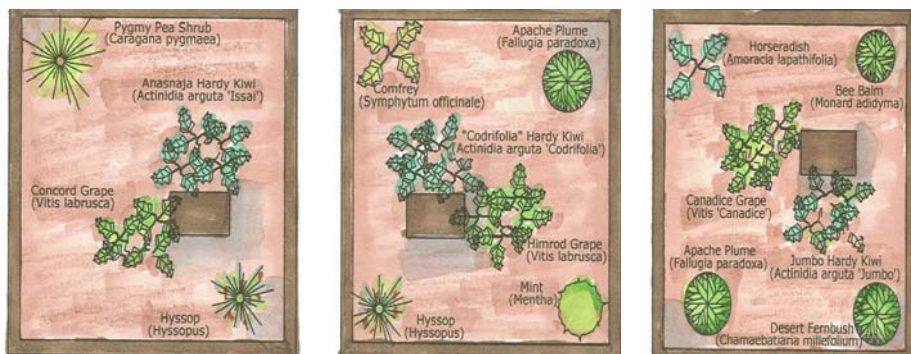
By Vaughn Lovejoy, Ecological Restoration and EcoGarden Coordinator

This year at the EcoGarden has been one of many accomplishments. Ben Pearson a summer stimulus intern produced a beautiful set of maps of the entire gardens, one map of the overall garden and one for each guild area. We are in the process of making a binder with this and the plant lists which we hope to make available for checkout at the Day-Riverside Library.

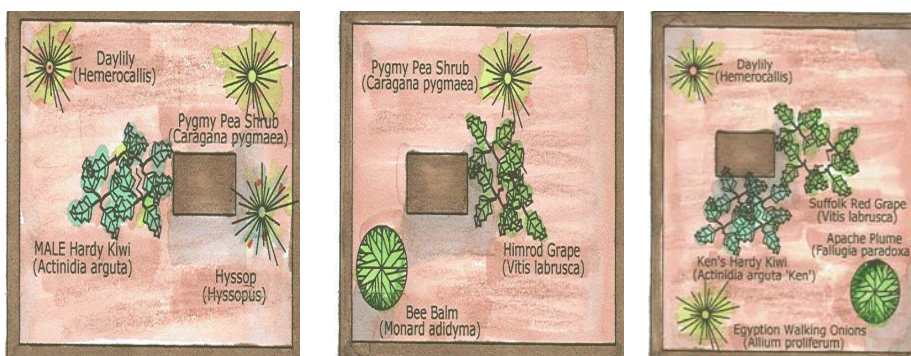
Tristan Call, Todd Murdock, Wendy Madrid and Ben Pearson built the planter boxes around the posts of the shade structure and planted grape and kiwi vines. (See sketches at right.)

Lastly, an enthusiastic group from the law firm Holland and Hart gathered to finish the floor of the shade structure and help with weeding and cleaning out the guilds.

Thanks to all the volunteers and interns who have helped over the years. The edible forest garden is blossoming into a true jewel of our community!



New Planter Boxes and Edible Vines at the EcoGarden Shade Structure



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS AND AWESOME VOLUNTEERS

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Holland and Hart

Robin Elise Call

Toni Fitzgerald

Josh Staley

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS



Ashli Murdock

Ashli has volunteered with us many times throughout this past year, whether it was the at the Jordan River restoration site, at the EcoGarden, or at a tabling events. During the Spring, Ashli was a consistently volunteering on Saturdays with large group plantings, as well as organizing plantings herself. She organized an Eagle Scout project at the site and also brought students from East High who participated in the after school program to help plant seedlings. We would like to thank Ashli for all her time and effort this past year.

Tyler Ford

TreeUtah would like to recognize Tyler Ford's outstanding volunteer work in 2009. Tyler generously donated his time, equipment and keen cinematic eye to make an instructional tree planting video, currently in post-production. Upon completion we will make this video available both on DVD and online. Thanks to his efforts, TreeUtah now has a valuable new educational tool to share with the general public for years to come. Thanks Tyler!



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

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 Great Salt Lake Audubon Society
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I ♥ Trees!

And I want to join TreeUtah!!!

Gamble Oak	\$25
Peach Leaf Willow	\$50
Fremont Cottonwood	\$100
Limber Pine	\$250
Bristlecone Pine	\$500
Other Amount	\$ _____

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TreeUtah thanks the County Council and the Zoo, Arts & Parks Program for helping to fund our programs for 2009.

SAVE THE DATE!

Community Shopping Night with Ten Thousand Villages

TreeUtah is pleased to announce that we will be partnering again with Ten Thousand Villages and their Community Shopping Night program to help raise funds for our organization. The Community Shopping Night program allows us to invite TreeUtah members and supporters into the store; Ten Thousand Villages then donates 15% of the profits from the evening back to TreeUtah. Please plan on checking off your holiday shopping list, enjoy some light refreshments, all while helping to support TreeUtah and a unique fair trade retailer of artisan-crafted home décor, personal accessories and gift items from across the globe. See you there!

Date: Thursday, December 3rd
Time: 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Address: 1941 South 1100 East
Salt Lake City, Utah
Just north of Sugarhouse Post Office
Parking available in rear of store



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