

Trees Virginia presents the  
**2021 Tree Steward Symposium**  
Standing Tall, Growing Together



Thursday, June 24 & Friday, June 25  
9am - 12 Noon

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**Day 1 · Thursday, June 24 · 9am-12 Noon**

- 9:00      **Welcome & Announcements**, Molly O’Liddy, VDOF & Martha Orton, Trees Virginia Board Member
- 9:10      **Native Tree Planting Opportunities in Urban Public Spaces – The Experience of a DC Urban Forester**,  
Alexander Grieve, Urban Forester, DC Department of Transportation  
Alex Grieve, an urban forester with the Government of the District of Columbia, in his capacity tries to plant native trees whenever possible. He will discuss which species have been most suitable in an array of environments including compacted soils, small tree boxes, urban parks, and schools. He will also describe situations in which policies or community input prevent the planting of native trees.
- 9:40      **Tracking Native Tree Plantings in Fredericksburg, Virginia**,  
Carl Little, Tree Fredericksburg Tree Stewards
- 10:00      **New & Useful Resources for Training & Continued Learning**,  
Dr. Laurie Fox, Virginia Cooperative Extension & Lara Johnson, Virginia Department of Forestry  
My Trees Count App, 2020 Revision of the Virginia Tree Steward Training Manual, & More!
- 10:30      **Roll Call of Virginia Tree Steward Groups**  
A representative from each group will share updates, accomplishments & challenges.  
Tree Fredericksburg Tree Stewards: Michael Roberson  
Richmond Tree Stewards: Dave Pohlmann  
Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards: Cathy Nepote  
Arlington/Alexandria Tree Stewards: Nora Palmatier  
Peninsula MG Tree Stewards: Carol King  
Loudoun County MG Tree Stewards: Carol Ivory  
Roanoke Tree Stewards: David Edwards  
Greater Lynchburg Tree Stewards: Shannon Brennan  
Harrisonburg Tree Stewards: Jeremy Harold  
Shenandoah Green Tree Stewards: John Kolp & Lisa Shiflett  
Virginia Beach MG Tree Stewards: Huib Keizer  
Warren County/Front Royal Tree Stewards: David Means  
Hopewell Tree Stewards: Stephanie Dayberry
- 12:00      **End of Day 1 – Optional Activity:**  
Grab your lunch and join us for ‘Zoom’ Tree Jeopardy beginning at 12:15!  
\*\*A huge ‘Thanks’ to the Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards for sharing their game with us!\*\*

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Day 2 · Friday, June 25 · 9am-12 Noon

9:00 **Welcome Back!**

9:05 **Community throughlines: Strengthening Engagement through Greenlining**

Sheri Shannon, CoFounder, Southside ReLeaf

In Richmond, the history of redlining and urban renewal has shaped the identity of neighborhoods. From pollution and waste to a lack of investment in services, the quality of life for many residents is directly impacted by decades of broken trust. Understanding this history is key to reconciliation, justice and healing. Greenlining presents an opportunity to reconnect, strengthen and build healthier communities.

10:00 **Moderated Breakout Sessions – Choose one to attend**

**Session 1: Steps in Developing a Successful Training Program**

A panel discussion on virtual engagement, hybrid classes, demonstrations, training matrices, and more!

Panelists: Anne Little, Tree Fredericksburg Tree Stewards

Carol King, Peninsula Master Gardener Tree Stewards

Tim Maywalt, Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards

**Session 2: Examples of Chapter Administration**

A panel discussion on non-profit status, insurance, organizational structure, and more!

Panelists: Nora Palmatier, Arlington/Alexandria Tree Stewards

Dave Pohlmann, Richmond Tree Stewards

Barbara White, Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards

10:40 **Recruiting & Retaining Volunteers**

Successful ways groups engage volunteers make a larger difference in their communities.

Panelists: David Edwards, Roanoke Tree Stewards

Lili Watkins, Tree Fredericksburg Tree Stewards

Melody Hotek, Warren County/Front Royal Tree Stewards

11:20 **Reconnecting Trees to Soils in Our Landscape**

Dr. Christopher Fields-Johnson, Technical Advisor, Davey Institute

Growing trees in the urban landscape brings unique challenges, especially with managing soil conditions. This presentation will explore ways to evaluate and correct common problems with soils such as compaction, drainage, low organic matter, salts, and pH being out of the optimal ranges. A variety of amendment materials, such as compost and biochar, and application methods, such as liquid injections and air tools, will be discussed.

12:00 **Conclusion of the Tree Steward Symposium**