

# FINDLAY SHADE TREE COMMISSION

## 2020 Annual Report

January 2021

To Mayor Christina Muryn, Findlay City Council, and Area Residents.....

Thanks to all of you for your continuing support to make Findlay's Tree Program a success. This Annual Report gives an overview of progress in 2020.

Last year was a challenge due to COVID-19. Most of our Shade Tree Commission meetings were held virtually which worked reasonably well.

Ohio's Urban Forestry Conference went virtual in 2020. Findlay Tree Commission members participated in it. It took place on September 9, 16, 17, and 23, 2020. The speakers included: Dr. David Nowak, USDA Forest Service; Dr. Nicole Cavender, The Morton Arboretum; Dr. Theresa Culley, University of Cincinnati; Dr. Kathleen Knight, Dr. Jennifer Koch, Dr. Cornelia Pinchot and Dr. Charles Flower, USDA Forest Service; Roy Montan, Davy Tree Experts; Dr. Bill Fountain, University of Kentucky; Sara Anderson, American Forest; and Alan Wiewert, ODNR, Division. The topics included: A New Method to Compensate for Tree Loss: How Many Trees Do You Owe Me, The Future of Urban Forestry, Urban Forestry through Partnership: Programs and Opportunities with The Morton Arboretum and Other Botanical Gardens, Escape from the Garden: How Callery Pear Has Moved into Our Natural Areas and What We Can Now Do About It, Managing Impacts of Emerald Ash Borer: Progress on Resistant Trees and Insecticide Treatment, Restoring American Elm to Urban Forests, Creating a Culture of Safety, The Value and Benefits of Arborist Certification and TRAQ for Municipalities, Restoring Tree Equity for Health, Wealth and Climate Response, and What Makes a Quality Urban Forestry Program.

Ohio also piloted a virtual Tree Commission Academy starting with the freshman class in December 2020. Findlay was represented in this program.



**2020 Arbor Day Celebration at Wilson Vance School**  
Pictured: Wilson Vance School students

## 30+ years... a Tree City USA Community!

Findlay was recognized as a Tree City USA Community on December 21, 2020, through an announcement from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.



**2020 Arbor Day Celebration at Wilson Vance School**  
Pictured: Mayor Muryn, Students and Staff

## 2020 Tree Commission Highlights:

- **Trees Planted** – 20 trees were planted as a result of the various planting programs and the efforts of city staff. \$3,725.00 cost.
- **Municipal Staff Dollars Spent** – Findlay City staff spent \$186,608.00 total on tree related work including planting, pruning and removing trees. Wood and leaf residual processing was also included in these figures. Staff support of the Shade Tree Commission efforts was also an expense.
- **“NeighborWoods”** - This special program was again held along two fronts on Saturday, October 10, 2020. The program was held in the Winter Woods and Stonehill neighborhoods. There were 7 trees planted.
- **Adopt A Tree** – Findlay residents took advantage of this program to plant 11 trees throughout the city with tree pickup taking place on October 10, 2020.
- **Findlay's 2020 Arbor Day Program** – Arbor Day was held at Wilson Vance School on Friday, October 9, 2020.
- **Volunteer Hours** – 160 volunteer hours were logged in 2020. Over 20 volunteers assisted various tree projects and programs city-wide with an in-kind donated value of \$4,740.48 to Findlay.
- **Community Forestry Expenditure** – In 2020 \$4.52 per capita was spent on trees and tree related items.
- **Tree Maintenance** – 174 trees were pruned at a cost of \$3,828.00 and 282 trees removed at a cost of \$115,987.00 by city staff in 2020.

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### 2021 Events Planned:

- **April 23** – Arbor Day Program
- **April 24** – Tree Care Workshop w/NeighborWoods
- **April 24** – NeighborWoods Tree Planting
- **May 6** – Tree City USA Recognition Program – Bowling Green, OH
- **Fall** – Annual Urban Forestry Conference
- **September/October TBA** – Tree Care Workshop
- **October 9** – Fall Planting Day
- **November TBA** – Young Tree Training Workshop



Pictured: Mayor Christina Muryn presenting the Arbor Day Proclamation

### Thanks to Findlay Shade Tree Commission Members

We had a great year! The Findlay Shade Tree Commission including: Ed Crawford, Brian Bauman, Barb Sherman, Ben Dolan, Tom Mills, Jim Niemeyer, Dave Honse, AJ Copus, Jeremy Kalb and Brian Thomas provided yeomen service on behalf of Findlay's urban forest.

**Special THANKS** to Kathy Launder for coordinating Tree Commission activities and records at the Mayor's Office, Denise DeVore for general support, and Robin Schey for coordinating the Tree Commission budget at the Public Works Office.



Pictured: Certified Arborist Joe Puperi and neighborhood residents

### NeighborWoods - 2020

"NeighborWoods" encourages larger tree planting projects in areas of town where neighbors can join together to plant and care for trees as a group.

In 2020, two neighborhoods participated in NeighborWoods. The program occurred on Saturday, October 10, 2020, in the Winter Woods and Stonehill neighborhoods where seven trees were planted.

This project is the eighth of its kind in Findlay. Other Findlay neighborhoods are invited to participate in the program by contacting the Shade Tree Commission.

