



## West Lafayette Tree Friends Create Tree Sweaters

To protect newly planted trees from vandalism, the West Lafayette Tree Friends (WLTF) and other volunteers will wrap dozens of young trees with bright yarn sweaters, also known as yarn-bombing, on Wednesday, December 7th. Volunteers will meet at 5 PM in the Morton Community Center parking lot.

Signs attached to the sweaters inform passers-by that these trees matter and need protection. The signs carry messages, such as "Don't break my trunk when you get drunk," or "These trees are loved by little old ladies with knitting needles...and they're not afraid to use them," to remind people that citizens put in considerable effort to get these trees planted.

"Yarn-bombing is a fun way to get the word out that we care about these trees. In the past, we've frequently seen pedestrians reading the tags and so far-in the last few years-those trees with sweaters have not been broken," explains Beverly Shaw, West Lafayette Greenspace Administrator.

Gretchen Ely, yarbombing coordinator, adds, "Trees capture stormwater, cool the air, shade the sidewalks and beautify our community. Each one costs about \$300 so it's upsetting when one is broken. We are losing many trees to emerald ash borer so it's important to let these young trees grow."

The project is part of the WLTF's year-round work of pruning, planting, protecting and fund-raising. To volunteer to knit tree sweaters or apply them to trees, contact Gretchen Ely at [gretchen618@gmail.com](mailto:gretchen618@gmail.com).

Several enthusiastic knitters met at Nine Irish Brothers on the evening of November 9th to create colorful tree sweaters for the December 7th yarn-bombing.



## Upcoming Events

**Wed 12/7/2016 - 5pm**

Yarn bombing  
Morton Community Center  
parking lot. Join us

**Tues 12/13/2016 - WLTF**

committee - noon - WL Public  
Library. Join us!

## Donor Campaign

Did you receive our annual donation letter? The committee had a great envelope-stuffing party to get them out to you. Your support makes it possible to keep West Lafayette looking green and leafy! Thank you.



## Quick Links

To learn more about the Tree Friends, [go to our website](#)

Fun tree things for kids  
[Tree Jokes](#)  
[KidZone Science-Trees](#)

[Urban Street Tree Benefits](#)

[Learn about the emerald ash borer](#)



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## Pruning Partners At Cumberland School



West Lafayette Community School Corporation volunteer Jenny Jundos has been trying to remove dead limbs from Cumberland Elementary for quite a while now and reached out to the Tree Friends for assistance. Our Pruning Partners program matches our volunteers with businesses who need help with trees that need to be pruned. We were happy to roll up our sleeves and clear playground equipment

from nearby limbs and remove dead limbs near areas where kids and their teachers gather. The area is now safer for everyone and the kids can swing high in the sky again!

NOTE: WLTF pruned 1,384 trees this year. Thanks to all for another wonderful year of pruning!



## Approved Street Tree

Not all trees are a good fit to be "street trees". A list of approved trees as well as landscape trees for yards can be found on the city website by [clicking here](#). This is another example of an approved street tree.



### Ironwood

*Ostrya Virginiana*

Ht: 30' Width: 10'

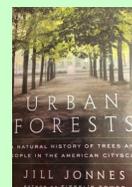
The name Ironwood refers to the great strength of the wood which was highly prized for tool handles  
Distinctive, somewhat flaky bark  
Deciduous...full or partial shade  
Fall foliage color: orange

## Ash Tree Removal in 2016

With the ever present damage of the emerald ash borer seen across the country, West Lafayette has been working diligently on removing declining ash trees across the city. At the beginning of the year, roughly 640 ash trees still existed in West Lafayette's urban forest. During the summer months, the City has submitted a total of 335 ash trees for removal, leaving around 300 ash trees still standing. Some of the larger ash tree removal projects that have happened this year include the removal of 108 ash trees along Sagamore Parkway and over 100 ash trees within the neighborhood of University Farms! New trees along Sagamore Parkway will be planted to replace the removed ash trees in two phases, fall of 2016 and spring of 2017, to keep our urban forest growing!

If you have a declining ash tree within the city's right of way or information on treating your ash trees, give the Department of Development a call at 765-775-5160 or email the West Lafayette Tree Friends at [city@wltreefriends.org](mailto:city@wltreefriends.org).

## New book on Urban Forests



by  
Jill Jonnes

More information about this book is available on the [Tree Friends website](#)

## Founder's Day Celebration

On a beautiful fall morning, WLTF and

members of the community honored our founder, Helen Lilich, with the planting of a hackberry tree, an addition to the Tree Trial's 32 trees along Kalberer/Yeager Roads.



A

Vice-chair Lynn Layden, Roger Shaw, Greenspace Administrator Bev Shaw and WL city clerk Sana Booker

Little Free Library box, designed by Roger Shaw, found its new home on Kalberer near Yeager. Stop by to borrow, read, or exchange books (some of them tree related), initially donated by West Lafayette Library, as well as pick up our brochure describing our tree trial plantings. We will remind you again in the spring!

Sonja Margerum was also recognized for her foresight in the planting of abundant trees in West Lafayette, continuing Helen's vision and passion. We are indeed fortunate to enjoy the benefits of a truly beautiful urban forest.



Urban Forestry intern, Bryce Patz, Director of the WL Public Library, Nick Schenkel, creator of the Little Free Library box, Roger Shaw, and Director of WL Parks, Jon Munn



**TRIBUTE TREES**  
 ... show your appreciation for someone and make a meaningful contribution to the health and beauty of West Lafayette!

[For more information](#)



Fall colors are here!



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**