

T.R.E.E. Inc. Historic Highlights 1983-2013

The Tampa Bay Reforestation and Environmental Effort, Inc. ("T.R.E.E. Inc.") was founded under Florida law on February 1983. Since that time it has conducted over 400 tree planting projects in 15 Florida communities utilizing over 26,290 trees with an estimated 2,000 volunteers.

Attached is a condensed summary of this organization's accomplishments over the past 30 years.

February 8, 1983: Incorporated under Florida law.

May 7, 1983: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s first official planting occurs at Ozona Elementary School in Palm Harbor, Florida..

November 17, 1984: In order to replace freeze damaged Australian Pines at Picnic Island Park in Tampa, 278 3-gallon North Florida Slash Pines are planted..

October 1985: A 10-year program to establish an educational arboretum at the Hillsborough County Agricultural Extension Services offices grounds in Seffner begins with the planting of native trees.

October 1985: T.R.E.E. Inc. begins its relationship with the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa starting with the planting of 45 3-gallon North Florida Slash Pines and White Flowering Dogwoods.

January 25, 1986: 90 volunteers planted 532 trees at the I-75/I-4 interchange in Hillsborough County at the first "*T.R.E.E. Day on I-75*" event in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation. This event was held annually on the day after Florida Arbor Day for ten years and resulted in the planting of 4,500 trees utilizing over 400 volunteers.

August 4 and 14, 1987: Trees are donated to Harry P. Leu Gardens and Walt Disney World in Orlando.

August 1987: "*Recommended Design Guidelines for the I-75 Bypass*" is created. The document was prepared by T.R.E.E. Inc. for the Florida Department of Transportation and Tampa Parkway Association.. Assistance was provided by the University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture, Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Pinellas Chapter of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association, Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers Association, and University of South Florida Department of Biology.

February 10, 1990: T.R.E.E. Inc. conducts its first major planting outside of the Tampa Bay area by assisting Arbor Green with the volunteer planting of trees in downtown Tallahassee.

October 6, 1990: 150 trees were planted at the Clearwater campus of Honeywell Corporation, T.R.E.E. Inc.'s first major planting not to occur on public land.

August 30, 1992: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s first Sunshine Skyway project is initiated through the planting of native trees and marsh and dune grasses.

September 16, 1992: T.R.E.E. Inc. donates 170 trees to the Cockroach Bay Alliance in Ruskin, Florida, beginning a 15 year relationship with the Hillsborough County Resource Management Department.

October 27, 1992: 5 3-gallon Tulip Poplars are planted at Howard A. Kelly Park in Apopka, Florida which in essence begins the *"Tulip Poplar Repopulation Program, Orange and Seminole Counties, Florida"* initiative.

February 6, 1993: 650 trees were planted over two days at the *"Palm Lake Beautification Project Phase 1"* in Dunedin, Florida at Palm Lake Village, a public housing complex in association with the Pinellas County Housing Authority and the City of Dunedin.

February 11, 1995: 602 trees were planted at the Gunn Highway - Busch Boulevard /N. Dale Mabry Highway interchange in Carrollwood., Florida in association with the Hillsborough County Beautification Council.

November 23, 1996: 22 trees are planted at the Museum of Science and Industry ("M.O.S.I.") in Tampa creating Hillsborough County's first *"Famous and Historic Tree Grove"*. M.O.S.I. later gave the grove the title *"Richard T. Bowers Historic Tree Grove"*.

October 16, 1999: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s final major planting of the 20th Century occurs at the Lee Roy Selmon Expressway/W. Gandy Boulevard interchange in Tampa. 294 trees were planted.

November 18, 2000: 388 trees were planted at the Pinellas Trailside Oasis in Dunedin, Florida by 60 volunteers in this first major T.R.E.E. Inc. project of the 21st Century. The project was made possible through the coordinated efforts of Pinellas County, the City of Dunedin and the Florida Department of Transportation.

September and October 2001: The first Tulip Poplars grown from seed gathered from specimens naturally occurring in Orange and Seminole Counties, Florida in the winter of 2000 are planted. On September 27th, 2 trees are planted at Al Lopez Park and 1 is planted at Purity Springs Park, both in Tampa; 5 are planted at Howard A. Kelly Park in Apopka on October 13th and 5 are planted at Mead Botanical Gardens in Winter Park on October 26th. This series of plantings would begin a new chapter in the *"Tulip Poplar Repopulation Program, Orange and Seminole Counties"* initiative, by utilizing trees grown only from East Central Florida seed sources.

November 9, 2002: 627 trees were planted at the *"T.R.E.E. Inc. 20th Anniversary Planting"* at the I-4/County Line Road interchange and at an I-4 storm water pond at Eureka Springs Road, both in Hillsborough County.

December 23, 2003: 178 3-gallon Slash Pines are planted at the Town N Country Greenways Trail in Hillsborough County in association with the Town N Country Home Owners Civic Association, the Town N Country Youth Council and the Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Department.

May 23, 2005: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s 200th planting occurred on the grounds of the Maison et Jardin restaurant in Altamonte Springs. T.R.E.E. Inc. President William Moriarty and restaurant owner Bill Beuret planted a 15-gallon East Central Florida Eco-Type Tulip Poplar.

September 24, 2005: The first planting sponsored by Esurance, the on-line auto insurance company, occurs at 6 parks in St. Pete Beach, Florida in the *"Esurance St. Pete Beach Tree Athalon"* project.

January 21, 2006: A partnership with the City of Temple Terrace and the Temple Terrace Preservation Society results in the initiation of the “*Longleaf Pine Repopulation Program*” . 500 bare root Longleaf Pine seedlings are given away to city residents for Florida Arbor Day.

May 19, 2006: 55 3-gallon Baldcypresses are planted at the Venice, Florida campus of Manatee Community College.

February 17, 2007: With the approval of the Florida Parks Service, T.R.E.E. Inc. joins forces with the Egmont Key Alliance to conduct its first “offshore” planting at Egmont Key in Hillsborough County. In this first “*Egmont Key Reforestation Initiative*” project, 182 native trees were planted.

February 9, 2008: T.R.E.E. Inc. celebrates its 25th birthday at the “*T.R.E.E. Inc. Silver Anniversary Tree Planting Project*” at Little Bayou Park in St. Petersburg. 158 trees are planted also due to the efforts of the City of St. Petersburg, environmental activist Ray Wunderlich III and the Greater Pinellas Point Civic Association.

November 9, 2008 - February 24, 2009: T.R.E.E., Inc. assisted the National Football League (“N.F.L.”) Environmental Program with technical assistance, volunteers and planning for Super Bowl XLIII held in Tampa on February 1, 2009. In this tree planting initiative, plantings occurred at the following 18 locations utilizing 30 native varieties and 1 non-native variety of trees and 58 community partnering organizations, with an emphasis on the natural and man-made history on the Tampa Bay watershed:

1. *Egmont Key State Park, Hillsborough County: November 9, 2008*
2. *McKay Creek, Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Service, Largo: December 11, 2008*
3. *Ellis-Methvin/Plant City Tennis Center, Plant City: December 16, 2008 & and January 10, 2009*
4. *Terra Ceia State Preserve, Manatee County: December 16, 2008*
5. *Alligator Lake Management Area, Pinellas County: December 16, 2008*
6. *Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa: January 10, 2009*
7. *Stewart Middle School, Tampa: January 13, 2009*
8. *Mort Elementary School, Lutz: January 13, 2009*
9. *Lake Vista Park, St. Petersburg: January 16, 2009*
10. *Tampa Riverwalk, Tampa: January 16, 2009*
11. *Weaver Park, Dunedin: January 17, 2009*
12. *Science Center of Pinellas County, St. Petersburg: January 23, 2009*
13. *Campbell Elementary School, St. Petersburg: January 23, 2009*
14. *Shorecrest Preparatory School, St. Petersburg: January 27, 2009*
15. *Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, Tampa: January 30, 2009*
16. *Boyd Hill Nature Preserve, St. Petersburg: February 7, 2009*
17. *Cliff Stevens Park, Clearwater: February 14, 2009*
18. *R.E. Olds and Sheffield Parks, Oldsmar: February 24, 2009*

April 22 - April 24, 2009: T.R.E.E. Inc. created for the N.F.L. Environmental Program a concept of linking Super Bowl host cities together through the planting of trees. Called the “*Super Bowl Trail of Trees*” initiative, the Florida Division of Forestry assisted by providing planting locations. South Florida Slash Pine (*Pinus elliottii* var. “*densa*”) was chosen as the tree for this project and used at the following 7 locations between 2009 Super Bowl XLIII host city Tampa and 2010 Super Bowl XLIV host city Miami:

1. *River Tower Park, Tampa*
2. *Lake Bonny Park, Lakeland*
3. *Patterson Triangle, Sebring*
4. *Torry Island, Belle Glade*
5. *Gaines Park, West Palm Beach*
6. *Stranahan Park, Ft. Lauderdale*
7. *Norwood Elementary School, Miami Gardens*

November 11, 2010: T.R.E.E. Inc. created a list of recommended flowering, conifer, hardwood and salt tolerant trees for the City of Dunedin's proposed Trailside Oasis Arboretum. On October 15, 2011, the first major installation of the Arboretum was made possible by T.R.E.E, Inc. through the "*Esurance Dunedin Trailside Oasis Arboretum Planting Project*".

July 1, 2012: T.R.E.E. Inc. assisted in the installation of a public community garden at Boyd Hill Nature Preserve in St. Petersburg.

July 14, 2012: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s 400th planting project occurred with the planting of a Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) at the University of Florida's Teaching Garden at the Plant City campus of Hillsborough Community College.

October 15, 2012: T.R.E.E. Inc. coordinates a "Scottie's Trees Rock" planting event at Pepin Academies in Tampa.

February 9, 2013: T.R.E.E. Inc.'s Green Anniversary planting at Serena Park in Temple Terrace occurs one day after the organization's 30th birthday.

Thanks for the Memories!

On February 8, 1983, the Tampa Bay Reforestation and Environmental Effort, Inc. ("TREE Inc.") was officially created under Florida law. Since that time TREE Inc. has planted over 26,290 trees utilizing over 2,000 volunteers from dozens of private and public organizations and agencies.

Although we wish we could name and recognize all 2,000 of these volunteers for their wonderful efforts on our behalf, we wish to give a particular thanks to the following people who made significant contributions to the 30-year history of our organization.

Creation: February 8, 1983

Nancy Buckley; Greg Howe; Will Moor (William Moriarty); Bob Scheible; Greg Van Stavern

Infancy: 0-5 Years: February 8, 1983-February 8, 1988

Kathy Beck; John Blechschmidt; Michael Braddy; Cliff Brown; Sydney Park Brown; Kathy Caffentzis; J. Michael Callahan, RLA; Fran Davin; Bob Der; Ross J. Ferlita; Patricia Fesmire; Steve Graham; Hugh Gramling; Bob Grimsley; Eileen Hart; Gary Henry, RLA; Michael Kenton; Denis Lebrun; Brightman Logan; Sandra Nicolette; Jon Peckett; John Sklarsic; Herrick Smith, FASLA; Dr. Richard P. Wunderlin

Childhood: 5-12 Years: February 8, 1988-February 8, 1995

Richard Bailey; Brian Bennett, P.E.; Larry Boone, P.E.; Sheryl Bowman; Debbie Butts; Patricia Carver; Patricia Chellman; David Chestnut; Arthur DeWitt; Alice Earle; Evan Earle, Dr. Sylvia Earle; Stephen Ellett; Art Finn; David Fountain; Tom Haxby; Mary Kelley Hoppe; Harvey Hunt, P.E.; Bill Jonson; Barbara Kinney; Carolyn Kordecki; Mark McClure and Family; Rik McNeill; Dean S. Robinson; George Steele; Rick Strickland; John and Anne Von Gunten; Barbara Waddell; Sally Was

Teenage: 12-19 Years: February 8, 1995-February 8, 2002

Autumn Eve Balthazar; Nolan Canova; Karen Cashon; Rob Gamester; John Holland; Mike Kempton; Lee Mackin

Early Adulthood: 19-25 years: February 8, 2002-February 8, 2008

Dana Carver; Patricia DePlasco; Christopher Gandeas; Joanne Lee; Jennifer Thompson Logan; Jennifer Moore; Tami Cody Nicholas; Emily Panos; Jim Quinn; Grant Rimbey; Tom Watson; Ray Wunderlich

Adulthood: 25-30 Years: February 8, 2008-February 8, 2013

Otilia Canter; Anne Fidanzato; Caitlin Gambee; Vickie Gitzen; Jack Groh; Tim Kurtz; Charlie Marcus; Ninja Monkey; Gustavo Perez; Lynn Rives