



WTB Meetings are the first Wednesday of each Month at 3:30pm at the Ohio County Public Library.

This meeting: Wednesday, March 4th, 2026

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 1st, 2026

Please attend in person if you can, if you cannot, please let us know before the meeting and we will open the 2026 zoom link below. If you do not let us know the zoom will not be open.

<https://wvu.zoom.us/j/92413619042?pwd=TqcAdcxYe62IAkLeu9RgEjwI3KG6ZG.1>

Meeting ID: 924 1361 9042 Passcode: jfpSwg88

Email us at: treeboard@wheelingwv.gov

1. Minutes from last meeting
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Ongoing Business
 - a. USFS Grant update
 - i. LaRoche has finished on the Island.
 - ii. After 2 (maybe 3?) years of strife, we have hired an intern!
 - iii. Ohio County Extension Office is moving again!
 1. Where? We don't know. When? We also don't know.
 - v. Climbing school was a success! Tomorrow, we begin the last section of our arborist training program, pesticide application.
 - b. Upcoming Community Events
4. New Business
 - a. Tree Planting Planning
 - i. 3/14 at 10 am, Wheeling Island Marina and Bridge Park – planting 8 trees with Linsly volunteers.
 - ii. 3/21 at 10:30 am, Bloch Park and Belle Isle Field – planting a tree in each park with Bethany and WLU volunteers.
 - iii. 4/10 at 10 am, Edgewood Park – Arbor Day (see below)
 - iv. 4/10 at 1pm, Garden Park - planting one tree with Corpus Christi Elementary; planting and scarifying seeds with K-2nd grade.
 - v. 4/11 at 9:30 am, Pulaski Park and 35th Street Field – Planting 3 trees with the Master Gardeners (Thanks, Mary et al!)
 - b. Grant Opportunity
 - i. 2026 Communitree Grant – stump removal within the grant area; application is on Julianne's docket.
 - c. Outreach Planning
 - i. Arbor Day 2026 – Friday, April 10th at 10 am Planning committee lead: Karen Jaunsen
 1. Location: Edgewood Park - WPC has approved; Steve to ground out remaining stump.
 2. *Celtis occidentalis* and *Diospyros virginiana* ordered from state; switch with 2 Kwanzan cherries.
 3. Has Mary gotten the mayor's signature? Did Kim contact the Fire Department?
5. Public comment/for the good of the order.

Tree Board Meeting Minutes – February 4th, 2026

Attendance: Karen Cox, Mary Suhler, Tony Assaro, Julianne Latynski, Steve Johnston, Paige Kubacka, Kim McCluskey, Karen Jaunsen (virtually), and Ryan Wilson (virtually).

Treasurer's Report: \$401.73 charge from U.S. Bank is cleared up. \$4 technical fee for January

USFS Grant updates: LaRoche Tree Service is pruning away on the island. Interviewed two intern applicants; hopefully extending an offer next week. iii. Arborist Class: chainsaw training in Jan and climbing school in Feb. Ohio County Extension Office is moving again! Lots of planting planning (see below).

Tree Planting Planning: Linsly (3/14; Marina and Bridge), WLU and Bethany College (3/21; Bloch and Belle Isle), Master Gardeners (4/11; South Wheeling), Corpus Christi School (4/10; Garden Park). Shopping list: fencing, stakes, mulch. South Wheeling sites: Pulaski Park (one black gum and one Kwanzan cherry), 35th St Ballfield (one Kwanzan cherry), 37th X Eoff *PENDING CITY APPROVAL* (a large shade tree), 37th X Water/Chapline/Rail trail *PENDING CITY APPROVAL* (a small tree), Pool *PENDING CITY APPROVAL* (installing Silva Cells and a shade tree), and Ritchie Elementary (installing Silva Cell; Juliane contacted principal). Garden Park – hackberry to replace tree removed by June 2026. Wheeling Island – 10 trees removed = 10 trees planted by 2027. Marina: 3 eastern red cedars; 4 persimmons. Bridge Park: one white oak. Belle Isle: one musclewood.

Grant Opportunity: 2025 Communitree Grant – stump removal within the grant area. Julianne to survey stumps and begin application.

Outreach Planning: Arbor Day 2026 - *Celtis occidentalis* and *Diospyros virginiana* ordered; trees will be switched with two Kwanzan cherries. Planning lead: Karen Jaunsen. Location: Edgewood Park - WPC has approved; only one sump needs ground out (Steve to do so). Mary to approach the mayor for his signature on the 2026 proclamation. Karen J. is to remove grass and dig planting holes on Thursday, April 9th, at dawn. Publicize: Ward's Facebook page, Michelle to send press release 2 weeks before event, CVB post, flyer to share on socials, ticker on city website (Michelle again). Kim to contact the fire department to water the trees. Will need to purchase mulch, fencing, and stakes.

Place for Green Waste: Mary to keep in touch with Rebecca at OCSWA. Bob recommended North Park landfill, but it is still pending EPA approval for alternative use.

Tree City USA: state approved; Federal approval pending. 2025 (excluding WPC's numbers) = \$3.98/capita, 2024 = \$5.82/capita, and 2023 = \$12.31/capita.