Lynne Flavin donated her first commemorative tree this past summer. “I was hit hard by the death of a dear friend. He lived near Highland Park and loved walking there, so planting a tree in Highland Park was a way to remember him.”

People plant trees for many reasons. Trees have marked the birth of a new baby, the spot of a marriage proposal, the loss of a loved pet and a father’s 90th birthday.

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy staff work with the donor to select a specific location within one of the parks and provide a personalized list of tree species that will benefit the park and the donor. A serviceberry tree was selected by Lynne for its colorful spring berries. It attracts birds, which Lynne’s friend loved to watch, making it the perfect option.

“My tree helps me and it keeps the parks in good shape.”  – Lynne Flavin

Lynne was so pleased, she decided to purchase another commemorative tree to benefit a different park. A Yellowwood tree, in memory of her friend’s brother, was planted in Riverview Park to aide in reforesting after losing ash trees to the emerald ash borer.

“A commemorative tree is a wonderful idea. I like that it can be done by one person or a group; as a memorial or to celebrate something. It’s a very good investment on many levels.”

VISIT PITTSBURGHPARKS.ORG/PLANT-A-TREE.

contact Harmony Hodges at hhodges@pittsburghparks.org or 412.682.7275 x240
You transform our cherished spaces

Previous year’s turf lawn, the hillside at Beacon and Bartlett streets in Schenley Park absorbed very little rainwater into the ground when it rained or snowed. As this water runoff flowed, it collected debris, waste, and salt; eroded soil; and became polluted. This happens throughout the watershed, polluting water and dumping into Panther Hollow Lake.

In 2014 the Beacon Street Meadow was created to absorb and filter stormwater. New storm sewers, piping and two infiltration trenches were installed. The existing lawn was replaced with a native grass and wildflower meadow—plants that are particularly good at absorbing water. Current monitoring indicates the meadow keeps 565,000 gallons of water out of our combined sewer system each year.

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, together with the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority, PWSA, the City of Pittsburgh and other partners, is working to bring the ailing Four Mile Run watershed back to health. A top-to-bottom long-term plan includes large-scale tree plantings, erosion control, and built green infrastructure projects. Our work includes a plan to fully restore Panther Hollow Lake.

You planted hundreds of trees in 2016

100 trees remove 53 tons of carbon dioxide and 430 pounds of other air pollutants per year. (U.S. Forest Service)

One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture)

The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture)

One hundred mature trees absorb about 139,000 gallons of rainwater per year. (U.S. Forest Service)

Then and Now: Beacon Street Meadow

Previously

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Marlene Anthony’s Grove at Anderson Playground

Raymond Anthony knew how to honor his mother’s memory. Suffering from stage four lung cancer, Marlene Anthony would drive around Wilkinsburg to pick up kids—as many as 10 at a time—to take them to Anderson Playground to play. When he asked why she went through this effort her answer was simple. “These kids need to be kids, and no one else will do it.”

Located in Schenley Park, and perhaps better known as the Dinosaur playground, Anderson Playground was the perfect place to take the neighborhood kids. “It’s a nice park with a diverse group of children. My mom believed that this was how you solved racism; playing together.”

After she passed away, Ray worked with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy to honor her memory in a special way. On planting day, Ray helped with digging holes and planting the plants. One bench, many shrubs, and 15 trees later, Marlene Anthony’s Grove at Anderson Playground was created.

“Planting the trees means that her death gave life. Life to the plants—like she gave life to me, stability of the soil to protect it from the storms of mother nature—as she gave me stability for the storms of life, and a bench so that if you are tired, you can have a comfortable place to rest and watch children play—as she did when she was with us.”

PLANT A TREE

Help restore our urban forest and donate a restoration tree to be planted by a Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy volunteer.

| $75 — One Tree |
| Other amount for the Park Tree Fund |

Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone E-mail

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy does not solicit contributions from persons or entities in states other than Pennsylvania, New York or Florida.