

Front Royal/Warren County Tree Stewards
Monthly Membership Meeting
March 23, 2026 6 PM

Stewards@treesFrontRoyal.org

1. Welcome! Let's have a TrackItForward moment.
2. Minutes Correction to add Margie Miller to the AAT committee . Minutes were approved with the one change.

Approval of minutes from February 23 meeting was unanimous.

3. Treasurer's report . Balance in the operating account is \$1,452.56. We received a refund from TrackItForward. Warren County gave us a \$2,500 check.

Discussion on the validity of a request from Justin Proctor to pay for HIS trees that ACES wants to plant (against TS advice). We are broke until our grants get approved. NO.

4. Getting organized for 2026:
 - a. Canadian Red Chokecherry will be bought by the Town of Front Royal for the Arbor Day planting ceremony on April 26th. The Mayor will read the Arbor Day declaration.
 - b. Will plant 3 birches behind the LOVE sign.
 - c. Give away trees on Arbor Day are all lined up, we are just waiting on money. Casey trees are holding them.

5. Committee Memberships:

- a. ACES Committee of Front Royal, Warren County (Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability) meets the first

Thursday of every month. Melody and Nancy are members representing Tree Stewards.

- b. Finance Committee Next meeting is April 3rd , 1:30-2:30 pm, Baxter Conference room, Library. Agenda items: Two Scholarship Awards, Clean Trees Virginia grant ideas, Invasives That Kill Trees banner creation \$, Front Royal flower baskets program, Biggest Trees in Front Royal program. Louise has been working the scholarship project, but health issues have side railed her. Nancy and Katie will take over the project. Nancy asked for suggestions to replace trees in the town and the Arboretum. And for adding trees to the canopy.

- c. Education Committee First meeting in April to coordinate speakers? Members Katie Carr, Emily Huttar, Caroly Sinclair... The State of Virginia is working on passing a law to fund communities to rid of invasives. “Which tree should I plant for Riparian buffers” is available for us to purchase. More information on invasives is available at:
 - i. Blueridgeprism.org
 - ii. Dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspdflist
 - iii. Virginia Department of Forestry

- d. Outreach Event Committee coordinates setup and tear down equipment/tent/supplies from the storage shed. Members Joan and Bill Grewe, Bill and Diane Lacy. **Let’s sign up for Arbor Day April 26th.**
 - i. Tree Giveaway Linda, John, Nancy, Pam
 - ii. TS Booth
 - 1. Bill and Joan, 0800 -1000
 - 2. 1000-1200 Andrea Lo, Vicki, Evelyn

3. 1200-2PM Ron, Roy, Margie

4. 2PM to close Margie and Andy

e. Work Session Sessions are scheduled for the first and fourth Saturdays of the month. March 28 and May2, 23rd At the Front Royal Arboretum.

6. Spirit Wear Order – last few are being created this week, handout on Saturday to sign up orders. Contact Sherri Sears directly through the chat link on her website, <https://thestitchseandbows.com/> if you fancy a different shirt color or a sunhat

7. **Taste for Books is April 25th at 6 PM.** Tickets on sale now at \$75 apiece. This year's theme is The Animal Kingdom. Silent Auction, Open Bar, Best Costume Award, and a night to visit the community and celebrate our Samuels Public Library.

The Tree Stewards are a table host featuring Stewart the Squirrel. Need people to bake hand held goodies with nuts in them, Drop off at the library main door between 4:30 and 5 PM day of the event.

Nancy Kiel, Pres., Katie Carr, Vice Pres., Vicki Althaus & Margie Miller, Treas. Joan Grewe, Sec. Melody Hotek, Pres. Emeritus, Roy Unger, Linda Bartlett, John Goodline, Emily Huttar, Andy Miller, Ron Perlik, Nancy Sabella, Andrea Lo, Pam Forshee, Carolyn Sinclair, Cheryl Crabbe, Henry Pickard, Karen Leonard, Evelyn Garland

Respectfully Submitted:
Joan Grewe, Secretary