

Front Royal/Warren County Tree Stewards
Monthly Membership Meeting
April 20, 2026, 6 PM

Stewards@treesFrontRoyal.org

1. Welcome! Let's have a TrackItForward moment.
2. Presentation by Dianne Lacy, EMG (Extension Master Gardener) on Invasive species.
3. Minutes Approval of minutes from March 23 meeting was unanimous.
4. Treasurer's report. Balance in the checking account is \$9,742.69. Savings balance is \$4,177.77.
5. Getting organized for 2026:
 - a. 2026 Events calendar and other important information is now on our website: treesfrontroyal.org. Katie Carr is the webmaster. For Facebook input contact Vicki Althaus and Andrea Lo.
 - b. 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 at 1 PM. We should be there for the photo op.
 - c. Will plant 3 birches behind the LOVE sign.
 - d. Give away trees on Arbor Day are all lined up, we are just waiting on money. Casey trees are holding them.
6. 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. Nancy will ask ACES to remind the county that the County agreed to water the newly planted trees.

- b. Executive Board/Finance Committee We are not giving the two Scholarship Awards this year due to misinformation/confusion about implementation from the Community Foundation of Northern Shenandoah Valley Board. More documentation needed from the Beautification Committee (new requirement). Two new members from Tree Stewards, TBD at the executive board meeting. Next meeting is May 15, 1:30 - 2:30. The flower basket program is on track, will begin early in May when Alan Peck lets Melody know. Nancy mentioned we will organize the Biggest Tress in Front Royal/Warren County program.
 - c. Education Committee All About Trees class begins Saturday after Labor Day, September 12th. Katie gave an update on her search for specialists to address the class.
 - d. Outreach Event Committee coordinates setup and tear down equipment/tent/supplies from the storage shed. Members Joan and Bill Grewe, **Sign up for Arbor Day April 26th. Wear your new green Tree Stewards shirt.**
 - i. Tree Giveaway Linda, John, Nancy, Pam 0800
 - ii. TS Booth Across from the Visitor Center
 - 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. May2, 23rd At the Front Royal Arboretum.
7. Spirit Wear Order —. Contact Sherri Sears directly through the chat link on her website, <https://thestitchseandbows.com/> if you fancy a different shirt color or a sunhat

8. **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.

Katie will track total hours for the new Tree Stewards. After 25 hours a name tag will be ordered. Joan will help Katie plan an appropriate ceremony.

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