

Front Royal /Warren County Tree Stewards Monthly Membership Meeting:

May 18, 2026 6-7 PM

1. Welcome! Let's have a TrackItForward moment Is everyone now receiving the Stewards emails? Able to access the minutes and finance reports on www.treesfrontroyal.org ?

2. Presentation: How to best care for trees during a drought? Ron Perlik, Arborist and member of the Tree Stewards. Burr Oak, Eastern Red Cedar, Kentucky Coffee tree, Catalpa, Northern Red Oak, Hackberry, Scotch Pine, London Plain tree are all drought tolerant trees.

3. Approval of minutes from April 20th meeting: postponed vote until next meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report The two grants from DOF Virginia Trees Clean Water fund have now been deposited! Casey Trees is going to keep the trees in the ground until planting in the fall.

Bal from March \$9,742.69

Income \$10, 625 Expenses \$9,210.64 Balance \$11,157.05 Savings \$4,178.11

5. Getting organized for 2026: 2026 Events Calendar and other important information is on our website: treesfrontroyal.org . Please visit our website and give suggestions for improvement to Katie Carr, our webmaster. We want it to be an invaluable resource for building Front Royal's tree canopy. Our Tree Steward's Facebook page is another communication tool. Please visit and link, mention in your own messages/page. Vicki Althaus and Andrea Lo are our Facebook Queens.

6. Committee News –

ACES Committee of Front Royal, Warren County (Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability) At the town and county level, we are in the process of sharing feedback about data centers. Nancy will continue to send update emails, when more specifics are known. Presently, there is a town meeting on June 22nd for a public hearing about the data center proposal.

- Executive Board/Finance Committee Meetings are scheduled for June 12th and August 14th, 1:30-2:30pm, Baxter Conference Room, Samuels Library

***Need feedback on new signage design for Happy Creek Arboretum Upcoming agenda items: Finalizing new Happy Creek Arboretum signage, update on Flower Baskets donations, DOF Virginia Trees Clean Water fund grant ideas for new fiscal

year, grant ideas for Community Foundation of Northern Shenandoah Valley fund, Invasives That Kill Trees? Handouts printed for events, Biggest Trees in Front Royal program, implementation plan/rollout timeline. Heritage Trees? Biggest Trees in Front Royal will be led by the Tree Stewards. (who??)

- Education Committee Update from Emily Huttar , all speakers have been booked. All About Trees Class begins Saturday after Labor Day, September 12th! Details on our website and the class brochure.

- Work Session and Outreach Event Committee:

Work sessions: (all dates are on the web site)

May 30th, 9-11am, Happy Creek Arboretum to plant 12 native trees and shrubs, mulch Roy, Nancy, Joan and Bill, Ron, Cheryl, Pam, Karen, Andrea, Vicki

June 27th, 9-11am, location TBA

Nancy requested members to sign up to water during the drought: Class Trees Happy Creek, Arboretum new plantings , Joan volunteered to water the Patriot Tree in Lyon's Park. No one else volunteered. Margie Miller has the key to unlock the Water at the Arboretum.

Two Outreach Events:

June 6th, Master Gardeners/Belle Grove - 7:30am-3pm June

07:30-9:30 Joan, Bill, and Nancy

9:30- 11:30 John Cermack and Andra Lo

11:30- 2 Cheryl and Vicki

2PM Originally Margie and Andy Miller, but they have since backed out for family event.

19th, Juneteenth Front Royal Gazebo- 11:30AM-3:30PM

11:30 -1:30 Diane and Bill and Joan and Vicki

1:30-3:30 Margie and Andy

7. Spirit Wear Order

Everyone should now have their green heather shirts and black vests. Let Nancy know if you don't! Please wear the shirts at the outreach events on June 6 and 19. Remember

to contact Sherri Sears directly through the chat link on her website: <https://thestitchesandbows.com/>, if you fancy a different shirt color, a sunhat, etc.

8. Discussion by Nancy about Data centers and what the Town of Front Royal and Warren County are considering. Water shortage was much discussed.

Attendees (I do not have the list)

Respectfully Submitted

Joan Grewe

Secretary