



## Spring 2018 Newsletter



### **Norwalk named Tree City USA 14 years in a row**

The National Arbor Day Foundation has designated Norwalk once again as a Tree City USA for 2017. At present, there are only 19 other towns or cities in CT that have achieved this distinction. In addition, Norwalk has received a Growth Award for the 12th consecutive year for its tree development program, a partnership of the Norwalk Tree Alliance and the Norwalk Tree Advisory Committee.



## Winter Tree Trail Walk

Rich Whitehead, arborist and NTA board member, led a group of tree enthusiasts and fellow arborists on a trail of discovery at Oak Hills Park, in February. The objective of the 1.5 mile trail walk was to learn how to identify trees without their leaves and to learn about native and invasive shrubs and plants. The well-attended trail walk was sponsored by the Oak Hills Park Nature Advisory Committee.

## Tree Alliance plants more trees in East Norwalk

For a third year, the Norwalk Tree Alliance will plant several trees in East Norwalk this spring, thanks to a grant from the Third Taxing District (TTD). The purpose of the program is to provide homeowners with free trees to beautify their neighborhood and to enhance Norwalk's urban tree canopy.

This year, the Alliance undertook a unique approach for soliciting community interest and promoting the value of trees. A media campaign in the TTD Newsletter, followed by an online "burst" to TTD customers generated over 50 entries for a drawing, held in early April. Winners of the drawing will receive a free tree, planted in their front yards in April by the Alliance.





Student artwork from Tracey Elementary School, as it prepares for Arbor Day.

## **Norwalk celebrates Arbor Day at Tracey School on April 27th**

Continuing a long-running, annual tradition, Norwalk will celebrate National Arbor Day at a public elementary school. This year the celebration will be held at Tracey Elementary School on Friday, April 27th, at 1:15 PM, rain or shine. The Norwalk Tree Alliance, partnering with the Norwalk Tree Advisory Committee and Doubletree of Norwalk, will again sponsor the event. The program will feature a proclamation from Mayor Harry Rilling, remarks by school and other officials, performances by students, poster contest prizes and the planting of a London plane tree.

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## **Norwalk Tree Alliance moves to a new home at Fodor Farm**

The NTA Board of Directors has entered in an agreement with the City of Norwalk for a long-term lease at the restored Farmhouse at Fodor Farm. The Tree Alliance will share space at The Farmhouse with three other non profit, community service groups: Norwalk Preservation Trust, Norwalk Land Trust and Live Green CT.

"This is the right move at the right time for us," noted Andrew Strauss, NTA President, in announcing the move. "We've revitalized the Alliance over the last two years and we're planning an ambitious outreach program. The facilities at Fodor Farm will afford us the location to meet and to grow. As well, it represents our close partnership with City's Public Work and Recreation & Parks Departments, and the Norwalk's Tree Advisory Committee. In a very real sense, we're already at Fodor Farm with our Tree Farm. Indeed, we're coming home at Fodor Farm."

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## Annual Open House and Hal Alvord Remembrance Day

The Norwalk Tree Alliance will welcome members, friends and their families, and interested public to our Annual Open House at Fodor Farm on Thursday evening, June 28th.

This year, before the Open House, we'll informally dedicate the Hal Alvord Tree Memorial in the front of The Farmhouse at Fodor Farm, where two red oaks will be planted, along with a stone monument in Hal's memory placed in the landscape. We look forward to visiting with Hal's family and friends. The remembrance and dedication will take place from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Immediately after, the Open House and reception will be held at The Barn, behind The Farmhouse. NTA projects will be exhibited, with refreshments served for both adults and kids.

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## Our 2018 corporate sponsors

Norwalk Tree Alliance thanks our corporate sponsors for their advice and support, including their financial contribution. For 2018, they include these leading tree care companies in our local area:

**Almstead Tree & Care**  
[almstead.com](http://almstead.com)

**Bartlett Tree Service**  
[bartlett.com](http://bartlett.com)

**The Care of Trees**  
[the care of trees.com](http://the care of trees.com)

**Gossett Brothers Nursery**

[gossettbrothers.com](http://gossettbrothers.com)

**Hutchinson Tree Care Specialists**

[hutchtree.com](http://hutchtree.com)

**Weston Arborists**

[westonarborists.com](http://westonarborists.com)

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Please join our Norwalk Tree Alliance team ... It's only \$10 to become a member! Go to [thenorwalktreealliance.com](http://thenorwalktreealliance.com)

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"Friendship is a sheltering tree"

\_\_\_Samuel Taylor Coleridge



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