

Hello Tree Friends, Notes from our April meeting follow. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 to 9:00 PM at the Grove House.

Participants:

- STC members and volunteers Joe Ascenzi, Tim Gilmour, Ed Hayes, John Kennedy, Jim Rankin, Rita Stevens, Kathy Weir
- TTFWP Executive Director: Julie Slavett

Discussion Highlights:

1. ARDSLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

We discussed progress towards enhancing forest stewardship of the 88-acre Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary

- First priority is to clean up litter and to survey and map the health of the forest and habitat
- Troop 427, Ardsley is active in routine cleanup. A recent cleanup is featured on the troop facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/troop427ardsley>. Jim Rankin is the Scoutmaster.
- Troop 48, Glenside Eagle Scout Candidate James Currie will scope a project to survey and map health of the forest and habitat, with timing spring through early fall 2015, Tim Gilmour, Jim Rankin and Glen Stevens will assist.
- Action- Rita Stevens to connect with the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association (WVWA) for assistance (Rita Stevens)
- Action- Rita Stevens, Tim Gilmour and Jim Rankin to map out interested organizations, individuals and projects

2. TOOKANY TACONY-FRANKFORD WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP (TTFWP) + ETHYL JORDAN PARK PROJECT

- Julie Slavett summarized the history and priorities of the TTFWP, which is now 10 years old and has increased planning and outreach capacity made possible by the Philadelphia Foundation and the Green City Clean Water master plan
- Julie Slavett presented highlights of current priorities related to restoring Jenkintown Creek, and provided details of three project areas- Ethyl Jordan Park, Abington Friends School and Sisters of St. Basil

- Action- STC to provide input for a tree planting project at Ethyl Jordan Park for which the Jenkintown Rotary is to raise funds and provide volunteers for planting
- Action- STC volunteers asked to direct interested individuals or organizations to the Stream Keepers program

3. LET'S TALK TREES

- We confirmed topics for this fall- September 21: Landscaping with Native Plants and October 5: Caring for Our Forest. Each will be offered at the Abington Free Library <http://abingtonfreelibrary.org/events/361>

4. ARBOR DAY PREPARATIONS

- The program is attached

 [2015 Arbor Day Flyer- added cleanup \(1\).pdf](#)

- We decided on lead roles for each of the program features
 - Opening- Rita Stevens
 - Information Table- Kathy Weir, with Rita Stevens and Diane Ehrich
 - Photography- Ray Okamoto
 - Tree Planting- Joe Ascenzi (B&B) and John Kennedy (bare root), with Jeff Pyle, Charlie Soboleski, Katheryn Hemsley and Michael Gilmour
 - Bare Root Tree Pickup- Ed Hayes (have customers check in with Kathy at the information table)
 - Tool pickup and checkout - Tim Gilmour, with Glen Stevens
 - Tool Sharpening Station, Glen Stevens, with Tim Gilmour
 - Rain Barrel Demonstration - Jennifer Sherwood
 - Stream Cleanup- Jennifer Sherwood
 - Food for Volunteers- John Kennedy and Kathy Weir
- We decided on work priorities
 1. Tree planting (assign 10 TD Bank volunteers to B&B and 5 to bare root trees)
 2. Weed, mulch and protect previously planted trees
 3. Clean up garden beds

4. Transplant oak trees from nursery (if sufficient volunteers are available)
- We coordinated bare root tree planting sites with the Friends of the Grove Dog Park
 - We detailed the logistics and materials, which Rita Stevens will capture and communicate separately