

## Year End Summary – 2025

The Tree Committee successfully executed several key projects and community outreach initiatives throughout 2025, building upon previous years' efforts:

- **Green Thumb Saturday Program:** The program was successfully led this year by TREE Committee member Tony Greep, with renewed vigor and well attended sessions. The June session included a presentation from a representative of CRTI regarding tree eco systems and tree canopy. The final program of 2025 featured a live demonstration and discussion of shrub and tree pruning during TreeShare.
- **Arbor Day Initiatives:** The annual Arbor Day Art Bag program garnered increased school participation this year, operating under the theme "Home is Where Your Tree is". Due to the positive response, the committee decided to continue the program. With the transition from Walt's ownership to Berkot's, and the uncertainty of paper bags and participation, a shift may occur to a different program in 2026. Additionally, the Arbor Day tree planting was completed at Willow School on April 26.
- **Fall TreeShare Event:** This year saw another successful TreeShare sale despite inclement weather, with 37 trees sold to residents. Most species offered in the sale sold out, and the financial accounting balanced, requiring only five minutes for reconciliation. Each year we see a continuous process and implementation improvement.
- **Website and AI Development:** The new Tree Committee landing page on the Village website is up and running, which includes the artificial intelligence functionality of "Chat GP Tree". Committee members have begun utilizing the site.
- **Community Outreach and Engagement:** The committee provided information and engaged residents at several local events:
  - The 2025 **Migratory Bird Day** event was held at the Homewood Izaak Walton, recording good attendance and featuring two informative presentations.
  - The committee managed a table at the **Public Works Day Open House**, where a tree raffle was held and was well received by participants.
  - The committee also managed a table at the **Art & Garden Fair** in June, which resulted in good community engagement.



Jason Baldauf  
Tree Committee Chair