

# NEST

## Neighbors Encouraging Shade Trees

advocating to increase the shade tree canopy in Bryant Park, Lake Worth Beach, Florida

### Bryant Park Shade Plan - Phase Three

January 2026 Update

#### Phase Three South Bryant Park

##### January On-Site Meetings:

- January 9<sup>th</sup> - Consultation with Paul Harding from Amelia's SmartyPlants Garden Center
- January 9<sup>th</sup> - Phase Three Shade Plan review with Chris Hana Parks Supervisor and Scot Ropp Maintenance Supervisor
- January 26<sup>th</sup> - Phase Three Shade Plan review with Stuart Sword Leisure Services Assistant Director and Chris Hana Parks Supervisor

##### February:

- Map showing the locations of twenty-eight 25-Gallon Green Buttonwood Trees
- 14 trees improving shade around the Playground and benches
- 14 trees providing shade to the Wellness Walk from the exercise equipment to the South Pavilion
- February 12<sup>th</sup> - Unanimous Approval of Bryant Park Shade Plan - Phase Three, by Tree and Landscape Board
- February 19<sup>th</sup> - Submit ticket for utility locates to Sunshine811 with 28 marked tree locations

##### March:

- March 3<sup>rd</sup> - City Commission meeting **NEST** Shade Tree Plan presentation
- March 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> - First Tree Planting with one to two Tree Plantings on following Mondays.

#### Bryant Park Shade Plan Accomplishments

- \$25,000 - Tree Canopy Restoration Fund allocated by The Tree and Landscape Board Sept 2023
- \$25,000 - American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (ARPA) funds, unanimously approved by City Commission Nov 2023
- **Phase One** - Fall 2024 and Spring 2025, Central Bryant Park, twenty-seven trees planted shading the Wellness Walkway South of the Water Treatment Plant to the existing exercise equipment
- **Phase Two** - Fall 2025, Northeast Corner Bryant Park, fifteen 25-gallon Silver Buttonwood Trees form the 60' diameter Joyful Trees Circle, nine 25-35-gallon Green Buttonwood trees shade the Wellness Walk south of the bridge and around the Joyful Trees Circle buffering the road noise

#### Green Buttonwood Characteristics

Green Buttonwood trees, often called the **fourth mangrove**, can handle direct saltwater flooding and heavy salt spray. Their wood is incredibly strong and flexible, able to withstand hurricane-force winds without breaking. Growing between 20 and 40 feet tall with manageable root systems, they're perfect for planting near sidewalks.

#### NEST and SmartyPlants Collaboration

Paul and Marta Harding, owners of **Amelia's SmartyPlants Garden Center** in Lake Worth Beach, have generously agreed to continue collaborating with **NEST** on the Bryant Park Shade Plan, Phase Three Tree plantings. They will continue to supply, install, and maintain the **NEST** trees within Bryant Park. With Paul's deep knowledge of planting in this coastal area—known for its salt spray, strong winds, and dry conditions—the trees are thriving and growing into beautiful shade trees that will be enjoyed by residents and visitors for generations to come.

##### 2023 NEST Founding Members

Roseann Malakates (Decd.) • Tracy Rosof-Petersen • Gael Silverblatt • Susan Ona • Susan Guyaux