THE MISSION

The mission of the Haverford College Arboretum is to steward the College’s historic tree collection while fostering a connection between our 216-acre campus and those who work, visit, study, and reside here. Maintaining the health, diversity, and history of the tree collection honors William Carvill’s original 1834 landscape design, while our educational programming ensures continued engagement with this unique and treasured asset.

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Cover: Fagus sylvatica ‘Asplenifolia’ (cutleaf European beech); opposite page, top: College Lane; bottom: the Haverfarm at sunrise; clockwise from top left: Maclura pomifera (Osage orange), a favorite climbing tree for our youngest visitors; Plants Curator Sally Anderson captures a wild hive from a fallen sycamore; installing the Campus Center rain garden.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS
in 2020–2021

• Planted 118 trees throughout campus
• Commenced restoration of two historic landscapes
• Pivoted to virtual community programming during the pandemic, providing more than 20 online workshops
• Offered an Arboretum P.E. class, allowing students to earn physical education credit for work on Arboretum projects with staff
• Installed a 1,200-square foot high tunnel for year-round food production
• Successfully completed Year Two of our five-year strategic plan
From the Director

It took me 12 years going through Temple’s horticulture program part-time to get my degree. Upon completion, the program presented me with an award for dedication and perseverance. After the past year and a half, the entire Arboretum staff deserves to receive such an award. COVID-19 put a twist in everyone’s life, work and personal, that was unlike anything we have ever experienced. We are proud of the resilience and hard work that allowed our team to advance the Arboretum’s mission even during this unprecedented time.

With two campus shutdowns due to the pandemic since March 2020, the weeds didn’t wait for us to return. Deemed essential workers, Arboretum staff came back to work and, with determination and purpose, set out to rein in the overgrowth. While we are not out of the proverbial woods yet, we managed to adapt and keep moving forward.

Most important, the campus got to rest. Tens of thousands of people use our campus each year and while Mother Nature is resilient, she needed a break. We planted 118 trees campus-wide and renovated numerous landscapes including the Nature Trail’s Woolman Walk. New plantings also took root around the stunning new addition to our music building, Roberts Hall, and Walton Road received a double allée of oaks.

Much to everyone’s delight, the Nature Trail reopened to the off-campus community on June 1. Albeit with uncertainty, we look forward to embracing a new normal as we gradually return to our in-person programming, working with our volunteers, and welcoming old and new friends back to our treasured oasis.

— Claudia Kent
WE’VE MISSED YOU

Haverford’s stringent COVID-19 safety protocols aim to protect those who live and learn on campus—and the broader community. We look forward to better days ahead, when the Arboretum and all its programs are fully accessible—in person—to all members.
Student-athletes plant trees during Division III week.

A student builds a birdhouse during a workshop held with the VCAM.
COMMUNITY Programming

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, campus grounds were closed to visitors throughout most of the past year. This forced the Arboretum to shift gears to virtual programming and to take a hiatus from our volunteer programs, large-scale events, and in-person outreach activities. Despite the many challenges, we are proud of what we achieved:

- We offered an Arboretum P.E. program in which students worked side-by-side with our staff to earn a physical education credit. In their coursework, our students helped redesign the Arboretum’s overflow nursery, weeded the nature trailhead, and graded the ground around the new biology greenhouse.
- We focused our in-person programming on students, with activities including a birdhouse-making workshop in collaboration with the VCAM, tree-planting on campus, and our traditional first-year plant giveaway, re-structured for COVID-safety compliance.
- We held our first-ever online pop-up sale, which sent our merchandise to Arboretum lovers in 12 states.
- We hosted more than 20 online workshops, allowing the Haverford community to explore topics including invasive plants, climate change, cicadas, pollinators, and more.
- We adapted to leading virtual tours, allowing us to showcase the Arboretum not only to community members but also to school groups and individuals nationwide, many of whom would not normally be able to visit campus.
- We continued to partner with organizations including Philadelphia, America’s Garden Capital; the American Public Garden Association; Morris Arboretum; the Hardy Plant Society; Mt. Cuba Center; and the Henry Foundation for Botanical Research.

As ever, the Arboretum welcomed the first-year students by gifting each one with a plant.

Arboretum staff handcrafted ornaments for the pop-up sale.

Students earn P.E. credit the Arboretum way.
THE TREATY ELM

In May, the College placed a new sign on Barclay Beach providing context for the Treaty Elm, the historic tree that has flourished there since 1915. A scion of another elm planted on the campus in 1840, the tree is descended, according to tradition, from a far more ancient exemplar linked to the earliest encounters between Lenape natives and William Penn in the late 17th century. The sign reads, in part:

We at the College recognize that we live and work on Lenape land, and pay respect and honor to the caretakers of this land, from the time of its first human inhabitants until now, and into the future. We seek to maintain and build upon our current and ever-evolving connections with members of Lenape tribes and communities, in recognition of our intertwined histories and with a goal of moving toward right relationship between the Haverford of today and Lenape peoples.
THE HAVERFARM

In the midst of the widespread loneliness that characterized life during the pandemic, the Haverfarm served as a space for students to connect with one another and explore their interests in food justice and agriculture. On-farm weekly events provided a much-needed respite from screen time and invited many students to dig their hands into the soil for the first time. We experienced a surge in student interest in our farm programs this year. We expanded our physical education program to include a winter section, and our 46 student volunteer events were a hit!

Haverfarm continued working with The Nest, the College’s campus food pantry, to get fresh produce into the kitchens of low-income students. The farm also partnered with Fishadelphia to distribute local seafood at farm stands. Haverfarmers grew and distributed more than 1,200 pounds of produce this year!

In partnership with the anthropology, biology, and environmental studies departments, students completed independent studies at the farm. These included investigations into topics such as food networks in low-income communities, soil profiling, and ethnobotany.
PRODUCE HARVESTED (LBS.)

1,200
Although no one welcomed the COVID shutdowns, the quiet campus allowed the staff to make robust progress on planting and landscaping projects. Our signature achievements this year include rejuvenating two historic campus features and creating a new one befitting the Roberts Hall addition that opened in September.

“*To me, one characteristic of Haverford that makes it so special is the beautiful campus—and not just the natural beauty but the thoughtful integration of the architecture with the landscape... The respect that Haverford’s physical plant staff have for our natural landscape is palpable in every decision.*”

—RACHEL JAFFE ’99
The Arboretum fulfills its educational mission in part through serving as a vital resource for the College’s curriculum, its students, and the research needs of its faculty. This year, the Arboretum contributed to the curriculum and hands-on learning of 24 courses in departments and programs including biology, education, environmental studies, fine arts, physical education, and more.

“Trees produce compounds that reduce neurodegeneration and influence mental health. We are working closely with the Arboretum to isolate compounds from long-lived trees on our campus to test for their efficacy in reducing human diseases of the brain. We have also introduced students to the Arboretum through a recent Health Studies course exploring how trees, in conjunction with contemplative practices, can reduce stress and anxiety. The students involved have grown to appreciate the value of our Arboretum to our community and have encouraged future collaborations with other, nearby arboreta well as state parks.”

—ROBERT FAIRMAN, PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

INSECT DIVERSITY RESEARCH ON CAMPUS

Through sharing the campus as a research site in partnership with Drexel University, the Arboretum is supporting international and regional biodiversity scholarship.

The Ward Lab at Drexel is studying the diversity of flying insects using malaise traps—tent-like structures that intercept flying insects and trap them in collection jars. Some of the data collected at Haverford is part of a three-year international study; additionally, we are collecting data to learn more about flying insects in the Delaware Valley, with the goal of better understanding insect diversity across different habitat types in the region.

—AKILAH CHATMAN, UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER, B.E.E.S. DEPT., DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Haverford College

ARBORETUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members at Large
Luke Hamilton
Kristen Henwood
Austin Huber ’19
Marc Inver ’71
Emily Pickering
Doug Ross ’69
Matthew Voci ’83
Holly Wilson
Alan Wood

Staff Representatives
Sally Anderson, plant curator
Don Campbell, director of facilities
Jennie Ciborowski, program coordinator
Claudia Kent, Arboretum director
Jesse Lytle, vice president and chief of staff
Madison Tillman ’18, Haverfarm fellow

Student Representatives
Nicholas Lasinsky ’23
Julie Rebh ’22
Abigail Russiano ’24
Michelle Tran ’23

ARBORETUM PERSONNEL

Arboretum and Grounds Personnel
Sally Anderson, plants curator
Charles Bone, horticulturist
Sean Camilleri, groundskeeper
Jennie Ciborowski, program coordinator
Charlie Jenkins, horticulturist
Claudia Kent, Arboretum director
Mike Pavlikowski, groundskeeper
Tim Rodgers, groundskeeper
Len Sides, equipment mechanic
Michael Startup, horticulturist
David Tierney, groundskeeper
Madison Tillman ’18, farm fellow
Wayne Troop, grounds manager
Carol Wagner, horticulturist

Student Workers
Lukas Austin ’24
Johanna “Jo” Batterton ’21
Artem Borodin ’23
Aaron Bratt ’23
Sarah Brown ’23
Kelsey Chai ’21
Saeede Eifrig ’21
Walker Evans ’24
Charlie Ferguson ’23
Rafael Grossman-Naples ’23
Lilian Huang ’23
Nicholas Lasinsky ’23
Ceanne Lyon ’23
Liam Mears ’23
Riah Newfont ’22
Emmeline Rendeau ’24
Logan Smith ’23
Sarina Smith ’23
Ryan Totaro ’22
Kahlil Walker ’23

Farm Workers
Max Breling ’22
Kenyatta Golson ’20
Ayanna Madison ’23
Elaine Nieder ’22
Joslynn Provow ’23
Mimi Tran ’23
Allison Velasquez ’23

“A I could always feel the great sense of pride that everyone took in maintaining the history and beauty of the campus, and I was grateful to be a part of it. The staff was always patient and took the time to teach me about the history of the various trees that we were caring for and why they were important.”

—RIANNE ROCZA ’99

A student worker keeps the weeds at bay.
DEDICATIONS

Donors made the following tree and bench dedications in 2020–21.

Trees
Roy and Catherine Sah Bannon
Dedicated to Benn ’62 and Eva Sah, alumnus, parents, grandparents and supporters of the College

Sam and Katie Dalke ’07
A circle of trees celebrating
Memories growing
Ring on ring

Family and friends of Ramón Garcia-Castro
In memory of Ramón García-Castro, beloved professor of the Latin American ‘Boom’

Benches
Lisa Diaz Riegel
Cymantha Diaz Liakos
Christina Diaz Meyer
John Austin Diaz
In memory of our father, John C. Diaz, who loved and cared for this beautiful campus 1986–2009

Anonymous
Dedicated to Tom King in appreciation for his 20 years of service to Haverford College

A staff member plants a Magnolia virginiana ‘Green Shadow’ (sweet bay magnolia).

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Plant a New Tree
Many of our trees were established by donors to honor special events and people. A minimum gift of $2,000 helps purchase and care for a 5’–10’ tree.

A staff member plants a Magnolia virginiana ‘Green Shadow’ (sweet bay magnolia).

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Grow Your Legacy
The Arboretum relies on philanthropy to preserve and grow our historic collections, steward the land, and engage communities on and off campus.

Make a gift or become a member at hav.to/trees

Contact plannedgiving@haverford.edu or (610) 896-1329 to learn how to leave a lasting legacy through your estate or retirement plans.

A staff member plants a Magnolia virginiana ‘Green Shadow’ (sweet bay magnolia).

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Adopt a Growing Tree
A tree that has already been planted may be adopted and dedicated with a minimum gift of $1,000. Both new and adopted trees may be labeled with a brief inscription of your choosing.

Contact us at arbor@haverford.edu for help selecting an appropriate living gift.
Enhance Your Experience, on Campus and Beyond

ARBORETUM EXPLORER
On your next visit to campus, let the Arboretum Explorer be your guide. Our searchable online tool allows you to follow themed tours, find dedicated trees and benches, and locate highlights of our collection. Try it out at:
haverford.arboretumexplorer.org

RECIPROCAL ADMISSIONS PROGRAM
Whenever you begin to travel again, bring your Arboretum benefits along! Through our Reciprocal Admission Program, your membership provides admission at reduced fees to more than 300 arboreta, gardens, and observatories across the U.S. Learn more at:
hav.to/trees

Preserving the Past, Planting the Future
370 Lancaster Avenue
Haverford, PA 19041