OUR MISSION

is to preserve the stately historic trees on campus and to perpetuate the Reptonian design set forth by William Carvill in 1834. In carrying out this mission, it is our responsibility to maintain and build upon the diversity of the tree collection, as well as to enhance the study of this history by bringing a better understanding of it to all who visit Haverford College.

The Arboretum continuously reinterprets the mission to better address the important environmental issues we face today. Proper stewardship of the 216-acre property means taking care to enhance the tree canopy, tending to the intentional open spaces, supporting the pond ecosystem, emphasizing native plant material, and reducing our carbon footprint where possible.

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Clockwise from top left: the Nature Trail; Director Claudia Kent and student volunteers; VCAM; replanting the allée; sugar maple in its fall colors; fall on Founders Green; a great blue heron wades in the Duck Pond

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS in 2017–18

• **Duck Pond Restoration**
  A healthy pond life cycle was re-established, protecting native wildlife and ensuring enjoyment for years to come.

• **Streambank Restoration**
  To help prevent erosion or washout, 78 volunteers planted 109 native trees and 29 native shrubs by the stream along the Nature Trail.

• **Replanting the Allée**
  The third succession planting will maintain the iconic tree-lined view down College Lane.

• **Earth Week**
  At daily plantings and activities in April, more than 200 community members participated in our week-long celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day.

• **VCAM Landscape**
  At the conclusion of construction of the Visual Culture, Arts, and Media building, a new representation of the serpentine walk in Carvill’s original landscape plan was planted.

• **Annual First-Year Tree Planting**
  Upholding the tradition held dear by students, the Arboretum gave incoming first-year students a tree that they can watch grow during and after their time on campus.
SUSTAINING the Future

By Claudia Kent, director of the Arboretum

Trees connect generations of people. We pass under our big trees knowing that they’ve seen us grow and change. At Haverford, grandparents, parents, and children have passed under the same boughs, appreciating the sense of calm they provide. We’ve picnicked in their shade and hung a hammock for an afternoon nap. We’ve admired their blossoms in spring and picked up colorful fall leaves.

Haverford’s trees are a beloved natural resource. As we complete the first year of the Arboretum’s revitalization project, community support has been an integral part of its success. Tree planters came out in force. Faculty, staff, students, Nature Trail users and local school children all worked to replant more than 240 trees. The evidence can be seen campus-wide—a new oak allée adorns College Lane, a magnolia in front of the Dining Center, the Nature Trail next to the Duck Pond, a cherry in the orchard. Some were whips or young seedlings, others had a trunk width of nine inches and were installed by a mechanical tree spade.

As the Arboretum prepares for the next 100 years, we mourn the loss of some old friends. However, the trees we plant today will become the shade and the place of solace and joy for the generations of tomorrow.
Opposite page: the Skate House across the Duck Pond. Clockwise from top left: wildlife in spring; view of the allée down College Lane; magnolia in bloom; winter interest

Northern Japanese Hemlock
(Tsuga diversifolia)
Dawn Redwood
(Metasequoia glyptostroboids)
Endangered.
TREE REVITALIZATION EXPENSES

- Pruning, remediation, mulch rings, supplemental watering
- Consulting and assessment
- Tree plantings by contractors
- Allée planting
- Tree purchases: small whips, to 2” caliper, planted in-house

$312,528

Tree Revitalization Project

With philanthropic support we made a strong start to our five-year project addressing the recommendations of the risk assessment evaluation. Continuing donor contributions will help the Arboretum care for our existing trees, replant two trees for every one lost, and maintain a safe environment for the students and community members who enjoy it.

- The first-ever, comprehensive risk assessment evaluated 1,500 trees with a caliper of 20-plus inches and more for health and safety factors that affect the well-used campus.
- Within six months of the assessment, 63 trees were removed due to poor health, dangerous conditions, or being an invasive species.
- Adding to the future of the diverse tree canopy, 245 have been planted, including 89 native trees distributed through the residential faculty planting program.

Opposite page: a dawn redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides) planted for Arbor Week. Clockwise from top right: stair treads in VCAM of reclaimed black walnut; Everett Dickinson plants his tree; a red oak (Quercus rubra) removed due to rot.
Silver Maple
(Acer saccharinum)
REINVIGORATING the Duck Pond

As a preventive maintenance program, the primary benefits of dredging a pond are sustainability of the overall health of the surrounding ecosystem; improved water quality, which is key to a pond that can self-regulate; and increased beneficial bacteria to help reduce the amount of solid organic waste at the bottom.

- We safely relocated 94 turtles and 470 native fish, including the state-threatened eastern redbelly turtle.
- 9,600 cubic yards of sludge was dredged and spread onto Merion Field, raising the field 18 inches and providing valuable topsoil.
- The pond’s depth increased from eighteen inches to a healthier seven feet, alleviating blockages and build up that can cause flooding and shoreline erosion and limit the ability for fish to move about freely.

DUCK POND CLEAN-UP EXPENSES

- Dredging
- Environmental services
- Electrical support

$338,633
The Haverford College Farm (HaverFarm) is more than a healthy food source. Community agriculture brings people together with a shared purpose. It is an accessible living laboratory for students and faculty studying environmental issues. The overall health of a community is benefited by increasing its capacity to create a sustainable environment.

- Depending on the season, three to five farmers work at creating a sustainable food loop for the campus and developing outreach and education programs.
- Twelve student summer interns and a growing number of campus clubs participate in the day-to-day management of our working farm.
- Thirty-three regular subscribers to the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program are buying locally, eating seasonally, and supporting organic agriculture.
- Three active hives of 240,000 bees produced 60 pounds of honey. Without the cross-pollination provided by honey bees, many plants—including food crops—would die.
- The HaverFarm had a total yield of approximately 1,800 pounds of produce from 81 different crops.
Since its founding, the Arboretum has been open to the community. Our campus is an important green space and wildlife habitat fewer than 10 miles from Philadelphia. Each year, thousands of visitors enjoy the Nature Trail, admire our champion trees, and participate in a wide array of Arboretum programs.

- The Arboretum’s 130 members attended special events, including their annual dinner, plant sales, and trips.
- We hosted 40 events, including our volunteer trail crew, tree tours, monthly workshops and lectures, birding tours, and cross-curricular events with faculty.
- Beginning last November, five to ten members of the Nature Book Club met monthly to discuss high-interest titles relating to nature, including *The Drunken Botanist*, *Lab Girl*, *The Hidden Life of Trees*, and *The Invention of Nature*.
- We established partnerships with Harriton High School, the Boy Scouts, Serendipity Day Camp, Common Space of Ardmore, Tired Hands Volunteer Corps, local colleges, Haverford Township Free Library, Student Conservation Association, Boyer/Sudduth Environmental Consultants, John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, and the Climate and Urban Sustainability Partnership.
- Staffed by 35 volunteers, the night hike along a jack-o-lantern-lined Nature Trail led 225 participants to the Skate House for a sing-along, games, s’mores over the fire, and community building fun.
Clockwise from top left: Children from the Phoebe Anna Thorne School plant a swamp white oak (Quercus bicolor) for Arbor Week; a sing-along follows pumpkin carving; a final product in a terrarium workshop; Arboretum members Gillian Wiedorn and Katharine Fischer; horticulturist Carol Wagner guides a holiday ornament-making workshop.
On my first visit to Haverford College, I was enchanted by the trees and grounds. Four years and a graduation later, I'm so grateful for my time with the beautiful plants and friendly folks of the Arboretum—I only wish I had started working with them sooner.”

DARIAN GUENTHER ’18
“Working for the Arboretum has helped me realize the dedication and precision that every employee of the College puts in to help keep the campus looking beautiful. Now, I notice how much care is put into my surroundings on campus and can appreciate the Arboretum even more.”

KERRY QUIGLEY ’20

“My wife Fredi and I cherish Haverford College and its beautiful campus. In donating a tree and bench in memory of our son Alex, we recognize the tree as a symbol of life and the bench as a place of tranquility. We are honored to share these with past, current, and future generations of Haverfordians in Alex’s memory.”

FREDI AND RON NORRIS ’71
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Visit hav.to/trees to support the Arboretum as a member, sign up for our digital newsletter, and connect via social media.

*Use our online tools to help spare the College’s and Earth’s resources.*

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