

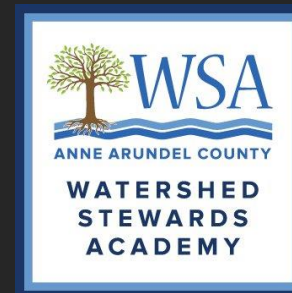


REPLANT
ANNAPOLIS

YEAR 1
In Review



ANNAPOLIS
Maryland



Watershed Stewards Academy
February 9, 2023

What is the Watershed Stewards Academy?

WSA envisions every community in Anne Arundel County actively engaged to ensure a healthy environment for all.

We train and mobilize community leaders to drive change for sustainable landscapes and clean waters.



Find out more at aawsa.org

Since 2009...

- ▶ Installed over 4,350 projects
- ▶ Planted over 200,000 native plants and trees
- ▶ Engaged over 200,000 residents



WSA Programs

- ▶ Watershed Steward Certification Course
 - ▶ Over 300 Stewards trained
- ▶ RePlant Anne Arundel-
 - ▶ over 4000 trees last year!
- ▶ RePollinate Anne Arundel-
 - ▶ over 2600 native plants last year!
- ▶ Stormwater Success
- ▶ Clean Water Communities
- ▶ RePlant Annapolis



RePlant Annapolis



Since 2011, the city of Annapolis has lost over 100 acres of canopy cover. Based on the RePlant Anne Arundel model, RePlant Annapolis, a city-funded tree planting program, is focused on helping the city achieve 50% urban tree canopy by 2036.

Benefits of Trees

- ▶ improve air quality
- ▶ increase property value
- ▶ can provide energy conservation/savings to residents
- ▶ provide shade
- ▶ provide bird and pollinator habitat
- ▶ reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality



RePlant Annapolis- Year 1

SPRING 2022: RePlant Annapolis Programming and Partnership

- ▶ March 2022: Annapolis residents invited to Tree Trooper Training
- ▶ April 2022: City of Annapolis/WSA Sign MOU
- ▶ Total Funding: \$30,000.

Increasing the City's Tree Canopy

Provide 3 options to get trees in the ground:

- ▶ volunteer plantings
- ▶ contractor plantings
- ▶ hybrid plantings



RePlant Annapolis



1. Identify and train community leaders to lead tree projects
2. Engage new audiences and communities
3. Provide resources and support for community leaders including:
 - ▶ Tree biology and identification
 - ▶ Identify locations for trees in the landscape
 - ▶ Properly plant trees
 - ▶ Volunteer outreach and engagement
 - ▶ Maintenance and monitoring protocols
 - ▶ Project reporting

By the numbers

- ▶ 24 Annapolis residents attended the March 2022 Tree Trooper training course (5 sessions total)
- ▶ 7 expressed interest in carrying out a planting project
- ▶ RePlant Annapolis completed **4 planting projects in Fall 2022**
 - ▶ Saltaire Community - 38 trees through 2 Tree Troopers
 - ▶ Wardour Community - 47 trees through 2 Tree Troopers
 - ▶ Chesapeake Children's Museum - 17 through 1 Tree Ambassador
 - ▶ WSA's Groves program - 2 trees

In total, **104 trees** were planted by **Fall 2022!**



Average cost per tree: \$140 (volunteer) \$270 (contractor)

*Cost includes recruitment, training and support of Annapolis Tree Troopers and the cost of tree materials and installation.

By the numbers

- ▶ **Total residents engaged: 96**
 - ▶ Saltaire community: 25
 - ▶ Wardour community: 26
 - ▶ Chesapeake Children's Museum planting: 12
 - ▶ Other engagement efforts: 33

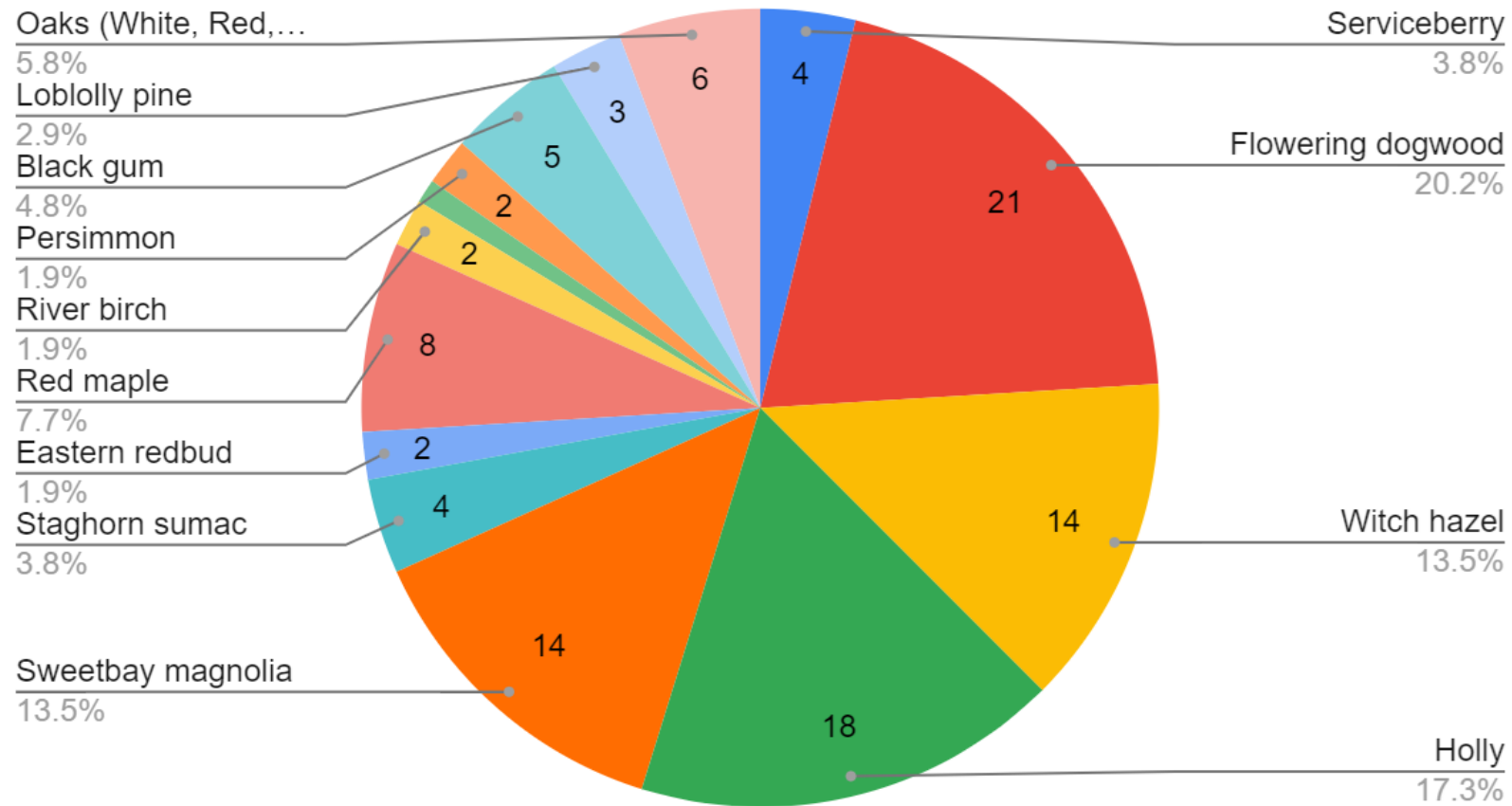


Planned/potential 2023 projects

- ▶ Truxton Park - partnership with Severn River Association and Pip Moyer - volunteer planting event with students (10 trees)
- ▶ The Bluffs Community (24 trees)
- ▶ Additional Tree Trooper Plantings spring/fall 2023

Species Distributions

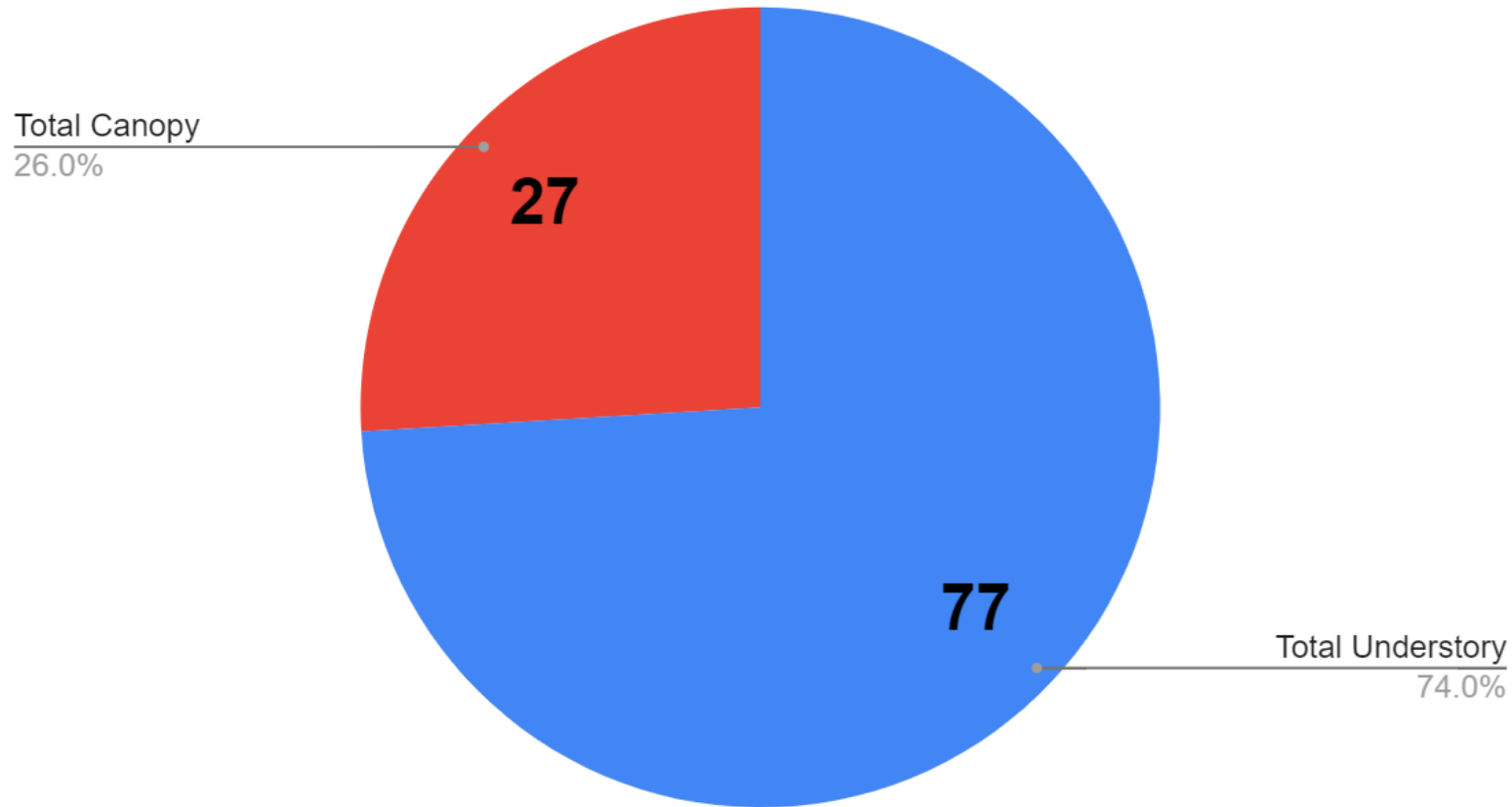
Tree Species Distribution RePlant Annapolis 2022



104 trees total

Species Distributions

Canopy vs Understory trees



104 trees total

Lessons learned Year 1

Tree Plantings

- ▶ Trees were significantly skewed toward understory species
 - ▶ Tree Trooper feedback: *Homeowners' often expressed desire to have one or two small, ornamental trees rather than a large canopy tree*
- ▶ Limited amount of planting space on private lots in the city led to lower project completion compared to that of RePlant Anne Arundel

Tree Ambassador Program

- ▶ Funded by the Chesapeake Bay Trust Urban Trees Grant Program (2022-2024)
- ▶ Focused on urban areas with low-income, high unemployment, historically underserved communities
- ▶ Provides stipend funding for participants to:
 - ▶ Take Tree Trooper training
 - ▶ Recruit “tree hosts”
 - ▶ Complete planting project
 - ▶ Maintain project for 3 years



Lessons learned Year 1

Participant Feedback

- ▶ Feedback from those who participated was positive!
 - ▶ Very happy to have the program now exist in the City
 - ▶ Interest in tree giveaway program for homeowners who only want one or two trees for their property

Looking ahead to RePlant Annapolis *Year 2*

- ▶ Recruiting of the next class of Tree Troopers - training begins March 29th
- ▶ Collaboration with the Tree Ambassador program, more participants in priority areas in Annapolis
- ▶ Increase total amount of RePlant Annapolis projects completed in Fall 2023
- ▶ Increase canopy species
- ▶ New Restoration Coordinator joining WSA

Looking ahead to RePlant Annapolis Year 2



- ▶ How can WSA continue to work with the City to identify and engage community leaders interested in trees?
- ▶ How can the City continue to help promote the Tree Trooper training?
- ▶ Incentives to generate projects focused on canopy trees?