



Greetings! We are starting a monthly newsletter to keep you informed about what we have been up to and the projects and ideas we have in the pipeline.

But we also want to hear from you! If you have ideas, questions or comments please get in touch. You can visit our [website](#), send us an [email](#) or give us a call. We would be delighted to hear from you!



## Tree Pruning Basics

In this class you'll learn why and how to prune trees. We'll cover the different types of pruning and the effects that pruning has on a tree. We'll introduce you to the pruning tools you'll need and teach you how to make a proper pruning cut. Although the class will focus on young trees that you can prune

on your own, we'll also discuss when and how to hire an arborist for larger pruning jobs. After a classroom presentation at Lakeview Library we'll move outdoors to Troy Gardens to demonstrate pruning techniques on-site and give you an opportunity to practice your new skills.

Saturday, March 14th, noon–2:30 pm  
Lakeview Library (2845 N Sherman Ave) noon–1 pm  
Troy Gardens (500 block of Troy Drive) 1:15–2:30 pm  
Class is free.

Registration required. To register for this class please visit <http://www.urbantreealliance.org/events/> or call Patricia at 608–556–5331. 25 participants maximum. Registration deadline is March 12th.



**SPREADING  
THE GREEN:  
THE MADISON  
CANOPY  
PROJECT**



Have you ever enjoyed standing in the cool shade of a giant cottonwood on a hot summer day? Or admired the colorful splendor of a maple or oak when

fall comes around? Trees can soften and add great beauty to urban environments.

But urban forests do much more than provide us with shade and beauty. Research has show that trees can lower home heating and cooling costs, remove air pollutants, increase property values, provide habitat for wildlife, absorb noise, capture storm water runoff, help decrease crime rates, and even reduce stress and speed healing in hospital patients.

But in most cities, urban forests are not spread equally across all areas. Low-income neighborhoods typically have less canopy cover, or fewer trees, than high income areas, and Madison is no exception.

As part of our efforts to strengthen the Madison area urban forest we started the Madison Canopy Project. Through this initiative we are offering one or two free trees to residents in fourteen neighborhoods across Madison and Fitchburg.

All residents of the Allied Dunn's Marsh, Berkley Oaks, Bram's Addition, Burr Oaks, Capitol View, Carpenter-Ridgeway, Eken Park, Emerson East, Hawthorne, Jamestown, Leopold, Western Hills, Whitetail Ridge, and Worthington Park neighborhoods are eligible to receive up to two free trees.

Anyone who lives in one of the fourteen neighborhoods we mentioned can request up to two free trees. Maps of neighborhood boundaries are available on our website at [bit.ly/UTAlliance](http://bit.ly/UTAlliance). All we ask is that you have enough space on their property for a new tree to spread out and fully develop.

Residents who accept a free tree (or two!) can plant it themselves, have a group of volunteers led by UTA staff plant the tree for them, or even volunteer to join us in planting trees in their neighborhood.

## OUR GOALS AND AIMS

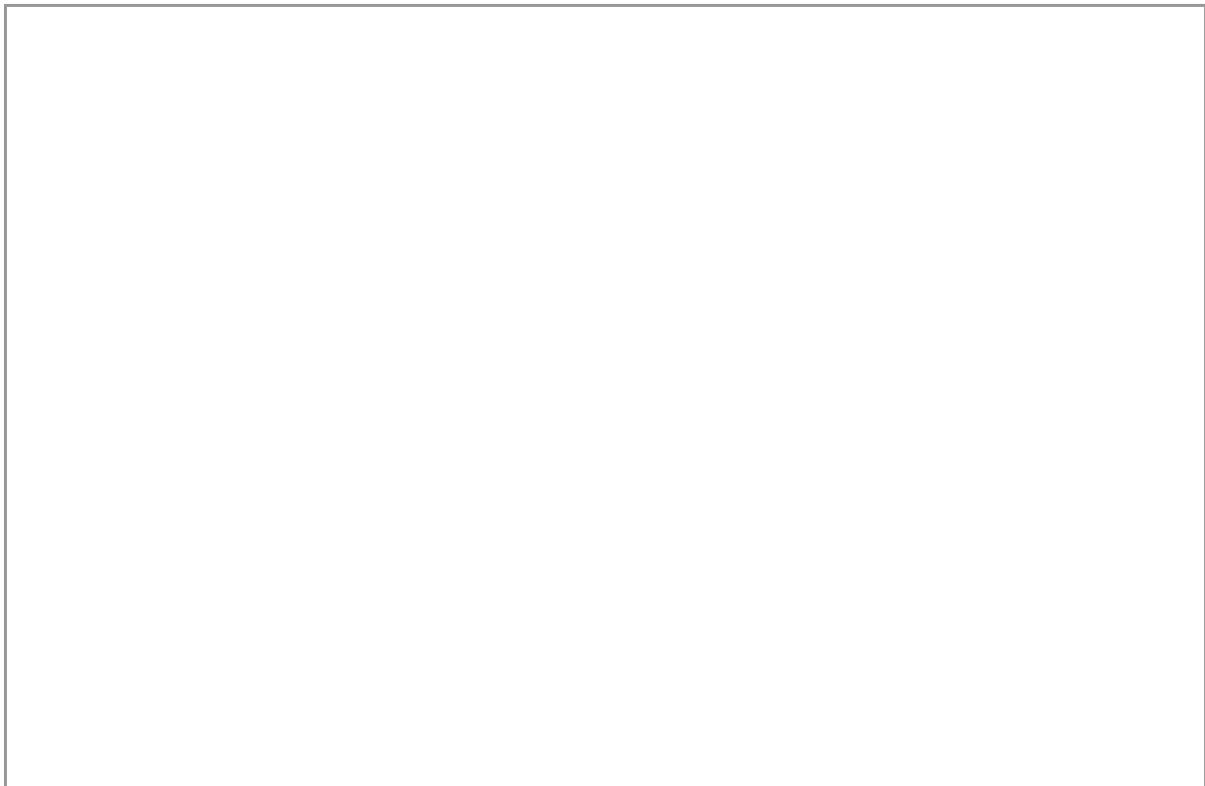
Our goal is to plant 600 trees in lower-income, lower-canopy neighborhoods within the Madison Urban Area by the fall of 2015. We are happy to be able to say that with the help of our amazing volunteers we planted 200 trees in 2014.

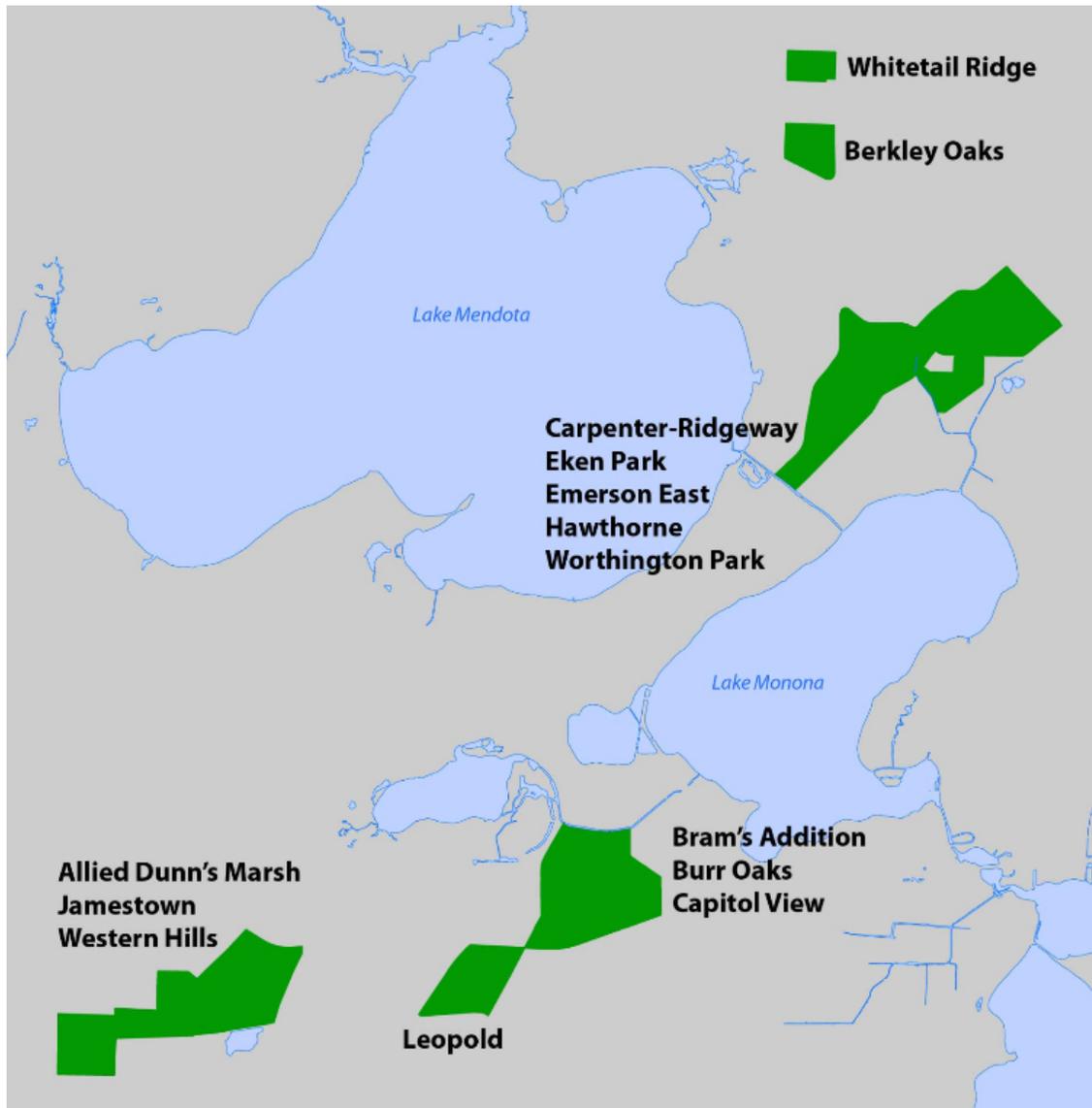
Another important aim of the Madison Canopy Project is to increase the species diversity of the Madison area urban forest. Diversity makes urban forests more resilient and lessens the overall damage caused by diseases and pests such as the emerald ash borer. For this reason, we are planting species that are less commonly found in the Madison area, such as bur oaks, chinquapin oaks, musclewoods, ironwoods, pecans, catalpas, and Kentucky coffee trees.

“I am a strong supporter of the Urban Tree Alliance’s efforts in Fitchburg,” says Fitchburg Mayor, Shawn Pfaff. “This exciting opportunity to improve our city’s tree canopy benefits many of our neighborhoods and improves residents’ quality of life throughout our community.”

If you would like to request a tree or get more information about the Madison Canopy Project, please visit our website at [bit.ly/UTAlliance](http://bit.ly/UTAlliance) or call Patricia Lindquist Chakravorty (Project Coordinator/UTA Associate Director) at 556-5331. You may also email Patricia with questions or comments at [patricia@urbantreealliance.org](mailto:patricia@urbantreealliance.org).

This project is sponsored by the Urban Tree Alliance and funded in part by an urban forestry grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Program as authorized under s. 23.097, Wis. Stat.





Neighborhoods participating in the Madison Canopy Project



Prune oaks and elms during the dormant season (November–March) to limit the spread of oak wilt and Dutch elm disease.

To learn more about these diseases, visit the Dane County Tree Board website: [www.treeboard.org](http://www.treeboard.org)

The Urban Tree Alliance is a non-profit organization serving the greater Madison, WI area.

Our mission is to preserve and grow the urban forest canopy in a sustainable and innovative manner in partnership with the public.

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