

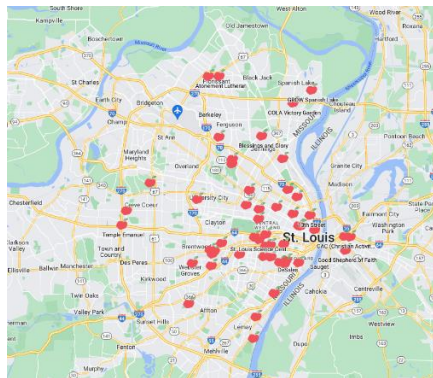
“Between every two pines is a doorway to a new world.” - John Muir

The Gifted Tree welcomes you to the virtual world of finding your tree planting location. As you know, someone has planted gift trees in community orchards around the city of St. Louis, Missouri. This project is part of The Gifted Tree’s urban forestry projects where donations, instead of planting individual trees, will help plant groves of trees in urban areas – neighborhood parks, schools, and urban campuses - ensuring environmental justice in city-centered projects where trees are desperately needed. The trees planted are more mature in their growth cycle and average 3-6 feet in height when planted, helping to ensure long-term survivability and the ability to thrive in this urban area setting.

Urban areas in St. Louis face growing challenges related to air quality, soil health, lack of greenspace for native plants, food security and access to healthy nutrition. The American Lung Association has ranked St. Louis one of the 25 most polluted cities in the U.S. In addition, many urban residents in St. Louis face food insecurity and struggle to access healthy sources of food. The trees planted in this project are mainly fruit and nut bearing trees including Apple, Cherry, Peach and Pear plus a variety of nut trees. Resistance to pests and diseases is particularly important in ensuring that the trees can produce bountiful harvests using holistic, biological approaches to tree maintenance that avoid artificial pesticides and fertilizers. The resulting fruits, berries and nuts are organically grown, increase urban tree canopy, sequester carbon, improve soil biology and reduce stormwater runoff, which helps prevent soil erosion and urban flooding.

Neighborhoods use the orchards for after school programs, day camps, social events, health and wellness classes, and outdoor recreation. Our goal is that the trees planted in this project will produce an estimated 2.6 million servings of food over their lifetime. Likewise, by increasing urban tree canopy and lowering urban air temperatures, the orchards also can reduce risks of heat-related illnesses and respiratory illnesses.

You can view the general area of your planting by clicking on the following: <https://binged.it/3XCGzBI>. Once connected to the map, feel free to zoom in and out to get a feel of the general planting area as well as its location in Missouri, the U.S., and the world. Please understand that this is the general area of your tree planting. There is no plaque designating your gift tree, and it is not possible to visit the trees.



Enjoy your gifted tree and know that it is making a monumental difference for the earth and opening a new doorway to the world for future generations. If you have any questions, please view our contact information at: www.thegiftedtree.com/contact-us/. If you would like to plant a tree for someone else, please visit our website at www.TheGiftedTree.com.

