



ReLeaf, Inc.  
Greenville, NC

# ReLeaf News

Summer 2025

## Upcoming Events

Come and Join ReLeaf at the Inez Fridley Park Dedication on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 200 Ash Street, Greenville.

Annual Membership Meeting will again be held at The Music House, 408 West Fifth Street in the Fall. Date and Time will be announced later.

Community Tree Day will be held in the fall, date to be announced.

## Welcome to ReLeaf News

Welcome to our ReLeaf Newsletter! Last year has been busy as we have worked to plant, promote and protect trees here in Greenville.

In November ReLeaf and the City of Greenville planted 47 trees in the Kearney Park neighborhood. By giving programs to civic organizations, we have promoted more trees in Greenville.

Through attendance at City of Greenville hearings and Board meetings we have advocated for ordinances to protect our trees. Your generous support is greatly appreciated and has helped to make a greener Greenville.

Patsy Duke President  
ReLeaf Board of Directors

## ReLeaf Information

### Board of Directors:

Patsy Duke, President  
Andrea Pike, Vice President  
Rebecca Powers, Secretary  
Patrice Alexander, Treasurer  
Alice Arnold  
Brian Carawan  
Marly Irby  
Susan Martin-Meggs  
Jon Shaw  
Brandon Webb

## Visit

[www.releaf.us](http://www.releaf.us)

Visit us online for complete information on the work of ReLeaf, pictures of our events and activities, and contribution and membership forms.

## ReLeaf and Greenville Arbor Day Celebration

The City of Greenville and ReLeaf partnered with South Greenville Elementary School and ECU Community School to plant three trees, a Chinese elm, a willow oak and a Shumar oak, on the school's shared playground to celebrate Arbor Day. "We promote canopy trees", said Devin Thompson, the city's buildings and grounds superintendent. "They are indigenous to the area."

ReLeaf awarded 10 prizes to student participants in an annual essay contest on ***The Importance of trees***. Arbor Day allows the community to demonstrate its appreciation for the beauty of trees and teach young people the responsibility of caring about the world around them, said Alison Covington, principal of South Greenville Elementary School. "To be able to have real-world experience with all the things they've been learning is important," said Tracy LeVerne Cole, Principal of ECU Community School. The ceremony included an Arbor Day proclamation by the mayor of Greenville, Mr. PJ Connelly: "It's important that the continual growth in the city is smart growth that incorporates policies to make sure there isn't clear-cutting of trees and that existing trees are preserved and new vegetation is planted."

Presentation of the Tree City USA flag to the school was held by the Pitt County park ranger Robin Weber and a slide show about trees was presented by Hannah Smith, Resource Conservation Specialist for Pitt County. Alice Arnold, ReLeaf board member, organized the event.

## Kevin Heifferon Retires

Kevin Heifferon, Assistant Director of Public Works and Arborist for the City of Greenville retired in May after serving our community for 25 years. During his tenure, Kevin was the City's liaison to ReLeaf and was responsible for helping to plan and implement all of ReLeaf's planting projects. Kevin spent many hours working with board members to select planting sites, draw the planting design, choose the tree species and carry out the planting. He also kept a map with an inventory of trees planted by ReLeaf and their sites. The board of ReLeaf wishes to thank Kevin for his dedicated service to and passion for the beautification of Greenville.







## Past Events Updates

### Earth Day Celebration

Earth Day was celebrated on April 26, 2025, at the Eastern Carolina Village and Farm Museum. Groups attending included The Cypress Group of the Sierra Club, ReLeaf, FROGGS, The North Carolina Conservation Network, Pitt County Master Gardeners, Vegetarians in Pitt County, and GUC. The museum held a plant sale during the event.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Releaf members participated with Friends of Greenville Greenways (FROGGS) in a letter writing event advocating for better tree ordinances in Greenville and for state support for parks and trails. The event was held at East Carolina University.

ReLeaf has joined a coalition with other environmental groups in Greenville. The aim of this coalition is to pool resources to improve tree ordinances and improve multi-modal use of public pathways.

## Commemorative Tree Program

The Commemorative Tree Program allows citizens and organizations to honor or memorialize fellow citizens or loved ones through the donation of a tree to ReLeaf. Names of those honored or memorialized are displayed in ReLeaf's Book of Honor which is displayed at Shepard Memorial Library for all citizens to see. The honored person or the memorialized person's family is notified about the donor's gift. Trees that are donated through the Commemorative Tree Program are planted as a part of ReLeaf's annual planting projects in Greenville.

## Commemorative Trees planted since August 2024

### In Memory of:

Peggy Rose Corbitt, Samia Sullivan, Connie Minges Bond, Linda King Welch, William Richard Frelove, Edward T. Schlichting, Peter Stellato, Patricia Minges-Kalinowski, Camille Clark

### In Honor of:

Lyndale Garden Club – 50 Years, Potpourri Garden Club. Kevin Heifferon