

Agenda

TREE BOARD

Regular meeting

9 a.m. Wednesday, Mar. 19, 2025

Board Meeting Room of Town Hall Annex, 105 E. Corbin St.



1. Call to order, roll call, and confirmation of quorum

2. Agenda changes and approval

3. Minutes review and approval

Minutes from regular meeting on Feb. 19, 2025

4. Discussion items

- A. Climate Challenge planning
- B. Earth Evening planning: April 25, 2025, from 6-8pm at the David Price Farmers' Market in River Park

5. Updates

- A. Prohibited Plant List
- B. Invasive Removal Team
- C. Garden Club
- D. Staff: Creek Week, cemetery plantings, FY25 Leave the Leaves campaign results

6. Adjournment

Interpreter services or special sound equipment for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act is available on request. If you are disabled and need assistance with reasonable accommodations, call the Town Clerk's Office at 919-296-9443 a minimum of one business day in advance of the meeting.

Minutes

TREE BOARD

Regular meeting

9 a.m. Feb. 19, 2025

Board Meeting Room of Town Hall Annex, 105 E. Corbin St.



Present: Chair Tim Logue, Tom Darling, Brian Mayell, Mixon Nelson,
Linda Paynter and Greg Yavelak

Staff: Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood

1. Call to order, roll call and confirmation of quorum

Chair Tim Logue called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

2. Agenda changes and approval

Motion: Member Tom Darling moved approval the agenda. Member Greg Yavelak seconded.

Vote: 6-0

3. Minutes review and approval

Minutes from regular meeting on Jan. 15, 2025

Motion: Member Linda Paynter moved approval of the Jan. 15, 2025, minutes as submitted. Member Tom Darling seconded.

Vote: 6-0

4. Discussion items

A. No Mow March planning

The board members discussed issuing several press releases and social media posts over the month of March to break up information into digestible amounts. Staff will work with the Communications team to determine the number of posts.

B. Creek Week Planning

Members Tim Logue and Brian Mayell will lead a tour of riparian restoration areas on March 15th and host an invasive species removal workday. Member Tom darling offered to set up a Tree Board information table at the Eno River brewing event. Staff will work with the Stormwater team to determine the feasibility of tabling.

C. Town Cemetery plantings

Members discussed planting 5-7 eastern red cedars, 2 beech trees, and 2 swamp chestnut oaks (or swamp white oak if swamp chestnuts aren't available) in the lower section of the town cemetery. Staff will get quotes from landscape contractors.

D. Prohibited Plant List

Member Brian Mayell reviewed methodology for developing prohibited plant list to inform Unified Development Ordinance rewrite.

5. Updates

A. Garden Club

Trueblood shared club events as submitted by Garden Club president Tammy Dorman.

B. Invasive Removal Team

Member Tim Logue shared that the team is now working near Calvin Street and in Gold Park and will continue to plant live stake plants along Riverwalk in riparian restoration areas. The team is also planting ferns near the old Stickworks sculpture site. Member Brian Mayell shared that the team is hoping to identify a site along Riverwalk to harvest live stakes and is working with town staff to determine a suitable location.

C. Staff

Trueblood reported:

- She is working on a native plant policy for town properties that is based on the policy adopted by the state. Tree Board members agreed to use the state policy as a template for a town policy.
- Tree Board will host an invasive species removal workday during the Climate Challenge in April. Staff will also give a talk about ecological landscaping. Dates TBD.
- The town is starting a rain barrel purchasing program on March 17, 2025. The rain barrels will be available for purchase at a wholesale cost and will include connection kits.
- Trueblood reported that an arborist who lives in Cary and works for Leaf and Limb in town has applied to Tree Board. His appointment will be sent to town board in March.

6. Adjournment

Tim Logue adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephanie Trueblood
Public Space and Sustainability Manager
Staff support to the Tree Board

Approved: Mar. 19, 2025

Hillsborough Climate Challenge April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>Hillsborough Climate Challenge Kickoff! March 28th at Last Fridays Art Walk Pop-Up at Cup-A- Joe 6:00pm - 8:00pm</p> <p>Pick up your HCC Calendar at participating venues. Visit participating galleries, restaurants and shops. Spread the word, find us on Facebook and Instagram @HillsboroughClimateChallenge.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, March 29</u> Odie Street Stream Stabilization Workday 9:00am - noon</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Nature and Photo Foraging Stroll Riverwalk & HCC Pop-Up Weaver Street Market 11:00am - noon</p> <p>Ecological Landscaping Stephanie Trueblood Orange County Public Library 6:30pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>Hillsborough's Tree Board Volunteer Workday Help remove invasives Riverwalk 2:00pm - 4:00pm</p> <p>Purple Crow Books Browse Climate-themed Books</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Book Talk <i>On the Swamp: Fighting for Indigenous</i> Environmental Justice Ryan Emanuel, PhD Orange County Public Library 6:30pm - 8:00pm</p> <p>Orange County Historical Museum Exhibit Name? Children's Area</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>Good Ideas Bring your earth-friendly products and ideas Orange County Public Library 1:00pm - 2:30pm</p> <p>Poster Contest Exhibit & Recognition Orange County Public Library 5:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>Eno River Farmers Market Compost Station Buy local, Compost 10:00am - noon</p> <p>Hillsborough Community Garden Tour 10:00am - noon</p> <p>RambleRill Farm Film Discussion <i>Perfect Days</i> 3:00pm</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>Endswell and Bluestem Open House & Tours</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>HCC Pop-Up Meatless Mondays Climate App Orange County Public Library 10:00am - noon *while there browse Climate Books display</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>Recycling Do's and Don'ts Rod Jones Orange County Public Library 2:00pm - 3:30pm</p> <p>Recycle & ReUse Shop and Drop off At local thrift and second hand stores</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>Orange County's Climate Action Plan Discussion Amy Eckberg and Mel Gilles OCPL 6:30pm - 7:30</p> <p>Earth and Nature Exhibits Visit Art Galleries (Arts and Eats Guide)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>Climate Talk The Future of Climate Policy Ashley Ward OCPL 6:30pm - 8:00</p> <p>Weaver Street Market Explore organic, locally grown foods and environmentally friendly products</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>Reduce Your Home's Carbon Footprint Habitat for Humanity OCPL 2:00pm - 3:30</p> <p>Eat Local! Check out local restaurants (Arts and Eats Guide)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>Fairview Community Cleanup Day 9:00am - noon</p> <p>RambleRill Farm Book discussion <i>The Serviceberry</i> 3:00</p>

13	14	15	16	17	18	19
The Buzz About Pollinators Fun and info for every age At the Bee Hotel and Pollinator Garden Gold Park 2:00pm - 4:00	HCC Pop-Up Challenge Info Meatless Mondays Climate Apps Lobby OCPL 2:00pm - 4:00	Composting for Everyone – the Why’s and How’s. Bonnie B. Davis Ctr. Orange Co. Complex Hillsborough 2:30pm - 4:00	Go for a meditative walk or go birdwatching at Bluestem Conservation Cemetery Weaver Street Market Explore organic, locally grown foods and environmentally friendly products	Climate Talk Forever Chemicals and Microplastics Emily Sutton Passmore Center 6:30pm - 7:30pm	Explore Climate Series -Weathered: Earth’s Extremes -Evolution Earth -Changing Planet -Tipping point -Our Planet	Get Outside With the HCC 1:00pm Forest Bathing 2:00pm Kid’s Nature Scavenger Hunt 1:00pm - 3:00 EV Meet -Up, Q&A Blackwood Farm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
EASTER SUNDAY	Climate Video Series Teek and Tom Explore Planet Earth NOAA’s First Animated Series	Children’s Movie The Lorax OCPL 4:00 <u>EARTH DAY</u>	Keep Your Trees Healthy! Learn how to control and remove invasive ivy from your trees. See this link		OC Earth Evening Eno River Farmers Market OC Down-to-Earth Celebration	

2024's Climate Challenge Passport

3/29 9am-noon (Rain date April 5) Odie Street Stream Stabilization Project w/Piedmont Conservation Council, Town of Hillsborough, Habitat For Humanity of Orange County and Fairview Community Watch.

4/2

2:00-4:00 pm Join Hillsborough's Tree Board Volunteers on the Riverwalk as they remove invasive plants. Please wear long pants, long sleeves, and closed-toed shoes. Bring pruners if you have them. Extra tools will be available. Please sign up [here](#).

4/9 ***Orange County's Climate Action Plan Q&A***

Orange County Library

137 W. Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, 27278

6:30-7:30 pm

Learn how Orange County's [Climate Action Plan](#) will be used to create a more sustainable, resilient community in the face of climate change. Orange County's Sustainability Programs Manager, Amy Eckberg and Sustainability Analyst, Mel Gilles, will explain the county's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the coming years and how the county will use strategies, programs, and policies to address the climate emergency. Q&A to follow.

4/12 9am-noon Fairview Community Litter Cleanup w/Fairview Community Watch and UNC Food, Fitness, and Opportunity Research Collaborative (UNC FFORC).

4/17

Join us at the Passmore Center from 6:30-7:30 for a talk with.

Emily Sutton:

How to mitigate the dangers of microplastics and forever chemicals in our daily lives.

Emily is the Executive Director of Haw River Assembly, and the Haw Riverkeeper. She manages citizen science projects to watchdog against sediment pollution and monitors the tributaries and main stem of the Haw River. She is leading the fight against pollution in the Haw River on many fronts.

4/19 Climate Challenge Celebration at Blackwood Farm to include: EV car, bike, motorcycle.... show, Poster recognition, Planet friendly products, Kid scavenger hunt, composting demo, tree planting demo?, Dark Sky information - light pollution, Meatless Monday info table, pledge card table, Master Garden table/info, OC Sustainability table - Karina, electric lawn equipment

For when we do a display at the library?? According to the [Patagonia repair webpage](#):

"The average adult disposes of 70 pounds of apparel into the landfill each year—an appalling number by any standard, especially when you consider that keeping a piece of clothing for just nine more months can reduce that product's associated CO2 emissions by 27 percent, its water use by 33 percent and its waste by 22 percent. Simply put, the longer we use our stuff, the smaller the impacts become."

2/5

Going forward we will leave notes about specific events here. How we want the event presented on the calendar and in the Green Guide and Arts and Eats.

2/6 Participant signs and posters - 4 galleries, Purple Crow, ? restaurants, Ann & Arthur's, library, museum, Weaver Street,

RambleRill, Endswell, Bluestem, Farmers Market, Extension Building

Stephanie said the antique jewelry store did a window display of nature for sustainability. I may ask about that for April.

REMINDER We want to put 'LOGO ARTWORK BY ELAINE O'NEIL' somewhere on the calendar.

2/19 Let's review some of the PBS Climate shows - PBS has multiple series that explore climate change, including Weathered: Earth's Extremes, Changing Planet, Hot Mess, Evolution Earth, and FRONTLINE



And Kid's show Teek and Tom Explore Planet Earth <https://oceantoday.noaa.gov/teekandtom/>

2/25 GREEN GUIDE entry April 1st Stephanie Trueblood (bio from last year)

"Ecological Landscaping

Info from Google: Ecological landscaping is a design approach that considers the environment when choosing plants and managing landscapes. The goal is to create gardens that benefit people and wildlife.

3/1 Recycling talk info

Rod, Our Climate Challenge calendar is filling up and I am trying to find which afternoons and facilities are available. Do you have a couple afternoons in April around 2:00 that you would be available to give a one hour presentation about the Do's and Don'ts of Recycling. What days are best for you? Many people are

still confused about what can be recycled and which products and types of packages are best to purchase. What changes can individuals make to be more environmentally friendly? App info

From Stephanie - I'd like to introduce you to Rod, copied on this email. He is the town's Facility Coordinator but also worked for years at Orange County Solid Waste. Rod said he is willing to help with the recycling talk. Please share details on topics you want covered and date/time of talk. Thanks!

For April 13, **Buzz about Pollinators**

Fun and inspiration for all ages at Gold Park's Bee Hotel and beautiful Pollinator Garden, featuring volunteers of the Orange County Extension Master Gardeners, Orange County beekeepers, and representatives of the Town of Hillsborough Public Spaces & Sustainability and Tree Board. 415 Dimmock's Mill Rd, Hillsborough. 2 - 4 PM

April 15, **Composting for Everyone: the Why's and How's**. Bonnie B. Davis Environment and Agricultural Center, 1020 US 70 West, Hillsborough. Experts from the Orange County Solid Waste Mgt. program will join the Orange Co. Cooperative Extension Agent to show you how easy and worthwhile composting is for a healthier planet. See examples of composting accessories. 2:30 - 4 PM.

March Garden Club Updates

- We awarded 4 grants this spring cycle totaling just over \$3600. Recipients: Backyard Butterflies (Moth Crawl event), OE Enterprises (refurbish raised bed gardens) , Master Gardener Seed program, Wendy Olson arboretum.
- Our next general meeting is this Thursday March 13.
Program: Local Wildlife and Snakes/Snake Id and How to Live with Them
Hillsborough United Methodist Church
9:30 am social, 10:00 am program
Presenter: Hayley Quay, Zoologist and Former Naturalist for the Eno River State Park
Hayley will discuss common types of wildlife that live around us, how to identify different species and how to coexist with them. She might even have a surprise visitor for us!
- Tickets are on sale for The Garden tour on May 3rd. Sales are off to a good start. We've recruited over 100 volunteers. The tour is featured in the Chapel Hill Magazine.

Have a great week!

Tammy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 5, 2025

Contact:

Stormwater and Environmental Services Manager Terry Hackett
terry.hackett@hillsboroughnc.gov or 919-296-9621

Participate in Creek Week Activities

HILLSBOROUGH — Several Creek Week activities are offered in Hillsborough and Orange County March 15-22.

Get to know Hillsborough town staff, local volunteers and other residents while participating in the following events:

- **10 a.m. to noon March 15 and 2-4 p.m. March 19** — Join the Hillsborough Invasive Species Removal Team in removing invasive plants in Gold Park and along the Riverwalk greenway. Bring gloves and a water bottle and gardening tools such as loppers, hand pruners or a saw. Meeting locations are noted on the [registration](#) form.
- **4-6 p.m. March 20** — Help prepare a rain garden and landscaping for spring at the Dorothy N. Johnson Community Center, 501 Rainey Ave.
- **1-3 p.m. March 21** — Join the Hillsborough Stormwater and Environmental Services Division in planting and maintaining a bioswale along Riverwalk. Parking is available in the Eno River Brewing parking lot, 329 Eno Mountain Road.
- **9 a.m. to noon March 22** — Help refresh the stormwater wetlands area in Gold Park, 415 Dimmocks Mill Road. Wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get messy. The sign up for this event is through the Triangle Fly Fishers' [Meetup page](#).
- **Noon to 4 p.m. March 22** — Engage in hands-on exploration and activities at the Confluence Nature Fun Day, 4214 Highland Farm Road. Activities will include catching macroinvertebrate at the river, self-guided hikes and other hands-on learning activities about local creeks and waterways.
- **2-3 p.m. March 22** — Take a tour of the riparian restoration zones along Riverwalk guided by the Hillsborough Tree Board. Meet at the greenway entrance closest to Weaver Street Market, 228 S. Churton St.
- **3-9 p.m. March 22** — Visit the Creek Week celebration hosted by Eno River Brewing, 329 Eno Mountain Road. There will be live music, a food truck and tables hosted by several organizations.

Creek Week is celebrated regionally March 15-22 to engage the public on the importance of clean and healthy waterways. Visit the [Orange County Creek Week](#) webpage for a full list of resources and events planned in Orange County.

For more information about Hillsborough events, contact the Hillsborough Stormwater and Environmental Services Division by [email](#) or by phone at 919-296-9621. To get a look at creeks around Hillsborough, see past Creek Week videos from the division on the [Environmental Initiatives](#) playlist of the town's YouTube channel.

###

PHOTO CAPTION: Volunteers install native plants in a bioswale along the Riverwalk greenway during Creek Week 2024.



INSTALLATION ESTIMATE

Town of Hillsborough Tree Board
Attention: Stephanie Trueblood

March 10th, 2025

DESCRIPTION

Tree Installation at Town Cemetery

Botanical Name / Common Name	Size	Qty
Fagus grandiflora / Beech	15 gallon	2
Juniperus virginiana / Virginia Juniper	7' - 0" B&B	7
Quercus bicolor / Swamp White Oak	15 gallon	2

All plants will be prepped with a 50/50 topsoil/compost blend and finished off with a 2" layer of triple shredded hardwood mulch.

Metal Caging Installation

All plants will be wrapped in a metal cage re-inforced with 3/8" rebar.

2024 SEASON

Leave Your Leaves

Key Collaborators

Orange County • Town of Carrboro

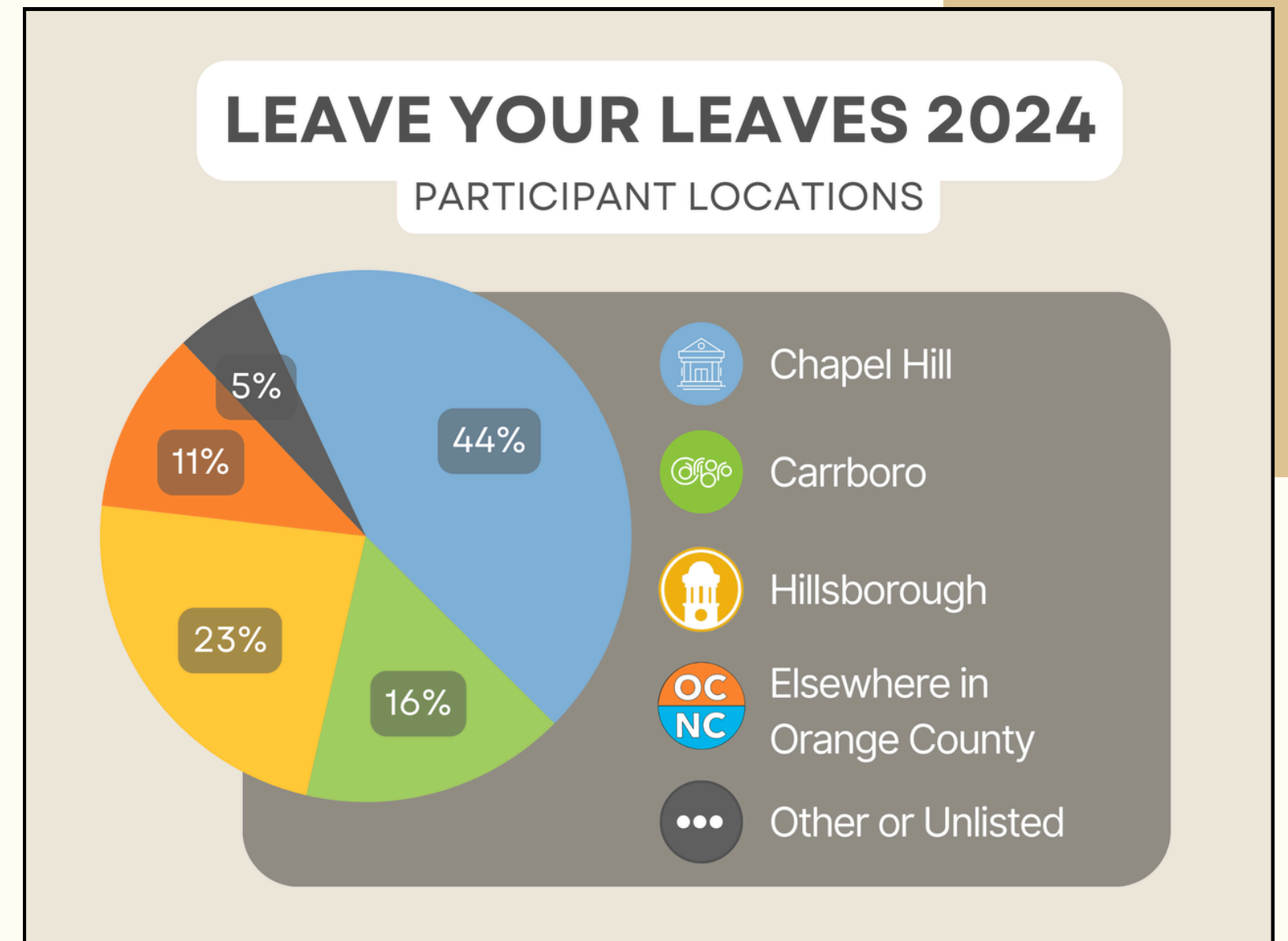
Town of Hillsborough • Town of Chapel Hill

New Hope Bird Alliance



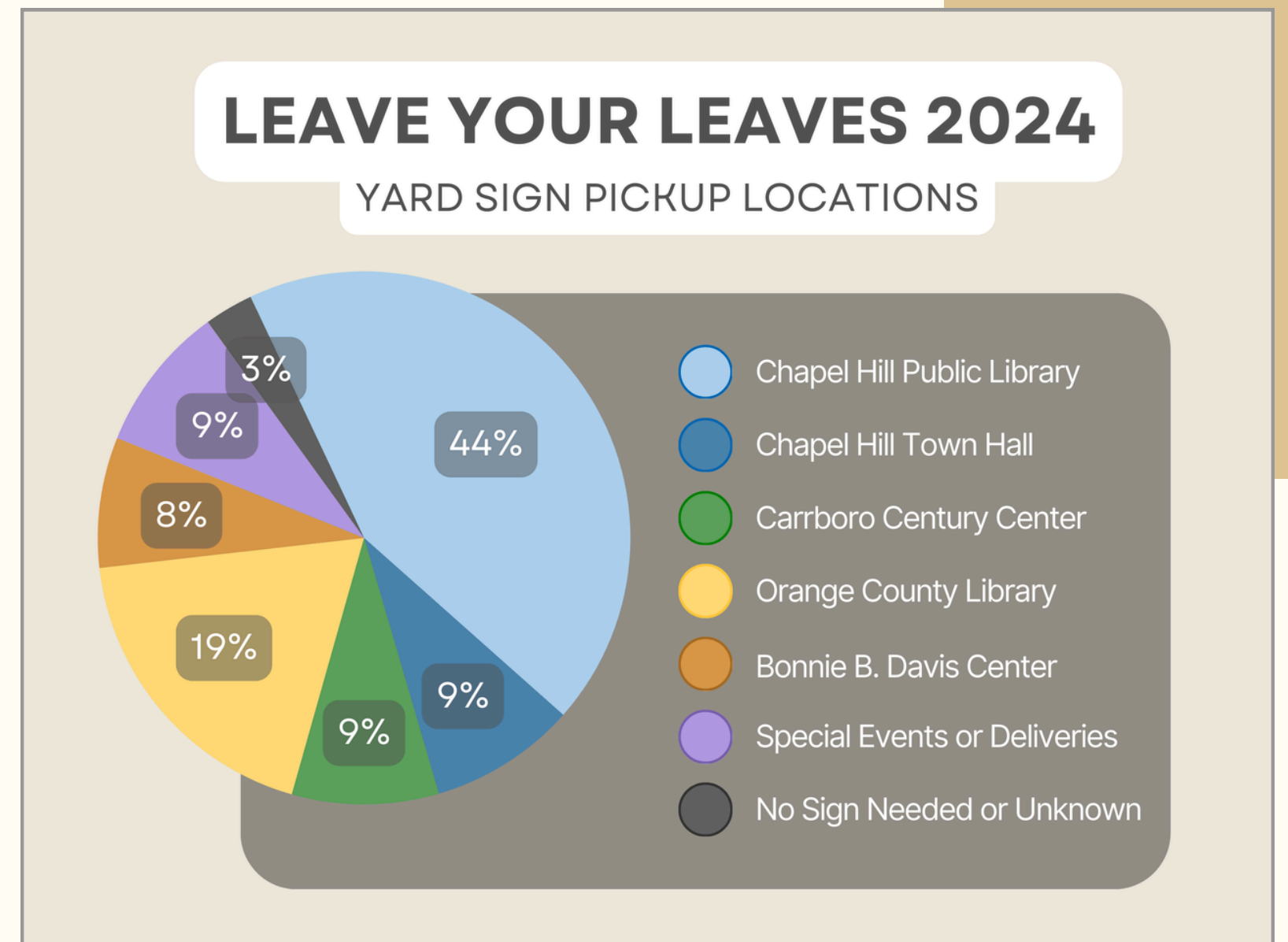
Participation and Partnerships

- From early October 2024 through early January 2025, **317 people** pledged to leave their leaves.
- This is almost **twice as many participants as the previous season**.
- This increase is associated with **expanding to a county-wide program**.
- While Chapel Hill had the most participants, about **50% of the pledge respondents** lived in other parts of Orange County.



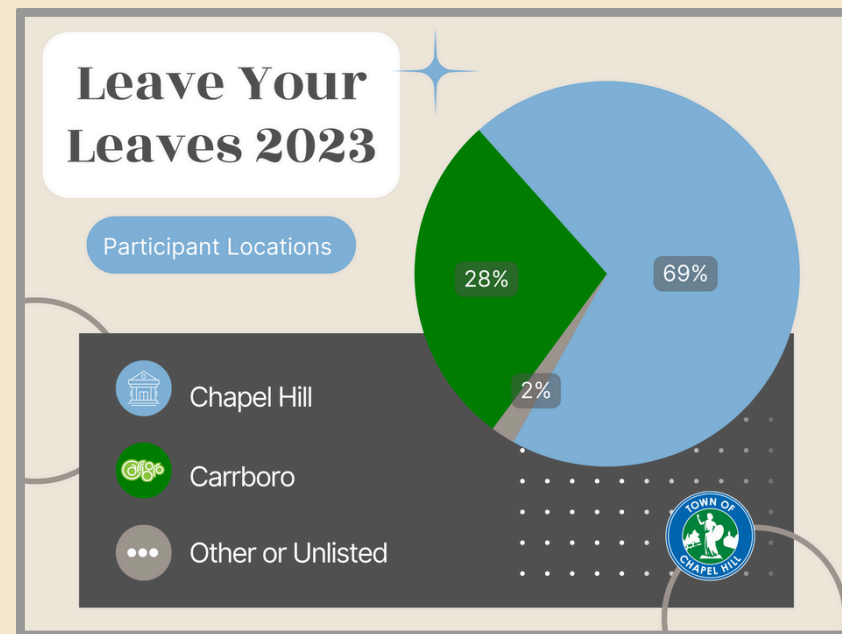
Site Partners and Info Stations

- From early October through the end of November, site partners around Orange County hosted informational displays that allowed community members to learn about the Leave Your Leaves program, sign pledges, and pick up yard signs.
- Libraries were particularly popular yard-sign pickup locations.
- Yard signs were still available at Chapel Hill Town Hall after November by special arrangement.



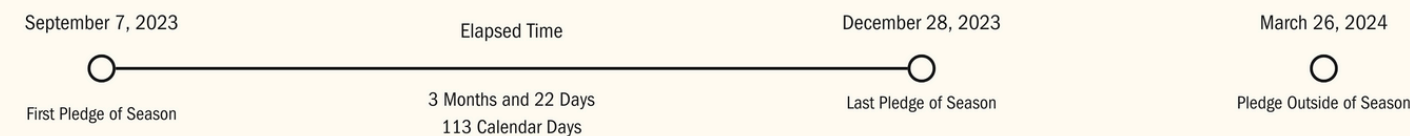
Comparision Between Seasons

2023 SEASON

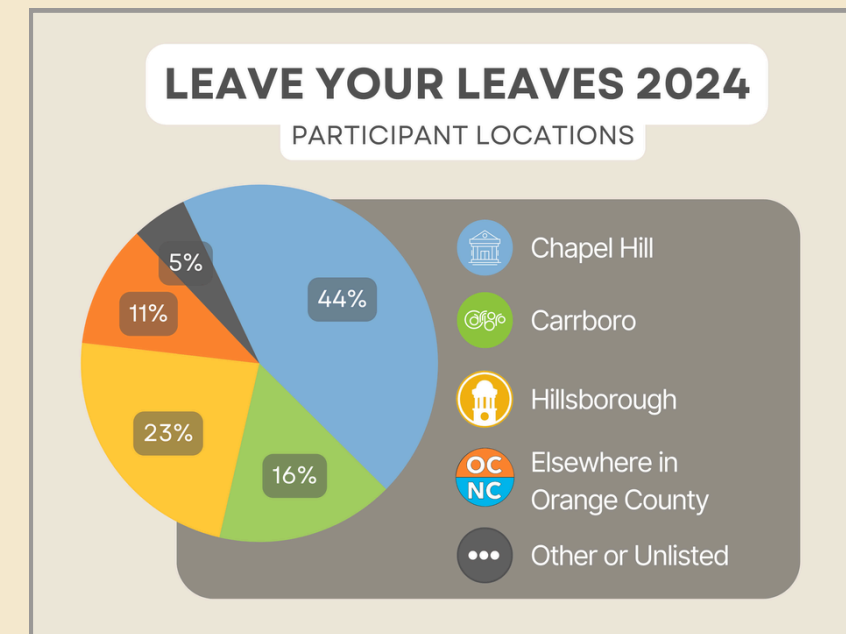


From early September through the end of December in 2023, 165 people pledged to leave their leaves.

2023 SEASON TIMELINE

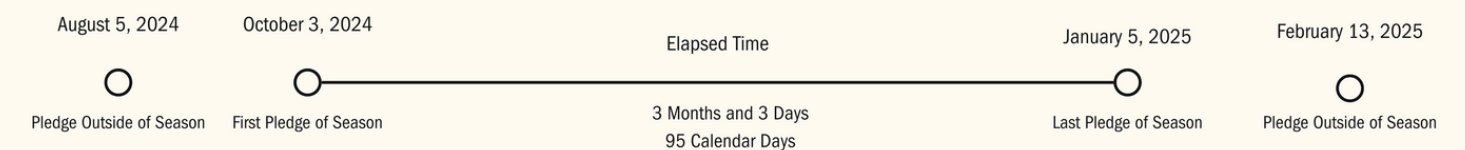


2024 SEASON




From early October 2023 through early January 2024, 317 people pledged to leave their leaves.

2024 SEASON TIMELINE



Positive Feedback

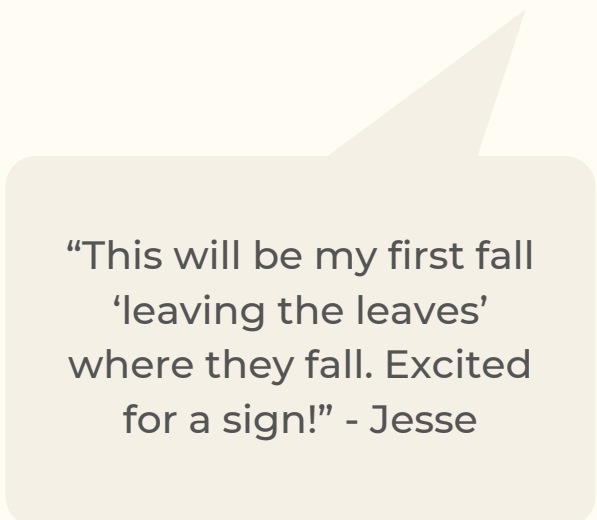
Dozens of residents provided positive comments about the Leave Your Leaves program during this past season.



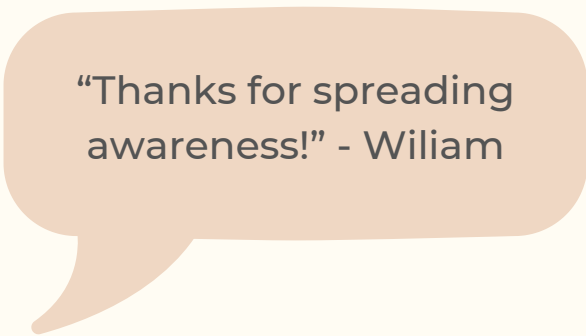
"I kept the sign from last year and will continue to put it out each fall/winter for as long as it holds up! I leave it till spring when the ground temps are warm enough to give all these insects and critters time to emerge. Our firefly, butterfly, and bird populations that visit our yard get higher and higher every year I think this was our 3rd fall leaving the leaves, and we also exclusively plant natives too. Every bit makes a difference! Supporting biodiversity is one of the most effective ways an individual can have on climate change. We must do our part!" - Sam



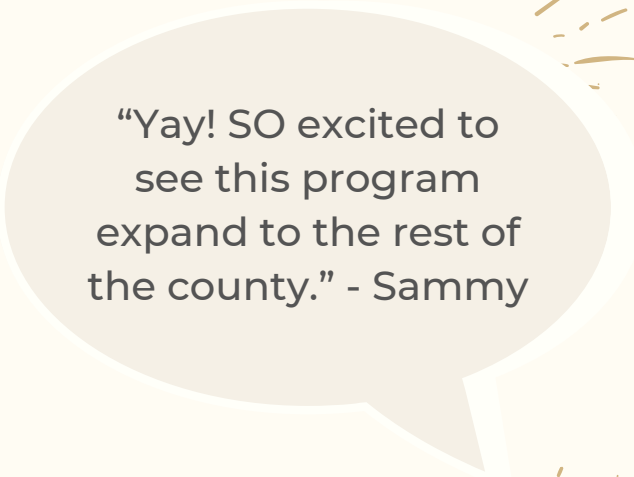
"Thanks for this initiative!" - Lindsay




"This will be my first fall 'leaving the leaves' where they fall. Excited for a sign!" - Jesse




"Thanks for spreading awareness!" - William



"Yay! SO excited to see this program expand to the rest of the county." - Sammy

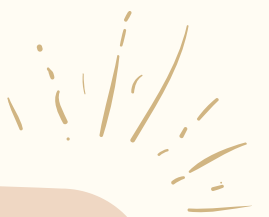


"Thank you for providing these & promoting this environmentally friendly initiative!" - Justine



"I really appreciate this campaign's information on the benefits to invertebrates. We have a population of solitary bees because of leaving our leaves and less lawn in our front yard." - Sue

"Thank you for this service." - Patty




"Thank you for supporting our community in this way"
- Mary

"Thank you!!!"
- Patricia


"Love this program.
Thanks to all pickup centers!!!"
- Marguerite

"We always leave leaves 😎"
- Art and Elizabeth

"Love the sign and tote bag designs and happy to help promote the program!" - Catherine



"I already have my sign from last year and I put it up again the moment leaves began to fall!"
- Alexandra



"Great Program!" - Patricia

"Thank you!!! This was very helpful to learn about." - Katelin

"Thank you for this important campaign to benefit our ecosystem and reduce flooding." - Barbara

2024 SEASON

Conclusion

Thank You!

Any Final Questions?

