NOTABLE TREES OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

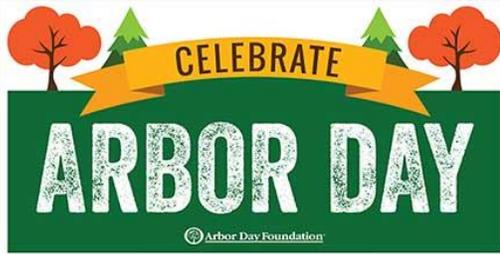**Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District**
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 70 Years

Franklin County may be a very urban county with a major city and many municipalities which include plenty of buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, etc., however it also has many great natural areas to visit and some amazing trees to see. The goal of this document is to provide location ideas to go outside and explore.

Celebrate Arbor Day Everyday!

Arbor Day is a special **day** that is set aside throughout the world to raise awareness of trees and the **important** role that they play in our environment. The **day** is celebrated on different dates around the world, depending on local seasons and temperature.

Not only is it necessary to protect existing trees and plant new ones, but it's also important to advocate and educate about trees and forest conservation within your community.

The 2021 Conservation poster contest theme was: "Healthy Forest, Healthy communities" recognizing that trees are a vital resource as they absorb carbon from the atmosphere, stabilize the soil, filter water, provide healthy habitat for wildlife and offer many additional benefits – for nature, people and biodiversity.

Nearly 1,000 students in Franklin County celebrated the importance of trees by participating in the Conservation Poster Contest.

VISIT THESE FRANKLIN COUNTY SITES TO SEE SOME AMAZING TREES!
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Columbus and Franklin County may be a very urban county with plenty of buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, etc. however it also has many great natural areas to visit with some amazing trees to see. Here are a few examples:

Topiary Garden at Deaf School Park

Columbus Parks and Recreation:

There are six State Champion Big Trees in the Columbus parks system. These trees have been identified through the American Forest Big Tree Program for their age, strength and endurance.

Greenlawn Cemetery:

- 313 year old White Oak:

Jeffrey Park in Bexley:

- Giant pawpaw trees in the Alum Creek floodplain on the nature trail. Pawpaw is our state native fruit!

Lower Olentangy Urban Arboretum: Lower Olentangy Urban Arboretum | Clintonville, Columbus, Ohio Walking Trails near Indianola Informal K-8 School

North of Columbus:

- Giant Cottonwood Tree – 136 feet tall, 31 feet around – second largest tree in Ohio and largest Eastern Cottonwood tree east of the Mississippi River

Metro Parks:

Many of the Metro Parks are home to a variety of notable trees. And woodland examples:

Highbanks-
- Grand sycamores along the Olentangy River
- Giant Oaks by the Pool Cemetery on the Overlook Trail, estimated to be 200-300—years old
- Learn about streambank restoration through signage on the Dripping Rock Trail

Sharon Woods -
- Our state tree the Ohio buckeye can be found by the ranger station
- The Edward Thomas Trail is home to many large oaks - swamp white oak, chinkapin, and white oak. One that fell along the trail was aged at 191 years old! (Think of all it has seen since 1830!!)
- Tulip trees are growing by the office. Their leaf buds look like duckbills and they have gorgeous flowers in the springtime.

Three Creeks –
- Grove of conifers along the Alum Creek Trail that were planted in Columbus's Tree City Campaign

Walnut Woods -
- Great forest of pine trees in the Tall Pines area were originally planted as a part of the Eastside Nursery

- Massive Pin Oak on the Pin Oak Trail measures 110 feet tall, 19 feet in circumference and is estimated to be 150-200 years old. https://www.metroparks.net/blog/tidbits-to-discover-on-your-park-travels/

(Photographs are courtesy of Tanya Taylor, Metro Parks)