

Don't quit before the miracle.

It sounds simple...but after *four years* of meetings with City Council members and conversations with city officials to request the City of Asheville fund an urban forester position...the miracle was starting to seem like a mirage.

It would've been so easy to put this on pause and turn our attention to something else.

But we didn't.

"It's easy to take our urban trees for granted because we are surrounded by forests," said Dawn Chavez, Asheville GreenWorks Executive Director, **"but the trees we see outside our windows are the ones that directly protect our homes from flooding and extreme heat."**

They're too important.

So we kept working.

And so did you.



For the last four years, Asheville GreenWorks Executive Director Dawn Chavez and her colleagues on the City's (volunteer-led) Urban Forestry Commission, and our (also volunteer-led) GreenWorks Tree Protection Task Force led the charge to win first approval for, and then funding for an urban forester position within Asheville City government.

**And that's exactly what we did.
We won.**

Starting now (the hiring process is already underway!), the City of Asheville will join its peers in cities like Charlotte and Winston-Salem in giving an urban forester the responsibility and authority to protect the urban trees that sustain us.

"Our urban forests are under increasing pressure from human influences--such as changing land use, development, invasive insects and diseases--while at the same time we are increasingly dependent on our urban forests for clean air and water, energy conservation, the mitigation of urban heat island and climate change, and human health," said Ed Macie, chair of the GreenWorks Tree Protection Task Force, who added:

"By hiring someone to help professionally manage this precious resource, the city is taking a critical first step toward achieving a sustainable future."

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everybody who called and wrote letters this year and in past years.

Together, our persistence created the drumbeat that demonstrated to our Asheville City Council how much residents value urban trees.

Next goal! An urban forest master plan!
Stay tuned, tree guardians!

-- Events and Volunteer Days This Week --



Pollinator Garden Tour

Reems Creek Nursery

Saturday, July 9
10am

76 Monticello Road,
Weaverville, NC 28787

[Register](#)



Carolina Mountain Jam River Cleanup

Sunday, July 10
11am - 1:30pm

438 Hooper Lane
Mills River, NC 28759

[Join Us](#)

YELP Superheroes Begin their WNC Adventures



Our YELP program kicked off this June, and our high-energy high schoolers are doing amazing work in and around WNC -- from elk tagging and macroinvertebrate research at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, to orchard maintenance at the Hillcrest Neighborhood Apple Orchard to cleaning out local Trash Trouts and assisting in recycling education through cart-tagging events.

We're so grateful to have YELP Assistant Michael Forte, Environmental Educator (and YELP alumna) Tallis Monteiro, and Education Director Joele Emma at the helm of this fantastic program. We can't wait to see what ya'll do next!

-- Coming Up Later this Month. --

Hard 2 Recycle West

Sunday, July 16
10am - 2pm

Hominy Valley Elementary School
450 Enka Lake Rd.
Candler, NC 28715



[Sign Up to Volunteer](#)



**Penland Creek Cleanup
in the WECAN Neighborhood**

Sunday, July 17
1 - 4pm

21 Craven St., Asheville, NC 28806

[Join Us](#)



**Urban Garden Tour & Tasting With
Bountiful Cities**

Saturday, July 30
2 - 6pm

*Bee City AVL will be at Lucy S.
Herring Elementary School Garden
98 Sulpher Springs Rd.

[Register](#)

Don't Forget to Upgrade Your Volunteer Status



Our dedicated volunteers are the heart of GreenWorks, and you are doing SO MUCH GOOD WORK in the community that we needed a new way to keep track of it all.

Our new system lets you create an account to make it easier to sign up to volunteer at upcoming events as well as to track your hours (*ahem -- all you students who want service hours).

Save yourself a step the next time you sign up for an event by creating your profile now.

[Create a Volunteer Profile](#)

-- Happening All Month --



Bee City AVL Raffle

Win a Customized Native Pollinator Garden!

Ends July 31
Drawing: August 1

Tickets: \$20

[Get Your Tickets](#)



Sand Hill Tree Nursery Volunteer Workdays

Every Tuesday
10am-12pm

24 Apac Dr. Asheville, NC 28806

Join Us

Asheville GreenWorks inspires, equips and mobilizes individuals and communities to take care of the places we love to live.



Donate