

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center

# Honorary Trees

### Help Restore Native Habitat - \$500

Your honorary tree will be planted as part of an important large-scale habitat restoration project. In 2024, honorary trees will most likely be planted in the Hardwood Swamp, a remarkable example of habitat transformation that is providing a welcome and stunning visual change at Lake Drive and Brown Deer Road. Trees will be located off-trail.

Donation includes:

- Purchase and installation of tree
- Protective materials as needed, such as wrapping to prevent deer browse
- Ongoing care of tree watering and weeding until established
- Commemorative map, including coordinates of tree and special messaging

### Adopt a Favorite Tree - \$1,000

The Center is home to many unique, established trees, one of which may have already taken root in your heart. Any tree at the Center can be adopted, helping us to maintain the longevity of the tree for its full life span. Choose a long-time favorite, or trek our 6+ miles of trail to find a hidden gem.

Donation includes:

- Visual tree health verification by Director of Conservation
- Commemorative map, including coordinates of tree and special messaging

### Planta Trail-Side Tree - \$1,500

Your honorary tree will be planted at a trail-side location chosen in coordination with our Director of Conservation. This special option allows you to visit your tree to watch as it changes and grows throughout the seasons. Limited spots available!

Donation includes:

- Purchase and installation of tree
- Protective materials as needed, such as wrapping to prevent deer browse
- Ongoing care of tree watering and weeding until established
- Commemorative map, including coordinates of tree and special messaging

#### Which species of trees can be planted?

Native habitat restoration and trail-side trees will be chosen by the Director of Conservation to ensure each species is well-suited to the habitat in which it will be planted.

During the 2024 growing season, **Swamp White Oak** will be the likely choice of honorary tree, unless otherwise determined in coordination with the Director of Conservation. Swamp White Oak are well-suited to low-lying, moist areas and can grow much faster than other species of oaks, attaining a height of 60 to 70 feet and a trunk diameter of two to three feet. Like other oaks, they are extremely long-lived, and can live for more than three centuries! A list of suitable species can also be provided for your perusal, by request, and we will do our best to honor a specific species choice from the list. Choice of trees may vary by season and local availability.

#### When will my tree be planted?

Trees will be installed during the planting season immediately following receipt of request. The spring planting season is May 1 to July 15, and the fall planting is September 1 to November 15. Planting seasons are approximate and may vary according to weather and other factors.

#### Will my tree be guaranteed?

All native habitat restoration and trail-side trees are guaranteed for two years from the date of planting. If the tree fails to thrive, it will be replaced in the next appropriate planting season, free of charge.

A tree designated through the Adopt-a-Favorite tier will undergo a visual health check at the time of adoption, but in the event that if fails to thrive within two years, an alternative tree can be chosen as a replacement. A new map will also be provided.



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# Benches

#### Bench Placement for 20 Years - \$5,000

Your honorary or memorial bench will be placed at a trail-side location at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, and maintained for a duration of 20 years.

Donation includes:

- Construction of a high-quality, durable bench
- Forging of a bronze plaque, with your messaging, to be affixed to bench
- Ongoing preservation of bench and surrounding habitat
- Commemorative map, including coordinates of bench and special messaging

#### Bench Placement for 30 Years - \$7,000

Your honorary or memorial bench will be placed at a trail-side location at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, and maintained for a duration of 30 years.

Donation includes:

- Construction of a high-quality, durable bench
- Forging of a bronze plaque, with your messaging, to be affixed to bench
- Ongoing preservation of bench and surrounding habitat
- Commemorative map, including coordinates of bench and special messaging

## FAQs

#### Where can the bench be placed?

Schlitz Audubon's Director of Conservation regularly identifies new possible locations for benches as we review our trails and open new areas of the Center for exploration. If spaces are available, we will share a map of the locations or walk with you to view possible placement spots.

#### How long does it take for a bench to be created?

Once your donation is received, it typically takes about 12 weeks to build the bench, order and obtain the plaque, and place the bench at the desired location.

#### Will the bench be guaranteed?

Benches are guaranteed to remain in good repair for 20 or 30 years, depending on the level of donation. A bench will be completely rebuilt in the unlikely event that it becomes damaged.





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# Stone Courtyard & Bluff Pavilion

### **Courtyard Nature Niches - \$12,000**

The three Courtyard Nature Niches are intimate enclaves that surround the stone courtyard. Each Nature Niche features a semi-circle of seating boulders and will be surrounded by lush, native, pollinator-friendly greenery. At approximately twelve feet wide, each Niche will offer a quiet and reflective space for enjoying nature and engaging in nature-learning experiences. Two of three Niches are available for a named sponsorship, and we encourage inclusion of a favorite nature-based literary quote.

#### Native Habitat Gardens - \$10,000

Three Native Habitat Gardens surround the beautiful new courtyard, providing color and beauty while also serving as an immersive, open-air learning space and gardening demonstration site. The Savanna Garden features dappled sun / shade natives such as Michigan lily and smooth aster, the Woodland Garden highlights early-season bloomers like Dutchman's breeches and foamflower, while the Pollinator Garden showcases sun-loving showstoppers such as sweet black-eyed susan and cream indigo. Two fo the three Gardens are available for a named sponsorship and inclusion of a nature-based literary quote.

### **Courtyard Entrances - \$8,000**

Three Courtyard Pavilion Entrances welcome visitors into the Stone Courtyard. The Stone Trail entrance serves as the primary entry and starts where courtyard trail meets the boardwalk. This entrance is made of flagstone and spans approximately 150 square feet. A second point of access to the Courtyard and Pavilion is the 160-square-foot South Entrance, which sits between the boardwalk and the pavilion itself. The North Entrance, also at 224 square feet, starts at the end of the woodchip trail and provides access to the Pavilion and Courtyard via a flagstone foyer and stone steps. All three Courtyard Pavilion Entrances are available for a named sponsorship and inclusion of a nature-based literary quote.

