

TPO News, Events and Opportunities



Upcoming Events

November 20 at 10:00 a.m. -

Regular Monthly Meeting at CROSSROADS at the foot of Barbee Bridge

Planting Season-----

The best months to plant trees here are November, through February

Join or Donate to Tree Peace OKI

at Treepeaceoki.org

TPO Work Day

Thank you to those that showed up to help install the edging on the Butterfly Garden at Veterans Park on Friday 11/8. See the TPO Facebook page for pictures that Wendy Morris faithfully updates.

This was also an opportunity to meet the new Town of Oak Island Stormwater and Tree Program Manager, Brice Taylor who has great ideas for promoting the value of trees in our coastal environment. He is planning a 'Wine Under the Tree' event at Bill Smith Park where the town's signature Live Oak is being protected. There are protections planned for our 'Eve' at Middleton Park and plans for an Arbor Day event.

Brice was well prepared for the planned work and all that met him noted the very positive change in the Town's leadership and staff as regards tree protections.

OAKS ARE A 'KEYSTONE' SPECIES

A KEYSTONE species is a plant animal or microorganism that is vitally important to the environment. In architecture the keystone holds the arch structure together, remove it and the arch collapses.

In the plant world the oak tree supports more forms of life than any other tree. Acorns, the fruit of oak trees, are rich with fats, carbohydrates and proteins. They are a staple food for creatures like gray squirrels, wood mice, wood rats, fox, deer, bears and plenty of birds.

continued on page 2

About Us

Tree Peace OKI is a 509 (a) (2) dedicated to promoting and educating about the value of trees to Oak Island, NC. We may endeavor to influence legislation for that purpose but we may not support any candidates or political parties.

Contact us

We meet the third Wednesday every month at 10:00 a.m. Message us on our Tree Peace OKI Facebook page.

Treepeaceoki.org

Our Officers

Phil Dudley, President

Wendy Morris, Vice President

Nancy Martin, Treasurer

David Merkel, Secretary

Brunswick County News

All Commissioner Positions Retained by Incumbents

The incumbents positions on trees are only known by their previous actions since they did not respond to our questionnaire. They all won by large margins in this heavily Republican county. There are Republican Environmentalists, and we should focus on the Republican primary for the next BC Commissioner election.

continued from page 1

The Live Oak has adapted so well to the coastal environment that this sand bar that we live on would scarcely exist without it. The small oval leaves turn their backs to high winds and the twisted grain in the wood bends but resists breaking, the roots go deep in the sandy soil and will not topple over, especially so if interwoven with a copse of other trees. An oak tree can wick away 100 gallons of stormwater in a day. The structure above the sand and below hold the sand from erosion as does the tree 'litter'.

Biodiversity is important but the Live Oak is our Keystone tree on Oak Island. It's 200 to 300 year life expectancy is above average in the oak tree species and also an ideal tree for long term carbon capture.

Enlarge Your Mulch Beds

A tree's best nourishment is its own litter, just as it would exist in nature. Grass is a challenge on Oak Island requiring regular watering, herbicides and fertilizers. The tree root system below ground roughly mirrors the above ground structure. A ten foot tall tree that has been in place three years is tapping our high water table and will not need watering except for an extreme drought condition. Your trees will benefit from a large natural mulch bed. You will benefit from having less labor- intensive grass to care for(!).

When unwanted tree seedlings or tree tags appear, hoe them, pluck them or hit them with a string trimmer - never spray them with any type of weed killer. And please keep your string trimmers a safe distance from the tree trunk.