



# WISSAHICKON RESTORATION! VOLUNTEERS

*Community-based ecological restoration since 1997*

Year End Update - December 2023

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## 2023 VOLUNTEER IMPACT

2023 saw an increased number of volunteers who come out to help WRV restore the natural areas of the Wissahickon and were able to plant more trees than ever!

OVER  
**250 TREES  
PLANTED!**

This year's restoration program focused on **restoring streamside plant communities** to the vital tributary streams that feed the Wissahickon.



Before planting, volunteers clear space by cutting back invasive species like japanese knotweed, mulitflora rose, and devil's walking stick, among others.



We planted wet-adapted trees such as **sycamore**, **swamp white oak**, and **silver maple**, as well as streamside shrubs like **silky dogwood** and **American hazelnut**. All of these plants support our local wildlife and help protect the water quality in the Wissahickon.

OVER  
**30 VOLUNTEER  
SESSIONS HELD**

Thanks to the individuals and groups who put in over **750 volunteer hours**, WRV was able to **increase the future tree canopy** in the park and **reduce the spread of invasive plants**.





## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024...

Next year, as part of maintaining our recent plantings, we plan to focus on the **underground soil biome** in our restoration sites, improving the fungus-based “wood wide web.”

We will also be hosting a Sierra Club Outings service trip in the Wissahickon, connecting volunteers throughout our region to an intensive restoration experience in the Wissahickon.

## 2023 volunteers included individuals and groups from:

- United Church of Christ
- Dock Mennonite School
- Germantown Friends School
- The Philadelphia School
- Christ United Methodist Church
- Congregation Mishkan Shalom
- Philadelphia Outward Bound School

## 2023 organizational partners included:

- Colonial Canopy Trees
- Wedgewood Nursery
- City Nature Challenge
- Friends of the Wissahickon
- Latino Outdoors



## HAPPY 2nd 25th ANNIVERSARY!

This year we celebrated our 25th anniversary again after our party the previous year got rained on. Maybe we'll do it again next year!

## TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, SUPPORTERS AND DONORS:



For more information on WRV or to donate online, please visit our website at [restorewissahickon.org](http://restorewissahickon.org)