



## Environmental stewardship matters

The Tuxedo Park Tree Advisory Board thanks you for joining us to celebrate

### Arbor Day USA

and honoring Dena Steele and former Mayor Houston Stebbins, the recipients of the

*Village of Tuxedo Park 2016 Arbor Day Award*

**Many thanks to the Sponsors of 2016 Arbor Day Celebration:**

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Tara Ciannella Catering  
George Grant Mason School teacher Anissa Kurian and students  
John Castricone, Daria Fatemi, Heidi Willins, Matt Willins  
Christopher Gow  
Mayor Mary Jo and Claude Guinchard  
Chiu Yin Hempel  
Jack Kilgore  
Shaun Neal  
Orange & Rockland, Mark Beamish  
Dena Steele  
The Tuxedo Club  
Tuxedo Park Garden Club

**Other supporters of Tree Advisory Board's mission and programs:**

Deputy Clerk John Ledwith  
Fred Rella, Village Grant Writer  
Deviners: Stephen Brodheim, David du Pont, Gardiner Hempel, Mike Granito, James Oberle  
Jeff Voss and the Tuxedo Park Department of Public Works  
Tuxedo Park Police Department

**Special thanks to those having made donations to the Village of Tuxedo Park specifically earmarked for the TPTAB**

The winning tree drawing, selected by Assemblyman Karl Brabenec, will be on display at the Village Office.

Arbor Day celebrations continue this Monday May 2, at 10am Come help us plant trees and shrubs, provided by the NYS DEC through their "Trees for Tribs" program, along the Augusta Brook, by the front gate.

The Arbor Day beech tree will also be planted in front of the Village Gatehouse.

The Tuxedo Park Tree Advisory Board (TPTAB) was established in January 2016 under the Tree City USA Charter. We have been hard at work since! Here are some highlights. But please visit [www.tptreeboard.org](http://www.tptreeboard.org) for details and real-time updates!

**1. Why are trees important?** Trees are critical to the economic and environmental prosperity of Tuxedo Park. By diminishing erosion and storm water (pollutants and sediments) runoff, trees keep clean our drinking water in the Tuxedo Lake and Wee Wah Ponds. These bodies of water flow into the Ramapo River, feeding millions in New York and New Jersey. Trees sustain our clean air. Trees contribute to the rustic character of our landscape and nurture a wildlife habitat rich in biodiversity. Our public and private woodlands provide the underpinning of our historical provenance (our listing on the National Register of Historic Places) and of our membership of Tree City USA.

**2. What does the TPTAB do?** We advocate responsible forestry management policies, implement tree conservation, education and planting programs and oversee the stewardship of trees on Village property.

**3. The Race Track a critical “green infrastructure”?** The trees on the embankments of Tuxedo Road and Clubhouse Road hold up the village roads! The “bowl” provides effective natural drainage for the surrounding hills. Without the Race Track we would have needed to install costly man-made infrastructures. The area is also the epicenter of biodiversity for Tuxedo Park and Orange County. Visit [www.tuxedoparknature.com/species](http://www.tuxedoparknature.com/species) for more information.

The ecological health of the Race Track is being threatened by invasive species, which deprive the existing trees of nutrients and prevent new native vegetation from growing. As the first step to combatting this threat, the TPTAB has hired Trillium Invasive Species Management Inc. to develop a removal, replanting (native trees and shrubs) and maintenance program.

**4. Getting help from the DEC?** To protect the quality of the water flowing into the Tuxedo Lake and Ramapo River, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Trees for Tribs (as in tributaries) Program is advising us on planting streamside vegetative buffers on public land owned by the Village. They are also providing free saplings! The first area we work on will be at Augusta Brook behind the Centennial flower bed (the Tuxedo Park Garden Club will be assisting us here), the right side of Tuxedo Road leading up to the Race Track, and the south end of Tuxedo Lake.

So, watch out for those green “TPTAB at work” notices at the front gate!

**5. Compete for the "Tree of the Month" photo:** Do send in photos of interesting trees and landscapes in Tuxedo Park by the last day of each month to [tptreeboard@gmail.com](mailto:tptreeboard@gmail.com).

The winner's photo will be posted on the homepage of the website the following month.

[www.tptreeboard.org](http://www.tptreeboard.org)

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