

OCTOBER 2025

AN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORKS INC.

## October In Review

*Jalen Prater*

October was full of installations, deliveries, and volunteers as we worked alongside community partners like Urban Earth, Lichterman Nature Center, Cordelia's Market, the Memphis Zoo, and Burch Porter & Johnson Law Firm to make native flowers, grasses, and trees more accessible across Memphis. These plant sales not only generates revenue to support the works mission, but also open direct conversations with residents about their landscaping challenges, helping us better meet local needs while supporting native biodiversity.

*ENOCH DELIVERS TO THE ZOO*



Next month we will begin planting eight new orchards in the Klondike district—featuring native crabapple, blueberry, American and Chickasaw plum, persimmon, pawpaw, elderberry, pecan, hazelnut, and muscadine—along with pollinator gardens designed to boost pollinator activity and increase fruit and nut yields throughout the neighborhood.

### ● IN THIS ISSUE



## Rent Joy, Return Roots



## Mid-South Circular Summit



## Preparing Memphis for a Greener Tomorrow

## Rent Joy, Return Roots

by Author

This holiday season, Memphis Native Tree Works is introducing Memphis's first Christmas Tree Rental Program, offering an eco-friendly way to celebrate while giving back to nature. Starting November 1st, families and businesses can rent a living, potted pine tree from our nursery and return it by January 31st, 2026 to be replanted or regenerated for future holidays. Each tree can be named and tagged, allowing you to rent the same one again next year—or have it planted at one of our community restoration sites. This initiative helps reduce waste, lower carbon footprints, and restore local tree canopy across the Delta region. The nearest program like this is in Mansfield, Georgia, making ours the first of its kind in Memphis and a major step toward greener holiday traditions. Please scan QR code below to sign up.



"CHRISTMAS" PINE TREES PLANTED AT MCFARLAND



MIKE AND ANNALISE AT MIDSOUTH CIRCULAR SUMMIT

## Memphis Native Tree Works Joins the Mid-South Circular Summit

by Author

The Clean Memphis Mid-South Circular Summit brought together regional leaders in sustainability and renewable energy at the FedEx Event Center in Shelby Farms Park. Memphis Native Tree Works was proud to be among the exhibitors, representing our city's regenerative efforts alongside partners like Get Green, Project Green Fork, Compost Fairy, Memphis Urban Wood, and the Binghampton Development Corporation.

The summit's panel discussions explored the challenges of maintaining recycling and renewable energy initiatives—from composting and mulching to food waste diversion and green manufacturing. One highlight was Memphis Urban Wood, the largest urban mill east of the Mississippi, which salvages fallen or removed trees and gives them a second life as furniture, lumber, and art. Their work embodies the principles of a circular economy, keeping valuable materials in use and reducing landfill waste while promoting sustainable forestry practices.

Events like the Circular Summit strengthen collaboration among Memphis's green leaders, showing how local innovation can close the loop between conservation, community, and commerce.



BURCH PORTER AND JOHNSON INSTALL (TOP) MEMPHIS ZOO GREEN HOUSE INSTALL (BOTTOM)

## Preparing Memphis for a Greener Tomorrow

*by Author*

Fall is one of the best seasons to plant native species and start seeds, and this year has been an especially active one for Memphis Native Tree Works. Our team has been hard at work across the city, helping prepare landscapes for the cooler months ahead. We were honored to support several local organizations committed to ecological restoration, including the Memphis Zoo and Burch Porter & Johnson Law Firm, both of which received custom native plant installations designed to enhance local habitat and reduce maintenance needs over time. With the right care, these projects will continue to improve soil health, support pollinators, and strengthen Memphis's native ecosystem for years to come.

We also completed a major installation in the Pinch District, where 15 large planters throughout the downtown area were filled with native flowers, grasses, and shrubs. This project brings natural beauty to an urban corridor while providing critical food and shelter for pollinators. Native plantings like these don't just beautify public spaces—they help cool the city, absorb stormwater, and connect fragmented habitats across the metro area.

While our nursery stock continues to be planted and distributed throughout Memphis, our team is already working to replenish what's been sold, ensuring that we're ready to meet demand again in the spring. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers, who have contributed hundreds of hours to potting, planting, and maintaining our inventory. Their hard work fuels every project we complete, from large-scale installations to backyard gardens. Thanks to their effort, Memphis Native Tree Works continues to grow a more resilient, biodiverse, and sustainable city—one native plant at a time.

SEPTEMBER 2025

## Upcoming Volunteer Events:

- 🌱 November Volunteer Events
- Sign up through Volunteer Odyssey using the QR code below.
- 📍 3158 Steele St.
- 📅 Fri, Nov 7 | 🕒 8:00–11:00 AM
- 📍 3158 Steele St.
- 📅 Fri, Nov 8 | 🕒 8:00–11:00 AM
- 📍 21 Flicker St.
- 📅 Fri, Nov 15 | 🕒 8:00–11:00 AM
- Bring water, closed-toe shoes, and a can-do attitude—we'll supply tools and guidance.
- Together, we can keep building a greener, healthier Memphis—one workday at a time.

*VOLUNTEER SIGN UP*



*JEANNETTE, ENOCH, KEVIN (CBU VOLUNTEER), ANNALISE*

*CHRISTMAS TREE SIGN UP*



“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more,  
but those giving more.”  
— H. Jackson Brown Jr.



[WWW.THEWORKSCDC.ORG](http://WWW.THEWORKSCDC.ORG)