

JULY 2025

The Native Tree Works Gazette



AN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORKS INC.

July In Review

Jalen Prater

The Native Tree Works team kicked off this month with an all-hands-on-deck collaboration alongside The Works Urban Farm crew, tackling key projects across our farm sites to gear up for a productive fall harvest. We're also excited to officially welcome three new team members to the Native Tree Works family: Mary S., Enoch B., and Jeanette G. These dedicated individuals have already hit the ground running—bringing energy, skill, and fresh perspective to our regenerative work.

ENOCH B.



This month also marked the beginning of a major new initiative: the installation of 10 pollinator gardens in the Klondike neighborhood. These gardens will support native ecology and existing food forests—and we look forward to celebrating their full completion this fall.

● IN THIS ISSUE



Renaissance Park: Regeneration in Action

by Author

Tucked in the heart of Memphis, Renaissance Park is more than just a green space—it's a living example of community care, ecological design, and regenerative stewardship. Developed by The Works, Inc., its native landscaping is thoughtfully installed and maintained by the Memphis Native Tree Works team.

At the center of this care are Annalise and Mary, who go beyond planting—picking up litter, checking equipment, and monitoring tree health to ensure the park stays safe, vibrant, and welcoming. Renaissance Park is a proud reflection of our mission, and we regularly host community events, volunteer days, and educational programs on its grounds.

Next time you're nearby, take a stroll and experience what regeneration looks like in Memphis.



MARY AND ANNALISE AT RENAISSANCE PARK

DARION AND DEVONN IN THE KLONDIKE NEIGHBORHOOD



Partner Spotlight: Servitude Solutions – Building Gardens & Growing Community in Klondike

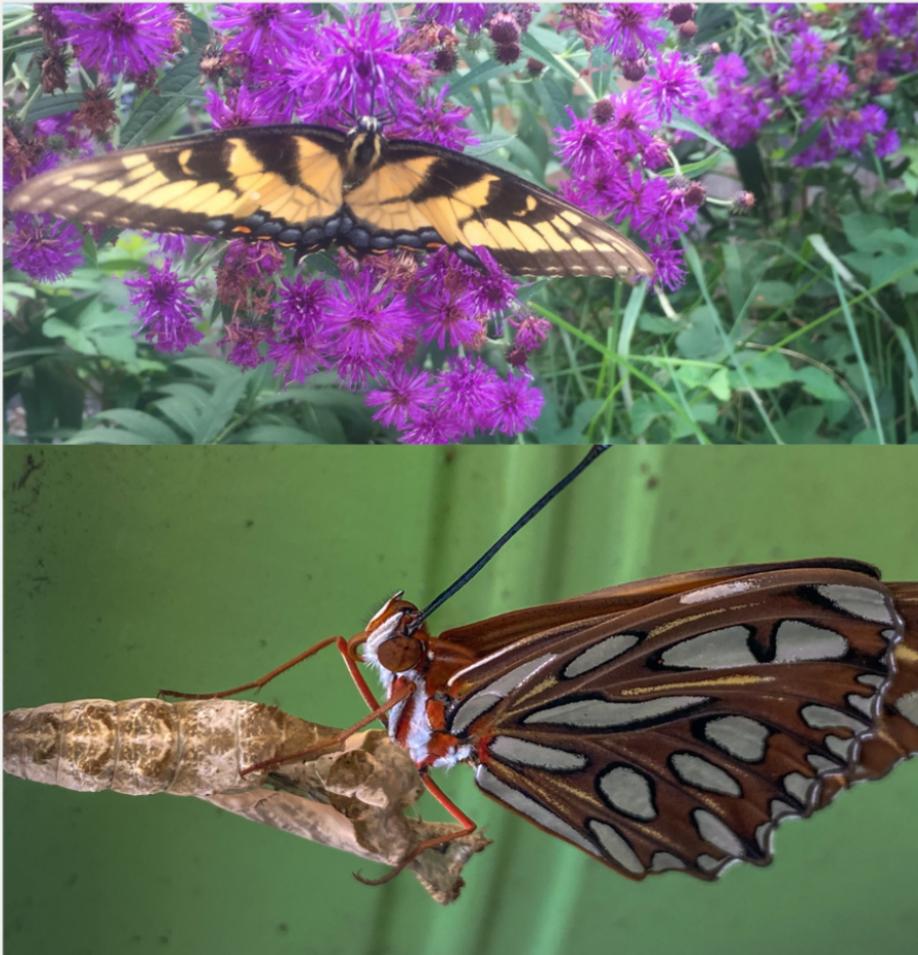
by Author

At Memphis Native Tree Works, our mission thrives through strong local partnerships—and few embody that spirit better than Servitude Solutions.

Owned by Darion T. and his brother Devonn, Servitude Solutions has been serving Memphis communities for the past six years with a commitment to craftsmanship, care, and community impact. As trusted contractors for MNTW, their team helps install vital infrastructure—like pollinator gardens and protective fencing—that keep our urban green spaces thriving and secure.

This year, Servitude Solutions will play a key role in the creation of 10 new pollinator gardens in the historic Klondike neighborhood. These gardens will not only support local pollinators and ecological health, but also serve as living extensions of the food forests already planted throughout the area.

We're proud to work alongside local talent like Servitude Solutions, whose roots in Memphis run deep—and whose work helps ensure a greener, healthier city for generations to come.



GULF FRITILLARY (*AGRAULIS VANILLAE*) EMERGING FROM CHRYSALIS AND EASTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL (*PAPILIO GLAUCUS*)

Gulf Fritillary & Eastern Tiger Swallowtail: Two Pollinators, One Purpose

by Author

The gardens of Memphis come alive in late summer with the flutter of wings and the buzz of native pollinators. Two of the most striking butterflies you'll see—each with its own ecological role—are the Gulf Fritillary and the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.

The Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*) is easily recognized by its vibrant orange wings marked with silver streaks. While often mistaken for Monarchs, Gulf Fritillaries have a unique life cycle that depends on one plant in particular: Passionvine, their sole host plant. Female Fritillaries lay eggs on the vine, and their caterpillars feed exclusively on its leaves. Passionvine fruits also offer an edible treat for humans—sweet, tangy pulp that surrounds the seeds when ripe.

Equally eye-catching is the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*), featured in this photo, with its bold yellow and black-striped wings. Unlike the Fritillary, the Swallowtail has a more diverse menu—its caterpillars feed on trees like Tulip Poplar and Wild Cherry, while adults sip nectar from a wide variety of native wildflowers, including Ironweed, Bee Balm, Purple Coneflower, and Joe Pye Weed.

Both butterflies rely on a healthy native landscape to survive—and together, they represent the beauty and biodiversity we strive to protect at Memphis Native Tree Works.

By planting for pollinators, we're not just making our gardens more vibrant—we're fueling the life cycles of the creatures that keep our ecosystems thriving. That's regeneration in action.

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Upcoming Volunteer Events:

- 8/6 from 8AM–11AM at Flicker Nursery to up-pot young trees and weed containers. No experience needed – just come ready to learn and make an impact!
- 8/12 from 8AM–11AM at 3158 Steele Street to up-pot seedlings into 1-gallon containers and support local reforestation efforts. It's simple, satisfying, and beginner-friendly.
- 8/19 from 8AM–11AM at 3158 Steele Street up-potting seedlings into their next growing stage. It's rewarding, hands-on, and beginner-friendly!

(scan below or click link in email to sign up)



SYLVAMO PAPER VOLUNTEERING AT FLICKER TREE NURSERY



“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

— Elizabeth Andrew

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