

## Tree Donations Help Increase Green Canopy



Two donations of bare root trees and seedlings are helping Norfolk realize its goal of a full, healthy tree canopy. Earlier this month, the Virginia Senior Lawyers Association donated 275 Virginia-grown bare root trees to “Celebrate Trees.” News of Norfolk’s trees initiative traveled across the state to Marion, Virginia and Delegate John Tate, who picked up the trees and drove them from Waynesboro to Williamsburg, where Norfolk’s Urban Forester Ric Wernicke met him for the hand-off. The trees – all native species including Willow Oak, River Birch and Bald Cypress – will be cared for over the summer at the City’s tree nursery and planted in October along city sidewalks, at parks, and in street medians.

Another major tree gift of 1,100 seedlings came from the Virginia Department of Forestry and Vaughan-Basset Furniture Company. The trees were grown at the Augusta Forestry Center near Shenandoah National Park. The trees include Allegheny Chinquapin, Kousa Dogwood, Douglas Fir, White Oak, Willow Oak, Persimmon, Plum, Redbud, Black Walnut, Loblolly Pine, and Bald Cypress. The trees will be used for wetland buffer restoration, in City Parks and to help celebrate Arbor Day in October.