**Fountain Hills Urban Forest**

<http://empoweredtmd.org/fh-urban-forest/>

Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Meeting Location: The Hills Pizza & the Butterfly Garden at The Fountain Park

**Attendees:**

Lisa Ristuccia, Billy Ristuccia, Devon Ristuccia, Joe Geare, Jake Eberspacher, Donald Jacques, Maureen Grottke

**Preferred Locations:**

Fountain Hills Charter School & Butterfly Garden at the Fountain Park

If additional trees are available, we could find additional locations within the Fountain Park

**Qualities of Preferred Trees:**

Low water requirements (although not as much of an issue at the Butterfly Garden)

Low litter

Provides shade

Not allergy triggers

No thorns

Not invasive

Nitrogen-fixing

**Possible Trees:**

Acacia

Orchid Tree

Moringa Tree

Desert Willow

Fruitless Olive

Texas Olive

Chinese Pistache

Velvet Mesquite

Evergreen Elm

Pomegranate

California Peppertree

Ash

Ironwood

Fruit Trees

**Other Suggested Additions:**

Educational signage

Hummingbird feeders

Bird feeders

Owl boxes

Benches

**Things to Consider:**

Tree size

Growth rate

Irrigation

Root ball size

Where roots might go & what they might disturb

Spacing

Mix of trees for variety

Butterfly garden at Fountain Park uses effluent water for irrigation, which is cost effective & conservation-based.

**Tree Nurseries:**

Verde Valley

Moon Valley

**Connections to get permission/suggestions/assistance:**

Fountain Hills Cultural & Civic Association

Fountain Hills Charter School Principal & Board

Fountain Hills Mayor Ginny Dickey & Town Council

Fountain Hills Town Manager Grady Miller

Fountain Hills Park Facilities – Joe & Kevin

**Funds will cover:**

Trees, Irrigation, Tools & Equipment

**Benefits to community:**

Shade for people, plants & animals; healthier air; enhance butterfly garden project; hands-on service learning project; science investigation for students; places for wildlife; volunteer opportunities

**Other conversations and meetings:**

From Judi Becker via Facebook 6-11-19: ...for small trees, ones good for small areas/courtyards, there's Cascalote, Anacacho orchid tree, Texas olive, Texas ebony, Brazilwood, Texas Mountain Laurel, Desert Willow, Desert Fern Tree... those are just a few... I've picked the ones that aren't thorny. :-) For large trees, Ironwood is beautiful though a slow grower, the Sonoran Palo Verde (Palo Brea) is nice... it has the bark that looks like a leotard clinging to the trunk and branches. Arizona ash is also nice for a large tree. And there's also the mesquites though I think they get a bad reputation. Are the trees to be planted on Town property?

Meeting with Lisa Ristuccia, Joe Geare & Allyn Wright at Denny’s on 6-19-19 at 8:30 am. Initial introductory meeting.

**Additional people who would expressed interest and would like to be involved:**

Loreley Hall, Judi Becker, Nicholas John, Ryan Malikowski, Vicky Betts Derksen, Jenny Willigrod, Allyn Wright, Nancy Stahl, Tracy Alcorn, Clayton Corey, Claire Fifield, Leslie & Ava DeCampo, Stephany Pueschel, Colleen Fedigan-Walski, Steven Klein, Donna Beers, Suzanne Nann, Kate Suchanek, Jenica Hall, Rose Gonsoulin, Linda Dudley, Pamela Ann, Laine Lambright, Mandi Gallagher, Matt McDonald, Mike Horn, Heidi Golden, Christine Simon, Kim Ferch Minert, Kerry Shannon, Joe Eckloff, Tim Hoogstad, Stephanie Kniffin Wildeman, Jeanne Hurlbut, Alexandra Davis, Lisa Downes-Poll, Paula Miller Eberspacher, Sandra Kaminski Wimmer, Patti Gruessing, Gina Iggy, Traci Polit Farella, Pamela Trompeter Aguilu, David Ward, Diana Davis, Lori Webster, Veronica Dorava, Malcolm Tinkham, Dawn Schlum, James Hietter, Laura Winstin-Seitz, Michele Luzinski, Monika Krysianik, Debra Glass, Christine Pinna, Kathleen Veverka

