Trees For Houston has planted more than 740,000 trees across Greater Houston since it began in 1983. This planting season, which ended in May, the nonprofit added a record-shattering 60,255 trees to the area’s green canopy.

By Tracy Maness

Growth and expansion of the Houston area have impacted its tree canopy, and one local tree expert says the city could use some more shade.

Barry Ward is the executive director of Trees For Houston, a nonprofit that plants, protects and promotes trees in the region. TFH planted a record 60,255 trees during its 2021-22 planting season. The achievement nearly tripled the average annual total of 23,000 trees by holding 50,035 tree plantings and 10 distribution events, a news release stated.

“The trees we plant are living infrastructures and will benefit the community for generations to come,” Ward said. “They act as sound walls, water and air filters, and shade structures. They separate air pollution, reduce cooling bills, slow down floodwaters, and shade structures. They cool our summer streets and increase cooling bills, slow down floods, and reduce our property values.”

Trees For Houston began in 1983 and has since planted more than 740,000 trees across Southeast Texas, according to the release. Originally centered around planting trees along streets in the heart of Houston, it later realized the need for strategic, further-reaching planting.

Over the past five years, TFH has added more than 60,035 trees to the area’s green canopy. Which ended in May, the nonprofit added a record-shattering 60,255 trees to the area’s green canopy.

“The trees we plant are living infrastructures and will benefit the community for generations to come,” Ward said. “They act as sound walls, water and air filters, and shade structures. They separate air pollution, reduce cooling bills, slow down floodwaters, and shade structures. They cool our summer streets and increase cooling bills, slow down floods, and reduce our property values.”

Trees For Houston has planted more than 740,000 trees across Greater Houston since it began in 1983. This planting season, which ended in May, the nonprofit added a record-shattering 60,255 trees to the area’s green canopy.

A Marathon Oil Community partner for more than a decade, Trees For Houston has always been a thoughtful steward of our social investments, as they work to plant and protect trees across the city,” said Kathy Sun- el, communications and social impact manager for Marathon Oil, which funded the plantings.

“Barry and his team approach each planting as a way for students to have some fun by getting their hands into the dirt and watching trees take root, while also focusing on the importance of green space to our community,” SSE principal, Raymond Nunley, said. The campus should help stem of added trees this season was only possible with the commitment of donors, community partners and volunteers set on improving the region’s green canopy.

Drive-thru distribution events held to increase TFH’s visibility and build its brand in the community. Community members can pick up free trees ready to plant in their yards, as well as planting instructions and guidance. On average, around 1,000 trees go out during each two-hour event. Distribution means the nonprofit is actively living out its mission, one tree at a time.

Philanthropic donors such as Aramco, Arbor Day Founda- tion, CenterPoint Energy, Chev- on and LyondellBasell allow the giveaways to happen. “A Marathon Oil Community partner for more than a decade, Trees For Houston has always been a thoughtful steward of our social investments, as they work to plant and protect trees across the city,” said Kathy Sun- el, communications and social impact manager for Marathon Oil, which funded the plantings.

“Barry and his team approach each planting as a way for students to have some fun by getting their hands into the dirt and watching trees take root, while also focusing on the importance of green space to our community,” SSE principal, Raymond Nunley, said. The campus should help

Trees For Houston has record-shattering year

Emmy is a very sweet girl less than 2 years old. She can be fine as an only kitty or with another kitty friend. But she really enjoys human companionship. Emmy is current on vaccinations, spayed, and combo negative. Adoption fee is $75. For more information on how you can adopt this beauty, email: eflessorcatsh plumbing@gmail.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.

www.thereneeballetti.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Emmy

www.treesforhouston.org

Tracy Maness

To learn more, visit www.treesforhouston.org

tracy.maness@hcnonline.com

EXAMINER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022 43

love is love

the village school

Renee' Balletti

Your home. your art. your style.