



McFarlane Nature Park News

Sharing with those who work and care for the Park
November 2024

Time to be thankful!

Of course it is always time to be grateful, but we focus more on our blessings when Thanksgiving arrives. We want to thank our neighbors who added a donation when they paid their Chattahoochee Plantation Community Assoc. dues. The total was recently reported to us and a check was received from CPCA Treasurer Doug Krueger.



Neighbors and board members Dorian Conger and Jean Greenland again stepped up to keep our pumphouse door functional, making repairs to the frame which had started to deteriorate.

Our friends and partners at Top Tier Trees sent team members with an orchard ladder to replace the missing Purple Martin houses that had vanished from the back pasture. All ready for Spring when the Martins start to soar over the field.



Challenge Grant **double** the impact of your donation

We are thankful for the board members who govern McFarlane. They have pledged \$5,000 to match donations from our friends and neighbors to the Future Fund Endowment for the Park before the end of the year. We continue to strive for our \$100,000 goal, which is an investment in the survival of McFarlane into the future. The Future Fund is currently at \$60,000. Donations can be made through <https://www.facebook.com/McFarlanePark/> or by going to www.cobblandtrust.org, but sending a check to PO Box 672652, Marietta 30006 will insure that the entire donation is dedicated to the Park instead of fees.



MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS OF COBB COUNTY

We are definitely grateful for our Master Gardener crew who work at the gardens every week. Stop by early on Tuesdays to thank them in person. They recently planted the hillside behind the stable with perennials that will brighten the gardens come spring. Their focus now is preparing for winter. They work under the chairmanship of neighbor Kate Mason and always welcome volunteers.

Working toward being an accredited arboretum.

An arboretum is a living and accessible outdoor tree museum that serves the public. In 2011, ARBNET was organized with headquarters at the Morton Arboretum in Chicago. ARBNET set standards that are applied worldwide and they currently recognize only 26 arboreta in Georgia. There are four levels of accreditation. McFarlane qualifies for Level 1, which requires 1) an organizational group, (2) minimum of 25 different labeled trees or woody plants, (3) volunteers



or staff to care for trees, (4) one public tree related event per year, and (5) a written plan. Board member and Cobb County arborist David Griffin has provided Walk N Talks for us. The only thing we lack, is finishing our written plan.

Our tree brochure (available at the literature station beneath our sign board) lists 85 different tree species that live at McFarlane, and we are about to add the 86th—2 *Ilex opaca* American Hollies that will provide abundant berries for fall foraging birds like robins and cedar wax wings. All are native to the Piedmont area of Georgia.

Becoming accredited would improve public awareness of our native trees, make the Park eligible for funding opportunities, provide distinction within our community, and help insure the future of the Park.

TREES ARE IMPORTANT

- * Improve mental health
- * Improve physical health
- * Store carbon
- * Provide food
- * Habitat for wildlife
- * Improve air quality
- * Provide beauty
- * Reduce crime
- * Support better student performance in schools

CALENDAR Special events scheduled at McFarlane are coordinated through our calendar to insure compatible use of the Park and communication of responsibilities to park users. In 2024, over 100 specific events have been booked at the Park and they have included a wedding, CPWC events, school and church outings, neighborhood birthdays and other celebrations, as well as many scouting dates. Scouts frequently participate in service projects when they come to the Park. Dates can be reserved through Karin Guzy 678-860-4445 or Laura Hoffman 770-403-4837.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Literature Box Be responsible for keeping literature boxes full. Tri-folds supplied.

Constant Contact person with experience to manage quarterly NEWS distribution.

Planting Newest volunteer, Ben Gordon, will need planting help for two fall projects.

Neighbors are welcome to join the Master Gardeners on Tuesday mornings, usually about 9 a.m. or contact Kate Mason 404.983.8033 who leads the crew.

VOLUNTEERS WHO WISH TO FOLLOW UP ON THESE OPPORTUNITIES MAY

CONTACT KARIN at karinguzy@gmail.com, or 678-860-4445

www.cobblandtrust.org

[Facebook.com/McFarlanePark](https://www.facebook.com/McFarlanePark)

What each of us can do

Stop pesticide and herbicide spraying.

Shrink the lawn.

Be generous in planting.

Install a small water feature.

Embrace fallen leaves.

If you do not wish to receive quarterly newsletters from McFarlane, please send an “unsubscribe” message to

karinguzy@gmail.com