

# ARBOR OAKS PARK FRUIT TREE PLANTING 2022

ANN ARBOR PARKS AND RECREATION

In 2021, a community group from the City of Ann Arbor's [Office of Sustainability and Innovations](#) A2ZERO Ambassadors program proposed to plant seven fruit trees in Arbor Oaks Park – including two peach, three pear, and two paw paws (paw paws are a native North American tree and their fruits have a unique tropical flavor). The community group went through the [Adopt-a-Park](#) Special Park Project proposal process to seek approval. The objectives were to reflect the goals of the city's A2ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan, provide a space for education, and to build community resilience by providing a source of locally grown fruit. Review the written [project proposal](#) prepared by this community group for more details.

An online public survey was conducted in November 2021 to provide an opportunity for residents to give feedback about the proposed project. There were 15 survey takers. 93.33% responded that they would support seven fruit trees being planted in Arbor Oaks Park. View the [survey results](#) with identifiable information redacted. Given the survey results, the project moved on to the implementation phase.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 volunteers helped plant the seven fruit trees. The trees were sapling size at planting and were sourced from Feral Flora Nursery and Gee Farms. Volunteers made chicken-wire cages to place around the trees to protect them from damage and deer browsing.

The A2ZERO Ambassador group and other volunteers performed watering duties after the planting. In partnership with city staff, the group will work on engaging the neighborhood for long-term care of the trees and harvesting fruit. Staff will observe the trees' ability to establish and eventually produce fruit, as a pilot project to help determine benefits and success rate of planting fruit trees in parks.



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# June 4, 2022 Tree Planting Volunteer Event

