



## Tree Nut Collection Kickoff

September 9, 2025



## Agenda

- Overview of TNC
- Restoration Projects
- Planting Events
- Nut Collection
- Tree ID
- Questions



#### **Our Mission:**

Conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

#### **Our Vision:**

A world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve nature for its own sake and its ability to fulfill out needs and enrich our lives.



# **Global Impact**

**1M**+ Members

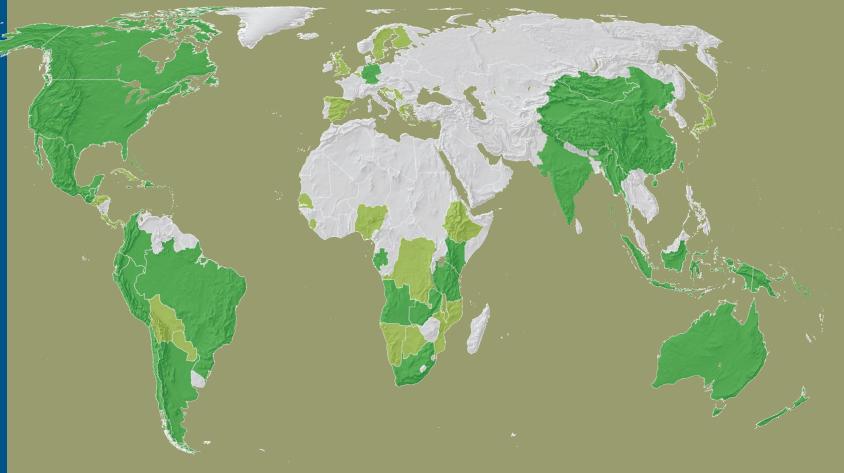
**70**+ Years

79 Countries & Territories (37 by direct impact and 42 through partners)

400+ Scientists

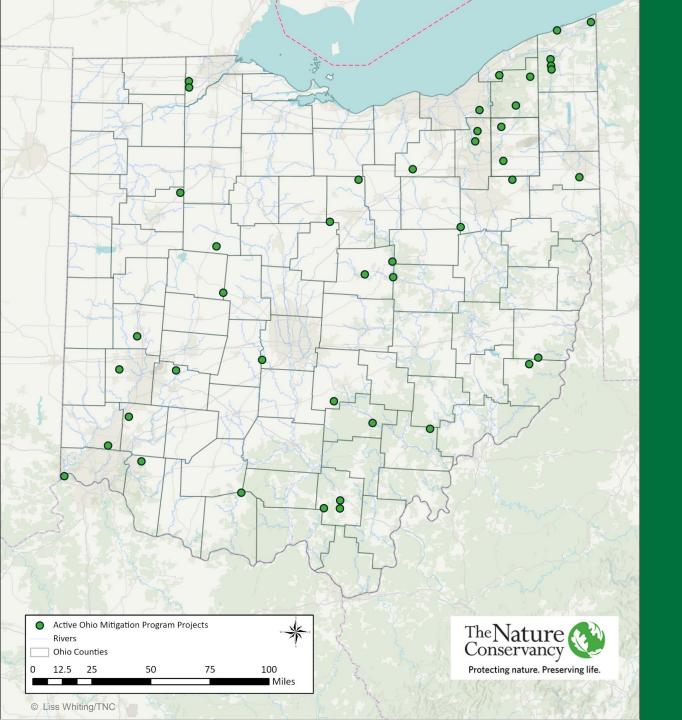
**125** Acres Conserved

**100** + Marine Conservation Projects



Science-based • Collaborative • Non-partisan Innovative • Market-based

**Solution-focused** • Tangible Lasting Results





# Ohio Restoration Projects

 The Ohio Mitigation Program has over 40 stream and wetland restoration sites across the state of Ohio, in varying degrees of completion.



# We need trees!

- Shade streams
- Provide habitat
- Forested wetlands
- Connect fragmented forests
- Create migration corridors
- Sequester carbon

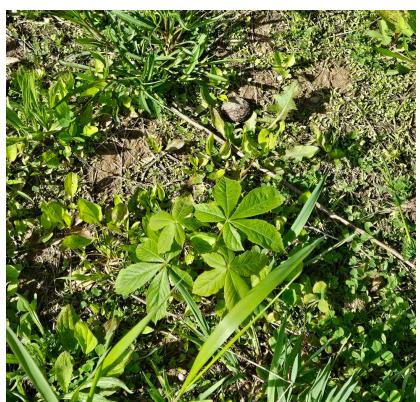


## **2024 Recap**

- 77 participants
- Thousands of nuts collected
- Distributed by volunteers to 3 restoration sites
- And...



Lots of new seedlings discovered this spring!









# How can you participate this year?

- Collect nuts throughout the Fall
- Store nuts using recommended methods
- 3. Bring nuts to tree planting or drop off site

# Active Ohio Mitigation Program Projects **The Nature** Conservancy Protecting nature. Preserving life

#### **Northeast Ohio**

- Saturday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 12-3pm
- Red Brook Metropark Restoration Site Ashtabula, Ohio
- Site tour and nut planting

#### **Central Ohio**

- Wednesday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am-5:30pm
- Dublin Office 6375 Riverside Dr #100, Dublin, OH 43017
- Nut drop off only

#### **Southwest Ohio**

- Saturday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 9am-12pm
- Shawnee Lookout Restoration Site North Bend, Ohio
- Site tour and nut planting



### Planting Event/Drop-Off Sign Up

- You must RSVP using this link to participate in a tree nut planting: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/zP7n">https://forms.office.com/r/zP7n</a> <a href="cbFgN6">cbFgN6</a>
- If you RSVP you will receive a reminder email the week before the event with details about where to park, what to bring and what to expect.





## **Central Ohio Nut Drop Off**

- The Nature Conservancy office in Dublin: 6375 Riverside Dr #100, Dublin, OH 43017
- Wednesday Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-5:30pm

#### Where to collect

- Backyard
- Parks
- Parking lots
- Do not collect from protected natural areas and preserves
- Be sure you have permission to collect!







#### **Nut Collection**

- Do not collect nuts that are hollow, have holes, or are chewed on
- Record species, county, location, date, contact information. Write on bag or slip of paper stapled to bag

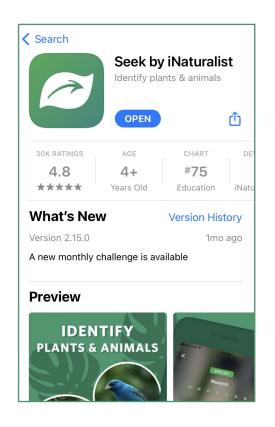
## **Storage and Handling**

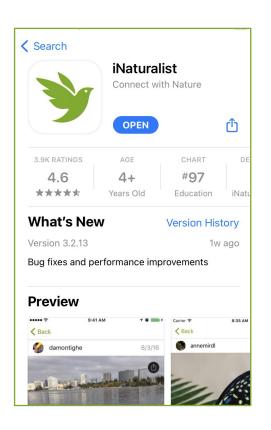
	Prep	Store	Where	Notes
Black walnut	N/A	Store in paper bag, yard waste bag, or 5 gallon bucket	Outside (in shade and out of rain) or in fridge	Include a few leaves in bag
Hackberry				
Ohio buckeye	Remove husk	Store in plastic sealable bag. Include a moist paper towel to prevent the nuts from drying. Add moisture if no condensation.	Fridge	Include a husk as well as leaf sample inside the bag to help confirm ID
Pin oak	Soak in water for 1-24 hours; remove cap if possible	Store in plastic bag. Include a moist paper towel to prevent the nuts from drying. Add moisture if no condensation. Open bag occasionally to give them fresh air.	Fridge	Include a cap and few leaves in bag to help confirm ID.  Optional: after 4 hours of soaking, throw out nuts that float
Red oak				
Shingle oak				
Bur oak				
Chinkapin oak				
Swamp white oak				
White oak				
Boxelder	N/A			Include a few leaves in bag to help confirm ID
Bitternut hickory	N/A	Store in plastic or paper bag.	Fridge	Include a husk and few leaves in bag to help confirm ID
Shagbark hickory	Remove husk if possible			
Shellbark hickory	Remove husk if possible			

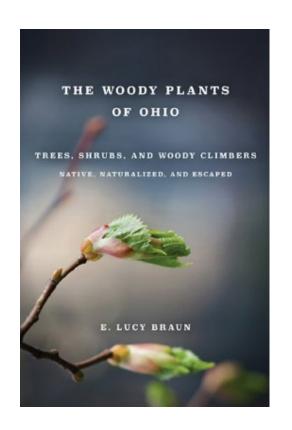
On all bags write species, county where collected, date, and your contact information

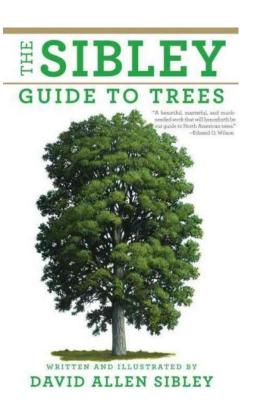


#### **Tree ID**









There are lots of helpful identification apps and books out there. Check your local library!

#### Black walnut Juglans nigra

- Large compound leaves, 13-23 leaflets
- Leaves and nuts strongly aromatic when crushed
- Stout twigs with white, pubescent buds







#### Pin oak Quercus palustris

- Simple, lobed leaves with deep U-shaped sinuses
- Open-grown trees have strongly excurrent growth form and persistent dead branches on lower trunk
- Very small acorns
   <1.5 cm diameter</li>







#### Red oak Quercus rubra

- Simple, lobed leaves with rounded sinuses, not as deep as pin oak
- Large tree with broad, round crown
- Large acorns up to 2 cm wide and 3 cm long, cup usually enclosing only the base of the nut







#### Shingle oak Quercus imbricaria

- Simple leaves without lobes; crinkled appearance
- Small acorns up to ~1.5 cm long, deep cup enclosing a third to half of the nut
- Bark resembles that of red oak







#### Bur Oak Quercus macrocarpa

- Simple, deeply- lobed leaves, often with a wider lobe toward the middle of the leaf
- Large, "mossy cup" acorns
- Twigs/branches often exhibit corky bark







#### Chinkapin oak Quercus muehlenbergii

- Simple leaves with shallow lobes; dark green above and pale grayish green below
- Mature acorns are ovoid in shape and brown to black in color
- Bark is light gray, faintly yellow







#### Swamp white oak Quercus bicolor

- Simple leaves widest just above the middle; upper surface dark green, lower surface grayish and densely hairy
- Large acorns with caps covered with coarsely fringed scales, 1/3 of the length of the fruit
- Bark is deeply furrowed on mature trees







## White oak Quercus alba

- Simple leaves with rounded lobes
- Acorns typically longer than wide, the cap about 1/3 the length of the nut
- Susceptible to "smooth patch disease", leaving characteristic patches of smoother bark on mature trees







#### Bitternut hickory Carya cordiformis

- Compound leaves with
   7-9 narrow leaflets
- Sulfur yellow buds









#### Shagbark hickory Carya ovata

- Distinct "shaggy" bark
- Leaves compound, usually 5 leaflets (sometimes 7)
- Terminal buds up to 2 cm long
- Nuts 2-4 cm long; wider than long



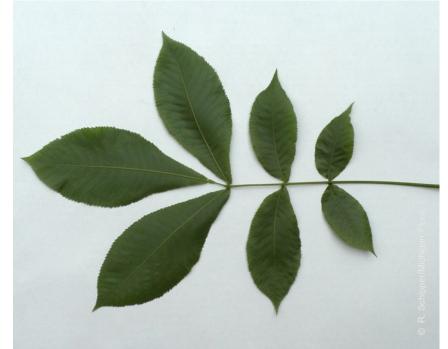






#### Shellbark hickory Carya laciniosa

- Bark similar to shagbark hickory
- Leaves compound, usually 7 leaflets (sometimes 9)
- Terminal buds 2-3 cm long
- Nuts 4.5-7 cm long; longer than wide
- Typically found on wetter sites







#### Hackberry Celtis occidentalis

 Bark appears corky/warty/like candlewax









#### Ohio buckeye Aesculus glabra

- Compound, opposite leaves with 5 leaflets
- Stout twigs with large, scaly terminal buds
- Avoid nonnative lookalikes: horsechestnut & red buckeye
- Nuts easily separate from capsule; include at least part of capsule to aid with ID.
- Nuts cannot be allowed to dry

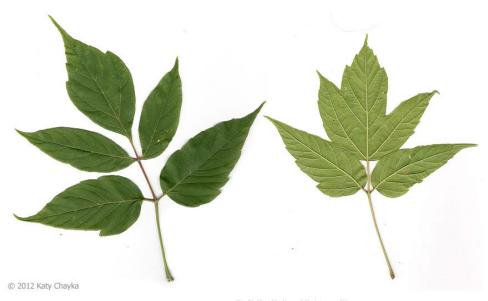






#### Boxelder Acer negundo

- Compound, opposite leaves with 3 (sometimes 5) leaflets; leaves sometimes confused with poison ivy
- Young twigs often green to glaucous
- Fruit is a samara, or a pair of winged seeds



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Please reach out with any questions!

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