



Becoming a core volunteer with:

# ReForest London

## RFL 101: Orientation



**ReForest London**  
planting the future today



# Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging the treaty territory of the Anishnaabeg, which is defined within the pre-confederation treaty known as The London Township Treaty of 1796. Throughout time, this region has also become the current home to the Haudenosaunee and Lenni-Lenape Nations.

- Chippewa of the Thames



# Get to know us!

**What's your name?**

**What do you do for work  
or school or as a hobby?**

**What Part of ReForest London  
interests you the most?**



# Our Agenda

**Part 1:**  
**About ReForest London**

**Part 2:**  
**Becoming a Core Volunteer**

**Part 2:**  
**Tour of the WPC**



Part 1

# About ReForest London





**Founded by citizens in  
2005 as a project of the  
Urban League of London**



**We rely on volunteers to  
help us with all kinds of  
work we do**



**In 2022 we planted  
over 10,000 trees and  
shrubs across London**

## About ReForest London



# Our Mission

ReForest London is a **non-profit** organization dedicated to partnering with our **community** to enhance environmental and human health in the Forest City, through the benefits of **trees**.

**Vision:** Londoners thriving in a healthy urban forest

- Empowerment
- Ecosystem Health
- Education



About ReForest London



# Our Team

ReForest London has a small team of staff who run all of our day-to-day activities. From event planning to paperwork, our staff are the ones who make it happen.

As a charity, we are led by our Board of Directors who help to keep ReForest working towards our mission.



**Amber Cantell**



**Rodger Moran**



**Sara Patterson**



**Rose Pfeifer**



**Maddy Sansom**



**Shaquille Sealy**



**Dean Sheppard**



**Lily Vuong**

## About ReForest London





# Westminster Ponds Centre

- Hub for **environmental** and nature-based programming
- Honours its natural, built and cultural **heritage**
- 14 acres, 4 buildings, 2 ball diamonds
- London's only **Environmental Centre**
- A catalyst for environmental change





## Our Core Programs:

- Park Naturalizations
- Outreach events (seedling giveaways)
- Celebration Forest
- Neighbourhood Tree Giveaways
- Tree Cycle



### About ReForest London







# 502,665

trees and counting.....

London's Million Tree Challenge is a community-wide initiative to inspire Londoners to plant one million new trees across the city! Londoners are invited to register all the trees they have **planted since January 2011** and see the big tree counter tick toward one million. Any tree, planted anywhere, by anyone counts!

<https://www.milliontrees.ca/>

About ReForest London





## Our Lead Sponsor:

**Canada Life has been the lead sponsor of ReForest London since 2009. In addition to their financial support, this corporate leader has also planted trees on their own land and encourages their employees to volunteer to plant trees in the community.**

**We also want to thank the City of London for their support of our programs and initiatives.**





**Part 2**

# **London's Urban Forest and WPC tour**



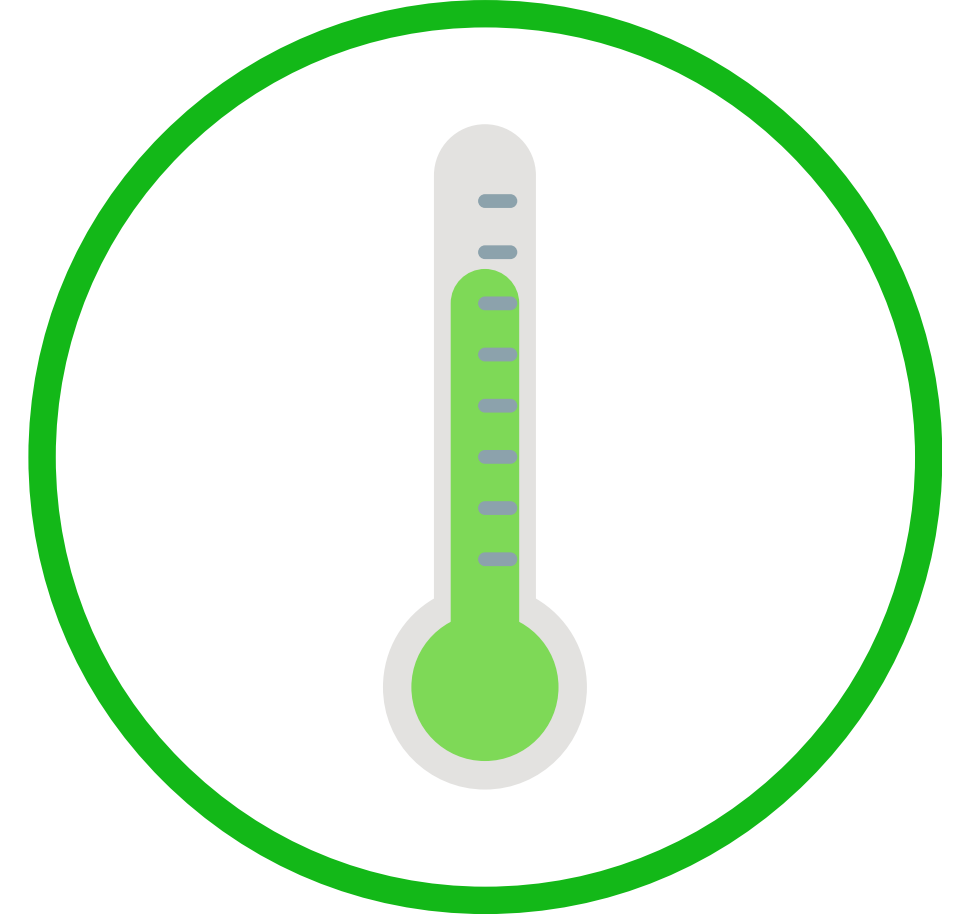
# The Carolinian Forest



**220 species of plants  
and 70 tree species**



**1% of Canada but  
25% of population**



**Warmest average  
annual temperatures**



# London's Carolinian Forest

Municipal goals to increase tree canopy cover in London from 26% currently to a target of 34% by 2065

Includes:

- Street tree
- Residential trees
- Park trees
- Greenbelts
- Ravines



**Old North**  
Neighbourhood  
**39%** canopy cover



**Sunningdale**  
Neighbourhood  
**5%** canopy cover



There are many benefits that trees provide to your home, neighbourhood and community. Planting trees can impact the value, costs and safety of where you live. Trees are an asset, and their value increases over time!

Make sure to plant trees in your yard and in your neighbourhood to build a more vibrant and healthy environment!

**Safety**

Well-treed streets encourage pedestrian and bicycle traffic and improve a sense of safety. Tree-lined streets slow traffic. Children are also more likely to walk to school on well-treed streets.

Study after study shows that well-treed communities are safer and healthier. Using data from Toronto, a team of researchers has found that having 10 more trees on your block has self-reported health benefits akin to a **\$10,000 salary raise** or moving to a neighbourhood with a \$10,000 higher median income or being **seven years younger**. – The Star, 2015

**Community**

Planting trees is a great way to empower and instill community involvement within a neighbourhood. Trees bring diverse groups of people together and provide a space for retreat.

**Value**

A well-treed lot can increase your property value by as much as 20% and help to beautify your neighbourhood streetscape. Once you start digging, you'll find your neighbours will too!

**Health**

Shade from trees cools your yard, making it more pleasant to eat, play, work, and relax outside. Skin cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer, and trees protect our skin while we are outside by reducing UV exposure.

**Environment**

Trees store carbon dioxide and release oxygen back into the air. They remove dust and particulates, and they absorb ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and other pollutants from our air. Trees clean water by filtering runoff and sediment from slopes next to streams, and they recharge groundwater.

Planting trees can restore critically needed habitat. Trees provide excellent urban homes for birds, bees and other wildlife. Trees can attract a diversity of wildlife with the food, cover and nest sites that they supply.

**Cost**

Deciduous trees planted on the south and west side of a home can decrease your cooling costs by up to 50%. Evergreen trees that are planted as wind breakers around homes can decrease your heating costs by as much at 30%



## Native Species

- Species that naturally occur within our ecosystem
- Suited to local environment and conditions
- Connected with other native species in the ecosystem

## Non-Native Species

- Introduced into our ecosystem from elsewhere
- Not likely to become a threat to native species
- Safe for landscaping but unacceptable for naturalization projects

## Invasive Species

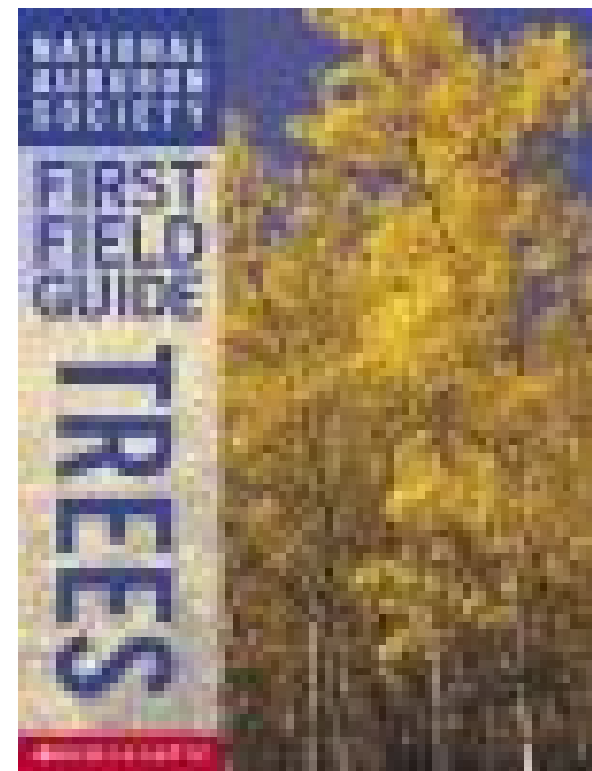
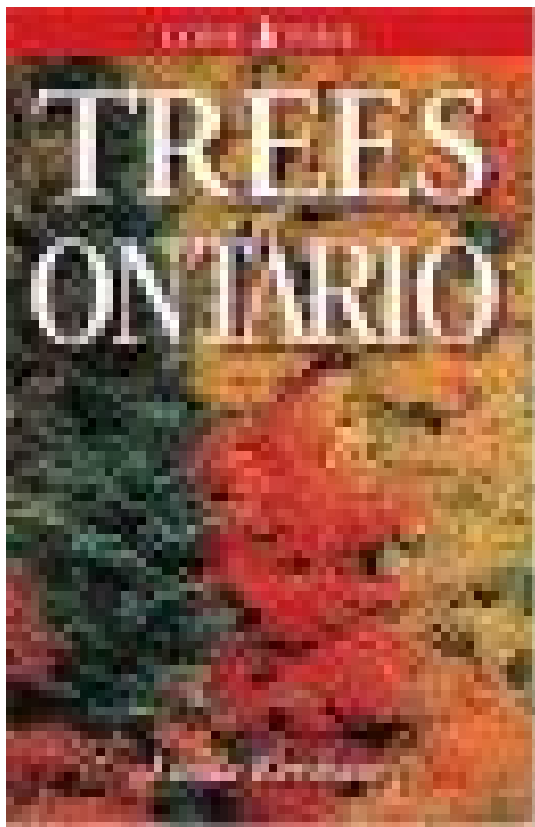
- A threat to native species and disrupts local ecosystems
- Has no “enemies” to maintain species levels
- Should be removed when possible





# Learn more about Tree Identification through **Planting Leader** and **Community Tree Specialist Training!**

Check out some great resources from the London Library



**vTree** 4+  
[John Peterson](#)  
Designed for iPhone  
★★★★☆ 3.2 • 37 Ratings  
Free



**LeafSnap-Plant Identification**  
Enjoy identifying plants  
[Doan Thang](#)  
Designed for iPad  
#140 in Education  
★★★★☆ 4.0 • 145 Ratings  
Free · Offers In-App Purchases



# WPC tour



# Part 3

# Becoming a Core Volunteer



# Pop-Up Volunteer Opportunities



**Becoming a Core Volunteer**





# Park Naturalization & Aftercare



## THE ROLE

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- You will help us plant trees in local parks and other public land
- You will help create new naturalization areas to improve the biodiversity and attract wildlife.
- Includes plantings and aftercare

## SKILLSETS

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You will love this role if:

- You like being outside
- You want to bring family with you
- You like engaging with nature and the community

## REQUIREMENTS

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These are our entry level opportunities that anyone can attend

- No extra training
- No experience required
- All ages welcome

**Becoming a Core Volunteer**



# Signing - up

1. **Visit our website: <https://www.reforestlondon.ca/events>**
2. **Select the event you want to attend and register for the event**
3. **Show up and we will provide on-site training, shovels, gloves and trees!**

The screenshot shows a registration interface for the 'Spring into Action 2023: Community Cleaning Project'. The event is scheduled for Sunday, March 19, 2023, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM EDT. The registration is free, with sales ending on March 19, 2023. There are two options to register: 'Registration' and 'Sharps Collector Volunteer', both currently set to 0. A 'Register' button is at the bottom. To the right, a promotional banner for the event is displayed, featuring images of volunteers and the event title. Below the banner is a shopping cart icon.

Spring into Action 2023: Community Cleaning Project

Sun, Mar 19, 2023 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT

Registration - 0 +

Free  
Sales end on Mar 19, 2023

Sharps Collector Volunteer - 0 +

Register

**SPRING INTO ACTION**  
COMMUNITY CLEANING PROJECT

SUNDAY MARCH 19, 2023  
2-4pm

WESTMINSTER PONDS CENTRE  
London's first and only dedicated to environmental education

REGISTER AT  
[WWW.WESTMINSTERPONDSCENTRE.OA](http://WWW.WESTMINSTERPONDSCENTRE.OA)

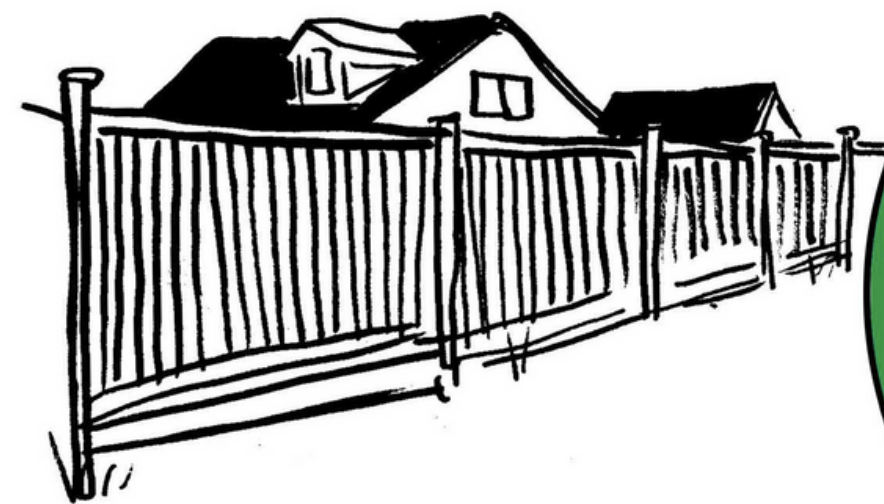
**Becoming a Core Volunteer**

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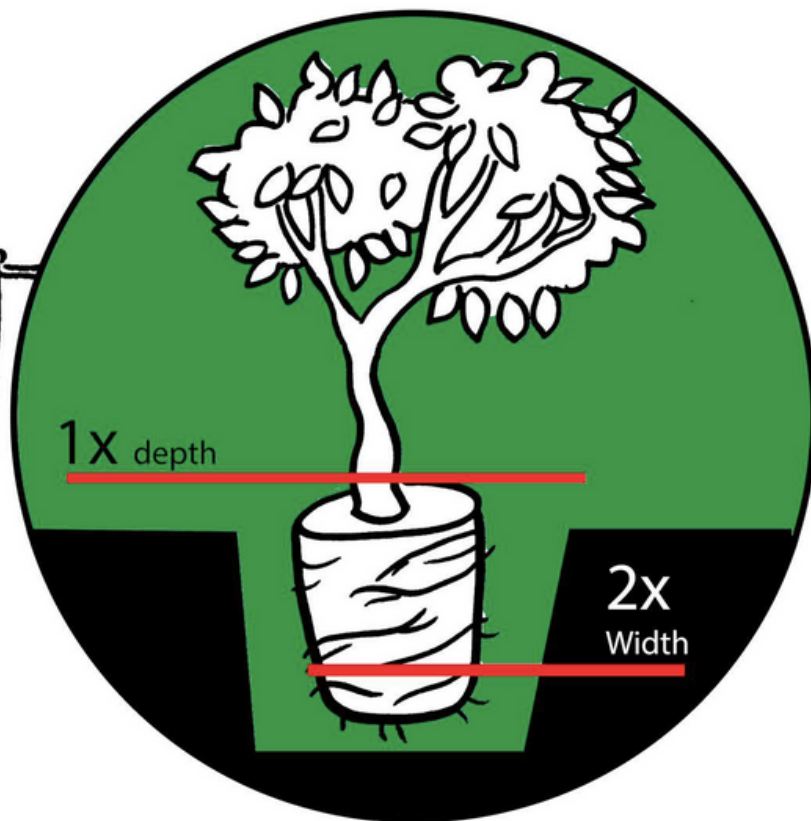


# How to plant a tree quick guide

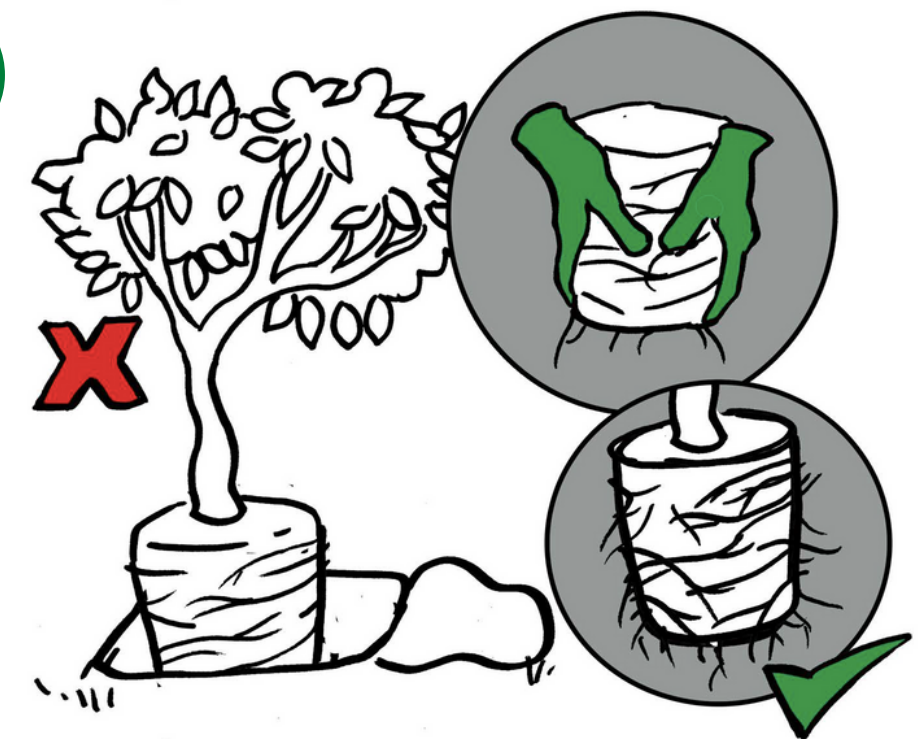
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2



3





# Core Volunteer Opportunities

- **Planting Leader**
- **Community Tree Specialists**
- **Community Liaison**
- **Office Assistant**
- **Future Opportunities**







# Planting Leader



## THE ROLE

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- Learn to become knowledgeable tree planters
- Assisting first-time tree planters at naturalization event
- Ensure other volunteers feel confident and comfortable

## SKILLSETS

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You will love this role if:

- You have a passion or experience with trees
- You enjoy teaching others
- Tree Planting events are something you enjoy
- You like to help people

## REQUIREMENTS

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- This orientation session
- 2 hour “classroom” session and Tree Identification hike
- Online quiz
- Attend one event as a Planting Leader in Training





# Community Tree Specialist



## THE ROLE

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- Become knowledgeable tree planters
- Assisting london homeowners in selecting the right trees
- Ask tree recipients for donations and record planting locations for the Million Tree Challenge

## SKILLSETS

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You will love this role if:

- You have a passion or experience with trees
- You enjoy interacting with the public
- You like to help people

## REQUIREMENTS

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- This orientation session
- 2 hour "classroom" session and Tree Identification hike
- Online quiz
- Attend one giveaway as a Tree Specailist in Training

**Becoming a Core Volunteer**



# Community Liaison



## THE ROLE

- Staffing a display booth, speaking with the public and encouraging their participation
- Give away seedlings & promote MTC registrations
- Sell promotional items (i.e. Tree Gifts, t-shirts)

## SKILLSETS

You will love this role if:

- You enjoy talking to people
- You are passionate about ReForest London's Mission
- You like visiting all kinds of events in London!

## REQUIREMENTS

- This training session
- 1 hour "classroom" session

**Becoming a Core Volunteer**





# Office Volunteer



## THE ROLE

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- You will help with all things around the office
- Data entry
- Emailing volunteers
- Managing subscriptions
- Organizing cabinet space
- Updating website content

## SKILLSETS

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You will love this role if:

- You are looking to volunteer during the weekday
- You enjoy hanging out with the ReForest Team
- You are detail-oriented
- You want to build computer and admin skills

## REQUIREMENTS

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Taking this training is the only requirement. If you are interested in becoming an office volunteer please send me an email.

**Becoming a Core Volunteer**





# Committee Member



## THE ROLE

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- Promoting a vision of a well-treed community to London and beyond
- Developing campaigns to promote activities
- Supports our website and annual report
- Creating new ways to engage the community with ReForest London

## SKILLSETS

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You will love this role if:

- You enjoy working in a team
- You want to become a Board Member at ReForest London
- Passionate about the environment and bringing the community together

## REQUIREMENTS

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- This Training session
- Submitting an application for the committee

**Becoming a Core Volunteer**



## Other Core Volunteer Opportunities

- Translator or Interpreter
  - Transportation Specialist
  - Photographer
  - Graphic Designer
  - GIS and Mapping
- 
- Storyteller
  - Hike Leader
  - Tree Mascot





# Signing - up

1. Once you have completed more training you will be added to the email list for that specialty
2. Emails will go out throughout the season with a link to our core volunteer software "sign-up"
3. Use your email to register for a spot and arrive on time for your shift


### Community Liaisons

Sat Mar 8, 2014 – Sat Mar 4, 2023

This Calendar is meant for volunteers who have gone through our Community Liaison training session or have experience acting in this role for our organization previously.





[Share this Invite](#)

Find Spots By Date

Mar 4, 2023 

[Print Spots](#) [Add to Outlook/iCal](#) ☒ Hide Past Spots ☐ Hide Full Spots ☐ Show My Spots

▼ Sat Mar 4, 2023 4 of 4 Filled

SPOT	TIME	FILLED	PARTICIPANTS	
<a href="#">Community Liaison - Seedy Saturday</a> Seedy Saturday – March 4, 2...	9:45am – 12:30pm	2 of 2	<a href="#">(0)</a>  	FULL
<a href="#">Community Liaison - Seedy Saturday</a> Seedy Saturday – March 4, 2...	12:30pm – 3:15pm	2 of 2	<a href="#">(0)</a>  	FULL



# Next Steps:



**Fill out our Survey and  
sign-up for events**




**Additional Training  
will be starting soon**



**Reach out and  
connect with us!**





# Thank-You!

Questions?