

Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program (CTFRP)

Large-Scale Reforestation + Carbon Credits





TREEFOLKS

Empowering Central Texans to build community through planting and caring for trees

- Urban Forestry Nonprofit Est 1989
 - Based in Austin, TX
- 3+ million trees Planted and Distributed
 - Free tree adoptions for Austin residents
 - Community tree planting events
 - Large-scale Reforestation Projects in 7 counties
- Hands-on educational events and workshops
- Tree Nursery and Seed Collection



Topics of Discussion

- Program Overview
- Floodplain Management
- CTFRP Program Details
- How you can help
- Q&A



Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program (CTFRP)

GOAL: to help landowners restore natural forest buffers along streamways

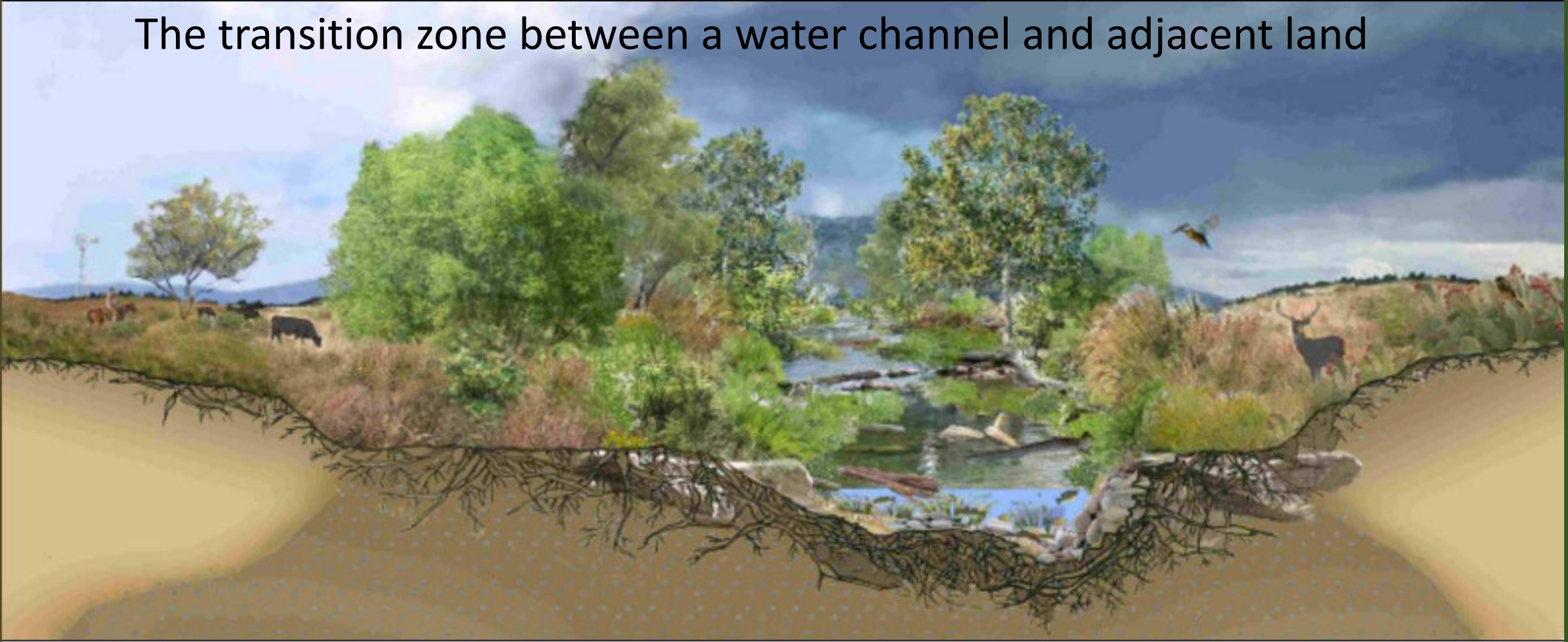
- Reduce loss of land
- Improve water quality and quantity

Ultimate goal: Increase flood resilience and reduce erosion in waterways of Central Texas



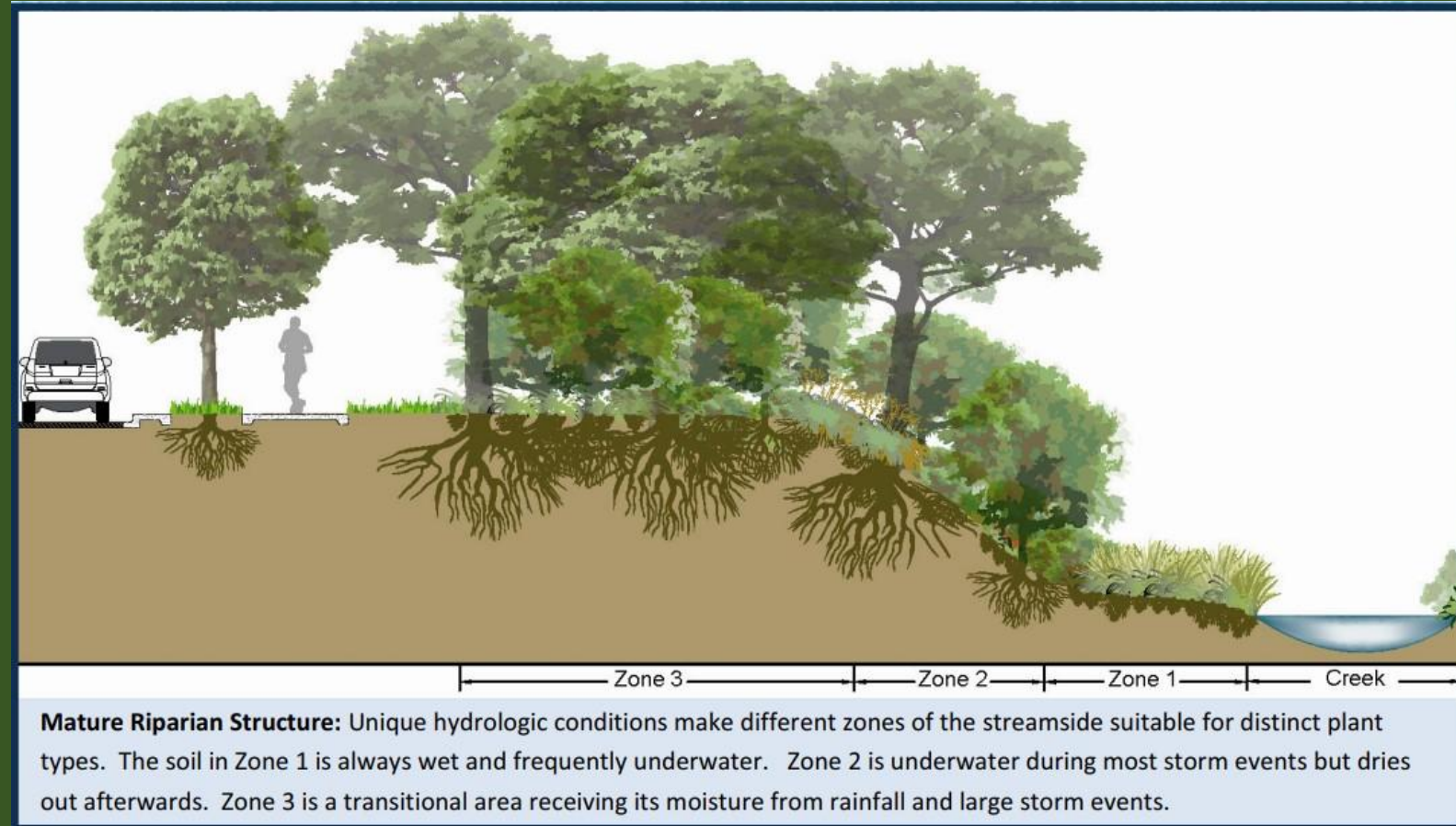
What is a Riparian Area?

The transition zone between a water channel and adjacent land



Benefits of Reforested Riparian Floodplain Include:

- Reduced erosion
- Streambank stabilization
- Increased wildlife habitat
- Improved water quality and quantity
- Slowing of floodwaters
- Shade



What is a “Grow Zone” ?

- A nursery for young trees
 - It is the first step in growing a forest
 - Deep-rooted grasses stabilize riverbanks, shade the soil and help store water
 - Grasses catch and hold seeds from nearby trees and give them a place to root
 - Grasses protect tree seedlings from the sun, wind, and browsers
- Trees eventually grow tall enough to shade out grasses and become a forest



A healthy riparian area has many species thriving close to a water channel:



The challenge for us:

- Historically, riparian areas in Central Texas were heavily forested within grasslands
- Land use history dramatically changed the land around water channels
- Changing climate + increased development = Stress on our forests
- We have learned that improved ranching, farming, and development practices can better sustain and maintain land



Who is eligible?

- Private and Public landowners in the following counties:
 - Travis
 - Hays
 - Caldwell
 - Bastrop
 - Williamson
 - Burnet
 - Blanco
- Land is within a 100-year floodplain
- Land is not already forested



Achievements

2019-2024

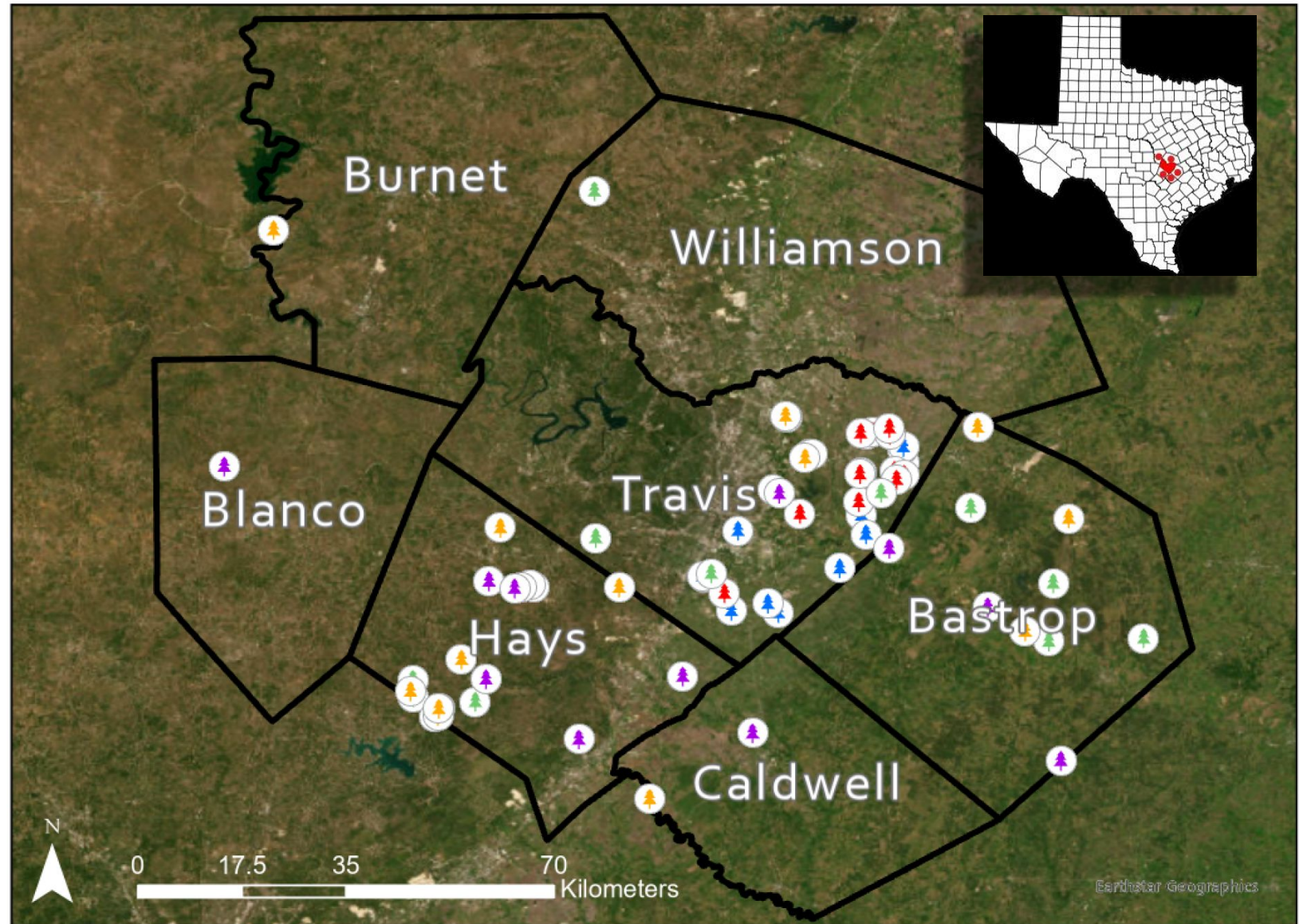
70 sites planted

- 63 private sites, 7 public parks

282 acres planted

270,732 trees planted
(40+ species)

Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program - Project Sites



▬ Program Area

🌳 Planting Locations 19-20

🌳 Planting Locations 20-21

🌳 Planting Locations 21-22

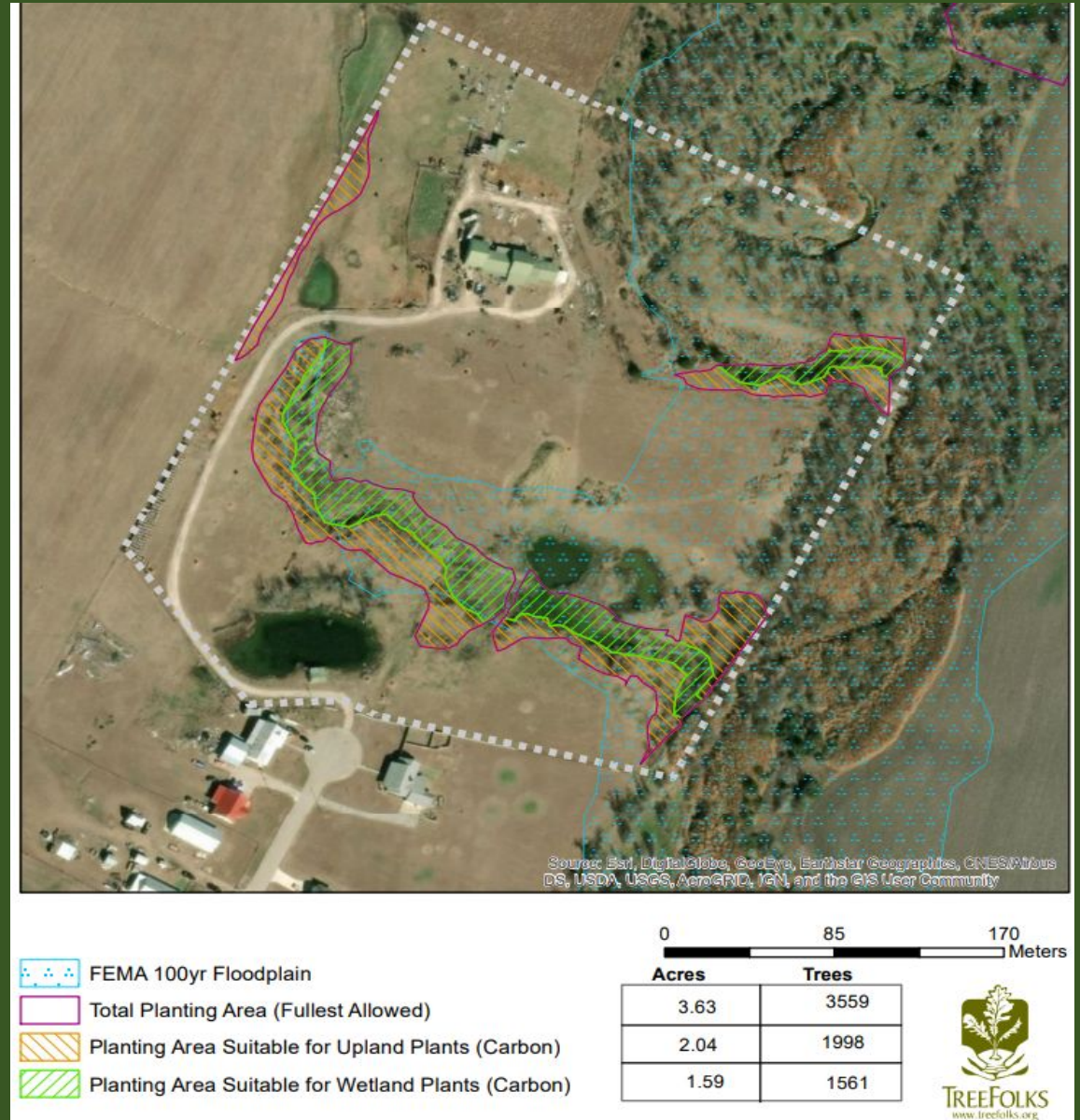
🌳 Planting Locations 22-23

🌳 Planting Locations 23-24



What are the steps of the program?

1. Site visits to qualifying properties
 - Landowner Consultation
 - Map areas you'd like us to plant
2. Crew plants trees
 - 500+ seedlings/acre
 - ~15 native species per property
 - Estimated value > \$7,500/acre
3. TreeFolks registers sites for carbon credits
 - 26 year protection for trees
 - Revenue offsets program costs, keeping it free for landowners



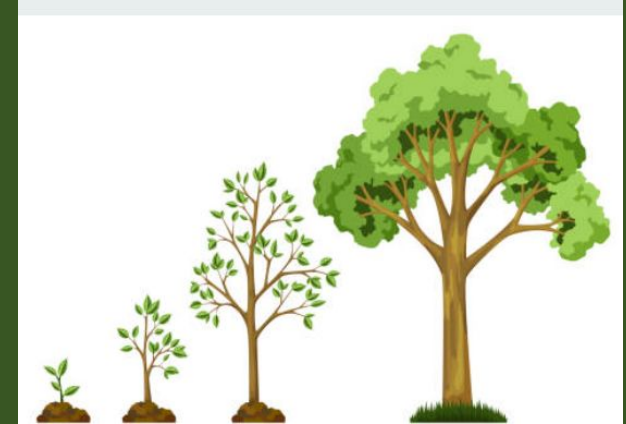
What is required of you?

- No watering or mulching required
- No mowing of planted areas
- Keep livestock fenced out of the planting area
- Do not cut down any trees
- A commitment to the program for 26 years.



Why a 26-year commitment?

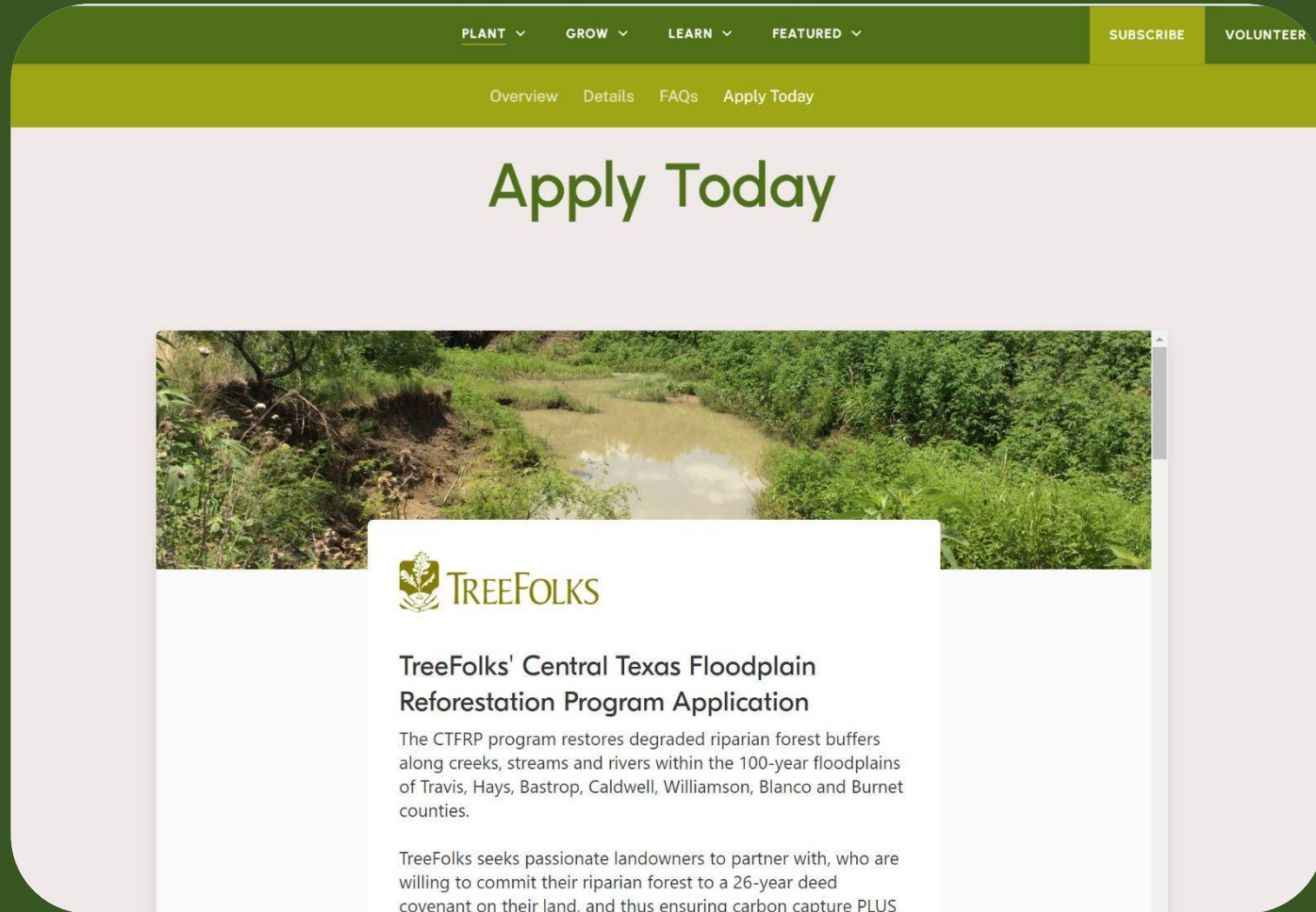
- It takes that long for the forest to mature
- TreeFolks is partially paid for the program with carbon credits, and we do not earn all of the credits until the forest has grown to maturity
- To protect our initial investment of trees and labor, we require that you sign a deed covenant that protects the planted trees
- The covenant remains attached to the property for 26 years
- If the trees on the property are removed, a reimbursement fee will be assessed



Online Application

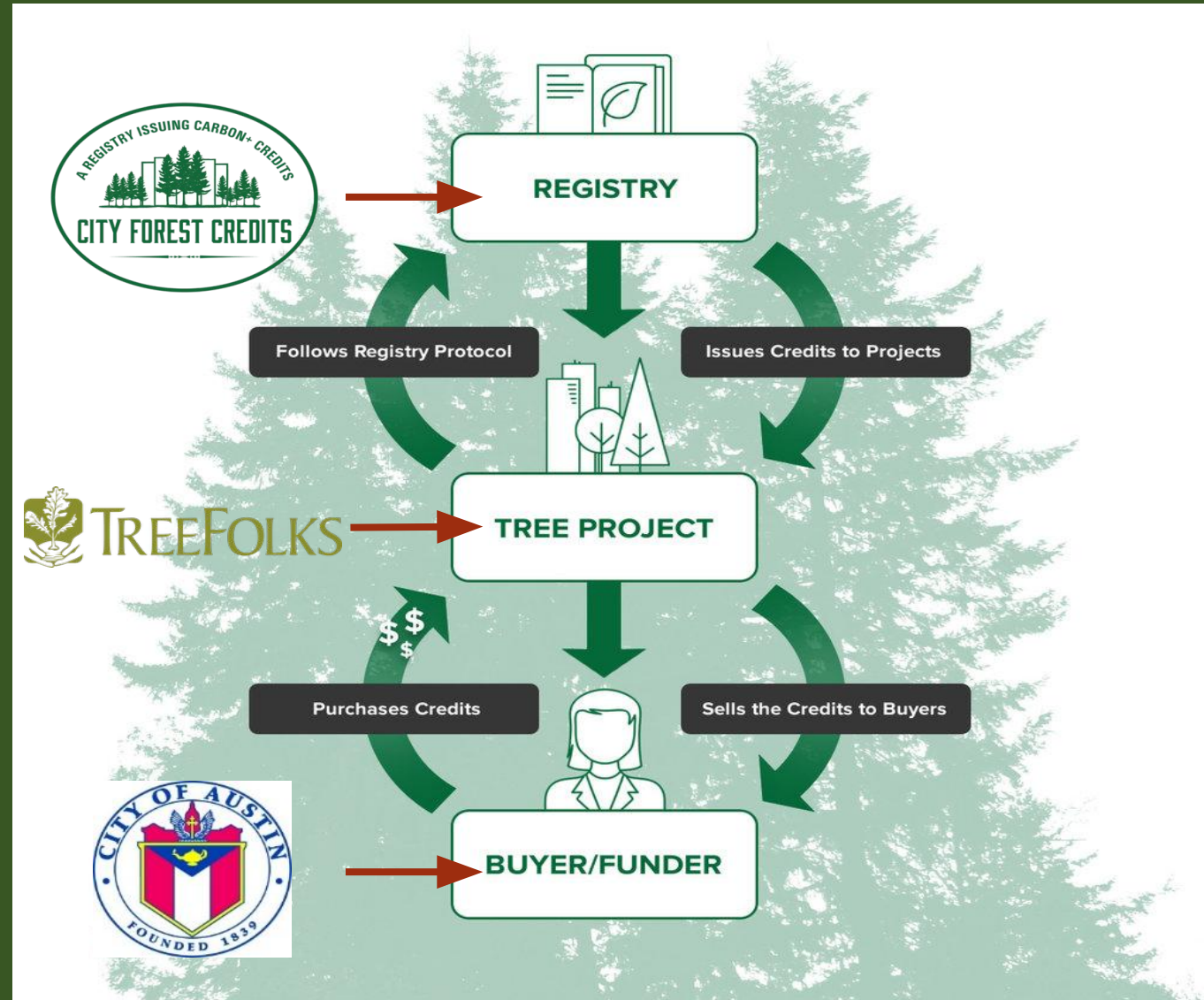
Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program

www.treefolks.org/ctfrp



How we are able to pay for the program:

- Each reforested acre generates carbon credits, which help pay for the program
- We then sell the credits to buyers (such as the city of Austin) who want to offset their emissions from transportation and industry
- Who issues and verifies the credits? City Forest Credits, a Seattle-based nonprofit carbon carbon registry



Central Texas Floodplain Reforestation Program

Partners and Sponsors

Multiple Partners

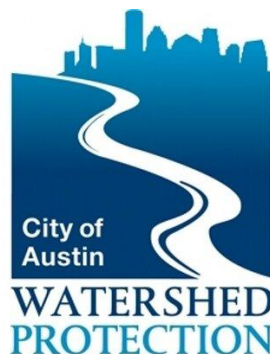
- County/City
- Landowners
- Non-profits

Grant & Sponsor Funded

- Natural Climate Solutions Accelerator Grant (2018)
- Corporate sponsors provide funding and volunteers
- Foundation grants and individual donors

Carbon Credit Generation

- Helps meet Austin's carbon neutrality goals
- Revenue reinvested in the program



dwg.

Ways to get involved!

- Help spread the word
 - Landowners, HOA's, municipalities
- Volunteer with us
 - Planting events
 - Nursery day events
 - Woody Seed Collection
 - Volunteer Supervisor
- Individual & Corporate donations



Questions?

Valerie Tamburri

Director of Reforestation

valerie@treefolks.org

Kayla Cormack

Reforestation Coordinator

kayla@treefolks.org

Marina Weikel

Carbon Credit Assistant

marina@treefolks.org

512-443-LEAF

www.treefolks.org

