

ReLeaf Program

What is ReLeaf?

ReLeaf is a program from PECO centered around the company's increased investment and support of tree planting and education across the Greater Philadelphia region. **ReLeaf's goal is to develop southeastern Pennsylvania's urban tree canopy by supporting the planting of one tree for every tree removed as part of the company's electric reliability enhancement work.**

The program debuted on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at an event held in partnership with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS). At the event, PECO presented PHS with a \$200,000 donation, doubling the company's annual investment. These funds will provide increased resources for the organization's tree programming, including new investments in Yard Tree Giveaways and TreeVitalize Watershed Grant programs. With this additional funding, PHS will be best positioned to train more Tree Tenders and plant more trees across the region, further supporting PECO's 1:1 tree planting goal.

How do trees impact reliability?

To keep the lights on and provide the reliable electric service that our customers have come to expect, PECO invests millions of dollars each year in vegetation management efforts, which includes pruning, tree removal, mowing and public education.

Our work to maintain reliability is important — we trim and remove trees while managing vegetation across our service territory to help reduce power outages and during our work to upgrade and modernize electric infrastructure, which will ultimately increase our region's clean energy resources.



We work to minimize the number of trees that need to be removed when upgrading our infrastructure where possible, and we have enlisted specially trained arborists, qualified and trained in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 standard, to lead our vegetation management efforts, ensuring that we make responsible decisions when it comes to trees and vegetation.

How do these efforts support our region's transition to a clean energy future?

PECO is on a Path to Clean, playing a leading role in the Greater Philadelphia region's transition to a clean energy future. As part of this goal, PECO and the collective Exelon utilities will reduce operations-driven emissions by 50 percent by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. In addition to reducing emissions, PECO's Path to Clean journey includes support for all things green, specifically through environmental stewardship efforts — which is the foundation of ReLeaf. Supporting the planting, maintenance, and education about trees remains integral to our Path to Clean, and will continue to provide direction for, and the growth of, the ReLeaf program.

PECO Tree Support: By the Numbers



Did you know communities of color have **33%** less tree canopy on average than majority white communities, and neighborhoods with 90% or more of their residents living in poverty have **41%** less tree canopy than communities with only 10% or less of the population in poverty? Through ReLeaf funding, PHS is expanding the urban tree canopy across the region, focusing specifically in underserved or Environmental Justice areas.



To date, PECO has provided almost **10,000** trees to customers through the Arbor Day Foundation's Energy-Saving Trees Program; and for every 3-point-shot converted by the Philadelphia 76ers at a home game, PECO donates \$7.76 to an environmental organization in the Greater Philadelphia region through the Threes for Trees program.



In 2022 alone, PECO's **\$200,000** support of PHS resulted in approximately **9,600** newly planted trees in the region.



PECO has invested more than **\$2.6 million** in Green Region Grants that promote open space and tree planting. In 2022, PECO is providing a total of **\$160,000** in funding to **21** area municipalities and nonprofits to boost their open space projects, with an eye on tree preservation and projects that enhance environmental equity and increase community access to shared spaces.

