



SUMMER SUMMARY

August 1st 2017



INSPIRING A REFORESTATION REVOLUTION

CELEBRATING OUR GLOBAL SISTERHOOD

Gratitudes for the women
who are breathing life
into this movement

GROVES AND TREESISTER STORIES

The launch of the Groves
and voices from the
sisterhood

PLANTING PROJECTS AND UPDATES

Our planting partner
successes and
organisational news



WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER SUMMARY

We are so excited to let you know what we have been doing since 1st May. At TreeSisters we follow a seasonal and lunar calendar and in the Summer we truly see our work blossom.

We have funded the planting of 740,485 trees, and this month we will fund a further 291,905 for the Summer Quarter bringing our all time funding total to 1,032,390 trees.

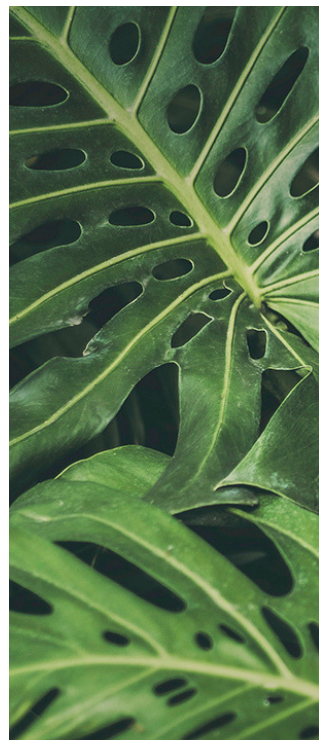
Reaching out to you all in deepest gratitude as we do this together, our sisterhood brings great strength and resourcefulness. TreeSisters is becoming a global forest floor of women, stepping in and bringing their gifts to reforest the planet. In 2017 you will be planting over 1 million trees per year! This is such an amazing achievement in such a short space of time.

As we move into the Autumn we will be reaching deep into the earth and stretching our arms up to the sky, as we ask for more TreeSisters to step into our root network and help us reach 1 million trees per month as our next major growth milestone.

We are celebrating and extending our gratitude and thanks that we are becoming a global sisterhood of women, (supported by many men), who are making the move towards becoming a Restorer Species.

SEASONAL RETREAT

Our seasonal retreats and updates come out at the Cross Quarter festivals, these are the times between the Solstices and the Equinoxes, and they are also known as fire festivals. For those in the Northern Hemisphere, 1st August begins the season known as Lammas. This was a time when our ancestors celebrated the first harvest. For those in the Southern Hemisphere, you are beginning to see the first signs of Spring emerge. We are tuning into this time of gratitude and giving thanks for what we have seen blossom in the Summer months and for what is beginning to emerge ready to be harvested in the Autumn.





At this time we want to share with you what has blossomed and what we are grateful for. We also want to tell you about what we are planning to harvest in the Autumn. As you spend time with this summary, allow these questions to enter your being, so that you can engage with this report from an embodied space.

WHAT SEEDS HAVE BLOSSOMED IN YOUR OWN LIFE?

WHAT HAS POLLINATED AND IS NOW REQUIRING YOUR CARE AND WATERING?



As the season began we took stock of what was in the garden, thinning out some of the seeds we planted, and nurturing those we wanted to grow.

Then we moved towards pollinating, watering and generally taking care of what has been very fast growth!

We would love it if you could join us for our Seasonal retreat call on August 1st where we will spend time giving thanks and celebrating the season.

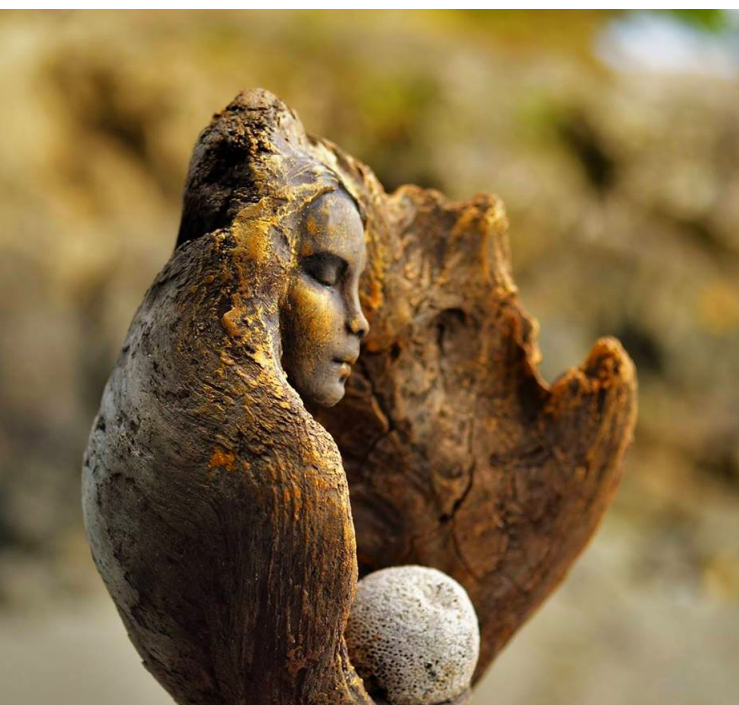


IMAGE CREDIT (RIGHT): DEBRA BERNIER

CELEBRATING OUR GLOBAL SISTERHOOD

Heartwood Volunteer Team

We begin by celebrating our amazing volunteer team, we now have 26 women across 10 countries who are helping TreeSisters grow and bloom in so many ways. When you engage with us via Social media, whether it's Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram, it is our volunteer team who make this possible. They literally do hold hands around the world from Australia to the Pacific coast of the United States and many countries in between. Thank you Heartwood Team, we love you.



To see all of our amazing volunteers, please go to: www.treesisters.org/about/our-people

Our Global Network

We are celebrating our network of over 220,000 women (including over 2000 monthly members, Water Carriers and major donors funding trees) and thanking you for your engagement and your generosity. As more and more women ask to water TreeSisters through the giving of their gifts, we needed to come up with names to honour this life giving generosity.

Monthly Members

'Monthly Member' is the name for our monthly donors and major donors who give generously of your time, talents and treasure to grow this global movement of Nature-consciousness and Tropical Reforestation.

To learn more about our monthly membership, visit:
www.treesisters.org/home/join

IMAGE CREDIT (CENTER):
ANA CASTILHO



WaterCarriers

'Water Carrier' is the name for the many of you who give of yourselves by fundraising in so many creative ways and/or donating profit percentages from your businesses or services. Water Carrier is a title that reflects those who have gracefully done what's needed to sustain life; carrying the gift of water. Thank you to the 26 women who are water carriers ~ from our hearts to yours, you are sustaining and nourishing the roots of this movement.

If you want to find out more about our Water Carrier programme, please visit:
www.treesisters.org/about/water-carriers

TreeSisters

A 'TreeSister' is anyone who is involved in this global movement ~ both women and men who support in so many ways by engaging, sharing, volunteering, planting, nurturing and giving to Trees.

TREESISTER STORIES

HIGHLIGHTING OUR WATERCARRIERS & VOLUNTEERS



◀ Barbara Sinclair

Barbara Sinclair is a WaterCarrier who donated \$800 USD from her business and was so inspired by our nature-based philanthropy webinar that she increased her monthly donation amount by five times. She wrote a beautiful poem about a smiling tree that touched her deeply, showing us what a moment in nature can do. You can read it at:

www.treesisters.org/blog/38-the-poetry-glade/404-even-a-tree-can-set-you-free

▼ Lori Wallace

Lori Wallace, one of our most long-term dedicated volunteers, represented TreeSisters at a large women's conference in LA, hosting a booth and meditation experiences for 2 days and generating many sign-ups and partnership opportunities. We love how Lori had handmade nature-inspired signs and gifts and held a space of love and nature-connection in the middle of a busy conference environment.



▲ Lisa Estabrook

Lisa Estabrook has consistently donated profits from her Soulflower Oracle Card deck, totalling over \$1200 USD since she began in November 2016 (planting approximately 3,206 trees!) We are so touched by her beautiful expressions of love for nature, and her self-healing journey with plants. See Lisa's plant spirit art here: <https://mysoulflower.com/>

VOICES FROM THE SISTERHOOD

"When I discovered and learned about the work and mission of TreeSisters I felt an immediate and visceral reaction in my body. My soul came bursting to life and from deep within my belly, a power began to vibrate with a strength that I have not quite felt before, not in all of my activist days. It is potent and powerful. I could see with great clarity what this group of fierce, devoted, global feminine leaders have already accomplished and will be accomplished over the coming years and decades, to literally replenish, restore and repair the damage this human race has done to this sacred planet. To re-green and re-forest this Earth. I couldn't not be a part of it.

I am a treesister monthly donor now because this is easily one of the most inspiring and powerful movements taking place today. Women, like you and me, combining efforts around the world to plant billions of trees. I am stunned and joyful to have the opportunity to contribute a small amount to further this cause because every 'small part' we offer plays a magnificent and mighty role to support these feminine pioneers of re-forestation.

I am so awed to learn more about what they have already accomplished and to be touched by the wisdom and connection being shared in their free monthly calls."



Alexa Major is a member of the TreeSisters Volunteer Team and is an Environmental and Animal Protection activist, Healer and Women's Life Coach.



"Becoming a TreeSister has been a miracle of deeper connections for me. This has involved connecting with other amazing women, with the wisdom of the trees, with my own body and my ancient roots... and the journey continues still. In this global circle of sisterhood I am finding more and more courage and ways to reach our Mother Earth, who so much needs our love these days."

Reeta Maria Palomaki is a TreeSisters Volunteer from Finland. She assists in weaving together beauty and poetry in the TreeSisters Blog and also in the Instagram Team.



THE GROVES

TREESISTERS WOMEN'S CIRCLES

July saw us launch a project that has been dear to our hearts for many months now.

TreeSisters Groves; women's circles that nurture feminine nature-based leadership.

A Grove is a circle of women who gather together to nurture themselves deeply and find gloriously enjoyable ways to give their gifts and take action on behalf of Nature. It's a birthing circle, a place to connect with like-minded women, where we can take responsibility for the care of ourselves and the Earth in community. We are calling all women to step into their nature based feminine leadership and create Groves that align with your unique gifts and the needs of your local environment.

We launched the Groves with a live event called *Rise in Sisterhood: A soulful women's circle gathering to inspire, empower and support you to create your own TreeSisters Grove.*

The launch of the Groves and the fantastic materials that we have brought together to assist the women who wish to become Grove Tenders, is our gift back to our TreeSisters.

The TreeSisters Groves has a wonderful Mama, Jenny Rose Smith from our core team, with many years experience of running women's circles and she is always there if you have any questions!

To find out about our groves project visit the Groves on our website:
www.treesisters.org/treesisters-groves

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE GROVES

There are already 15 groves that have been running for awhile now and we want to share with you some feedback from Hannah and Suzi who have been running a Grove in Glastonbury, UK. We hope it inspires you to become a Grove Tender or to find a Grove near you.

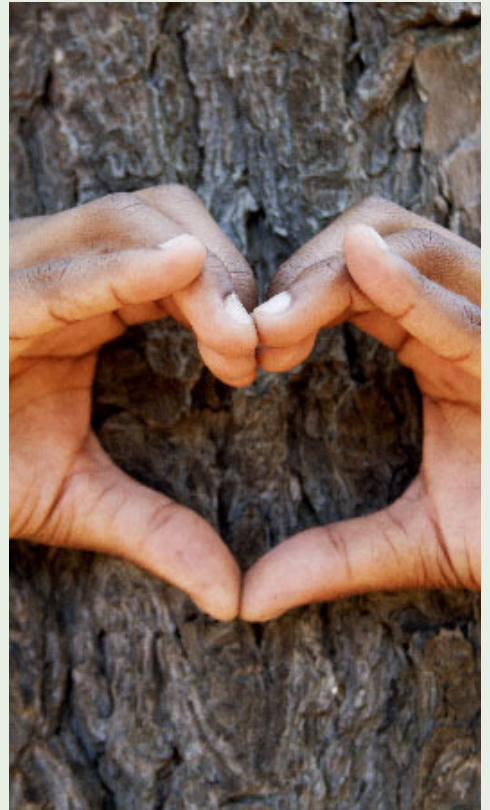
Hannah: I had been holding sacred space for children and women for many years, which were always held with the intention of connecting women with their indigenous, natural selves through shamanic teachings and earth wisdom. So then having come across the amazing work of Treesisters, donating, and feeling the importance of linking it all together locally with groves, I felt that any women or girls' circles I held could be linked to this. Through the massively inspiring work of treesisters, I realised I wanted show them what women can do and to inspire them that we can work on the material earth physically to help return mother Earth's forests, through rewilding as well as learning the spiritual, naturally deep amazing connection women have with the land and Mother Earth. The Avalon Grove has held groups for young women.



Suzi: Hannah and I have been taken up with work in the wider community and supporting awareness of tree consciousness, the experiences of other local tree lovers (male and female), networking projects up with each other and highlighting cool scientific and practical community ideas around working with Trees. So lots of education and bridging the social gap between tree lovers and tree caretakers like farmers, landowners and the local council. We are able to do this through establishing a Tree Conference and working with Glastonbury Council's Neighbourhood Plan. Knowing there are other Grove Tenders who can use the material as a template in their regions has changed our perspective about how we can create local resources. Knowing the work can be replicated via secure ways of distributing the ideas encourages us to create 'templates' with a global audience in mind.

Hannah: Meeting Suzi has been another gift of TreeSisters ~ and the awesome work she is doing, it's a blessing for me to be part of it and see how women can work together to quicken this time of change. Even though we are coming from very different approaches, it's all one. I'm learning so much from Suzi, in a way I could never have imagined, so thanks for linking women together from all areas of life...it's the only way and it's also reminding me of the native prophecy of the coming of the one world family. TreeSisters is showing women, as their natural wild connected selves have the capacity to help create this, blessings on our journeys together.

You can find out more about the Tree Conference being organised by Suzi, Hannah and team at www.thetreeconference.com and if you or someone you know would like to join the young women's Grove in Glastonbury contact Hannah at crowwomanguardsthetrees@gmail.com



A GROVES UPDATE FROM OUR GROVES MAMA JENNY ROSE SMITH:

"The existing groves are a mix of in person and online, based in the UK, the US, Australia and Europe. We have Groves that are working with young women offering initiation into womanhood ceremonies, Groves that are focusing on reconnecting women with their moon cycle wisdom, groves that gathering monthly to plant and tend trees locally, Groves that are meeting to offer their prayers and love to the forests. The Grove Tenders who are holding these circles share about how stepping into these roles has given them increased passion for how they can offer their love into the world and renewed faith that together we have what it takes to rise and respond with what is needed

Slowly more women are making their way over to our Grove Tender group, all of them are at different stages of enquiry in their journey, some are very much still seeding their ideas of their circles, others have clarity and are looking to launch and a couple have just held their first meetings. One is based in a yurt in West Sussex UK and held a beautifully co-created first day a week ago with each woman taking a medicine walk in nature holding the question of 'what are the particular gifts that I bring to this circle'. Treesisters was a new organisation for some of the participants and she was met with excitement, enthusiasm and recognition when she was introduced with an invitation to become a monthly donor."

CELEBRATING OUR TREE PLANTING PROJECTS

We are celebrating our four planting partners and in particular this month we are celebrating visiting International Tree Foundation in Kenya and Eden projects in Madagascar.



TOP LEFT: WEFORST, BRAZIL TOP RIGHT: PROJECT GREENHANDS, INDIA BOTTOM LEFT: EDEN
REFORESTATION PROJECTS, MADAGASCAR BOTTOM RIGHT: INTERNATIONAL TREE PROJECTS, KENYA

MANGROVES IN MADAGASCAR

In mid-May 2017, our Reforestation Director Lauriane Cayet Boisrobert visited our mangrove planting site in Madagascar, hosted by our planting partners Eden Reforestation Projects.

Her goals were to:

- ~ *Get a deeper understanding of the mangrove restoration work we are funding.*
- ~ *Build our relationship with Eden.*
- ~ *Gather photos and stories to share with our donors and community.*
- ~ *Explore how well the trees we are funding are growing.*

Laurianne visited our planting site, which is located next to the village of Kalamboro, a 7-hour boat trip from the main city of Mahajanga, on Madagascar's eastern coast.

She was able to meet the villagers who are planting the trees as well as the project directors, view the saplings that are growing thanks to our donors, and write reports about the health of the saplings in different locations, which she will be able to revisit and review in future. She also visited our planting sites in Mahabana and Mahajanga which are part of the Eden project where she was witness to the remarkable transformation in people's lives that the planting and restoration of the mangroves is having and could see how the people of Kalamboro will benefit in the same way.

Lauriane was thrilled to witness the love, passion, and dedication the local tree planting crews put into their work, the landscape re-greening before her eyes, and the way the people of Mahajanga, Kalamboro, and Mahabana appreciate, nurture and understand the importance of the trees they plant.



LOVING THE TREESISTERS IN KENYA

In early April 2017, our Director of Business Development Kenya Rachelle Ference visited the Mount Kenya planting site, hosted by our planting partners The International Tree Foundation. Her goal was to create a video of the project and TreeSisters of Mount Kenya who are so integral to the success of this project. You can watch the video here: <https://vimeo.com/218227703>

Mount Kenya's forests are vital - for wildlife, for freshwater resources, and for the materials they provide to local people. Even today, Kenya's rural communities are heavily dependent on forests for their livelihoods. Local people recognise that the forests need to be protected - but they also contribute to the damage, not out of choice but because they have to.

Only 7% of Kenya is covered by trees which equates to 67 trees per person compared to a global average of 420. It's one of the countries most affected by deforestation in Africa. But thanks to contributions from our amazing members, we are helping to fund trees will conserve Kenya's highland forests, which are known as 'Water Towers' for the vital role they play in conserving the country's rivers, lakes and drinking water.

To read more about Kenya's travels to Kenya, you can read her blog here: <https://www.treesisters.org/blog/27-about-treesisters/402-why-we-need-sisterhood-in-the-face-of-climate-change>

You can also read Bernadette's blog about the trip, who is one of our original TreeSisters and also made the trip to Kenya in April: <https://www.treesisters.org/blog/26-trees-and-forests/386-the-mount-kenya-tree-challenge>



QUICK FACTS

ABOUT TREESISTERS

2,218 MONTHLY MEMBERS AS
AT MAY 2017 FROM 42
COUNTRIES TOTAL

OVER 4,500 ALL TIME DONORS

1,490 WOMEN ATTENDED THE
GROVES LAUNCH FROM 25
COUNTRIES. 67 GROVES HAVE
BEEN OFFICIALLY
REGISTERED, AND THERE ARE
312 GROVE TENDERS WHO
ARE STARTING THEIR GROVES

724 TREESISTERS ACTIVELY
ENGAGING IN INNER WISE
WOMAN COUNCIL, YEAR
LONG NEW MOON SERIES

OVER 200,000 FOLLOWERS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA

26 WATERCARRIERS GIVING A
PERCENTAGE OF THEIR
BUSINESS REVENUE TO
TREESISTERS

ORGANISATION UPDATES

A CEO TRANSITION

In January Clare Dubois our founder stepped down as Chief Executive Officer and handed over to Amrita Khalsa. Clare continues to front our campaigns, thought leadership, and philanthropic activity and is fundamental in creating and managing content to catalyse the consciousness raising and transformative change that we wish to inspire within our membership. Amrita is focusing on providing the necessary strategic direction to ensure that TreeSisters meets the goals and mission that it has set itself for the coming years. Our network's shared mission is to make it normal for every single person to start restoring our forests by giving funds to plant trees every month. If changing behaviour was straightforward, we wouldn't be facing an environmental crisis, and TreeSisters works on shifting consciousness by ensuring that as a network of women we are fully nourished in ourselves so that we can work with resilience to change, and liberate energy for transformation and action.

WORKING WITH OUR FOUR REFORESTATION PARTNERS

In February 2017 thanks to generous philanthropic funding, TreeSisters was able to hire a part-time Reforestation Director, Lauriane Cayet-Boisrobert. She is busy working with our partners to evolve and develop our reforestation strategy, and has been deep in the due diligence process with four potential new partners in time for this year's campaign.

BUILDING AND REFINING OUR WEBSITE

This year has seen more behind the scenes work creating a donor management system for our website. We hope that it is now much easier to use and that you are able to access all of the offerings, such as the Femiversity, Groves, and the Gift Cards section. The work continues and in coming months you will see even more upgrades for ease of use and community connection. We especially love the 'prayer for sisterhood' gift card featuring a poem from Clare and some of the women involved in the Eden Reforestation Projects in Madagascar. To see and send the card go here: www.treesisters.org/?option=com_sister&view=listgift

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RAINFOREST INFORMATION CENTER - AUSTRALIA

We are now officially partnering with the Rainforest Information Centre (RIC), this enables large donors in Australia (\$1K+) to gift to TreeSisters and obtain a tax donor receipt for their giving. This is another step towards growing the benefits that we are able to give our donors not just in the UK but Worldwide. We have a similar relationship with a USA 501c3, Green America, who provides tax receipts for our American large donors.



CATALYZING OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

We have been calling forth to all of us to stand up for the trees and move into our feminine nature based leadership. Over the summer Clare wrote a wonderful five part blog series on feminine nature based leadership which you can read here:

<https://www.treesisters.org/blog/60-feminine-leadership>

We also hosted a nature based feminine philanthropy call which you can watch here: <https://www.treesisters.org/our-events>

This season has seen us calling to everyone who is feeling the profound need to take action in the face of the growing political and environmental crescendo unfolding around us, as we catalyse a quantum leap in our movement-building on behalf of the trees. Going forward, we offer a deep, nourishing invitation to those who would like to give deep, supportive financial gifts to our movement by launching intentional spaces we are calling our Catalyst Groves.

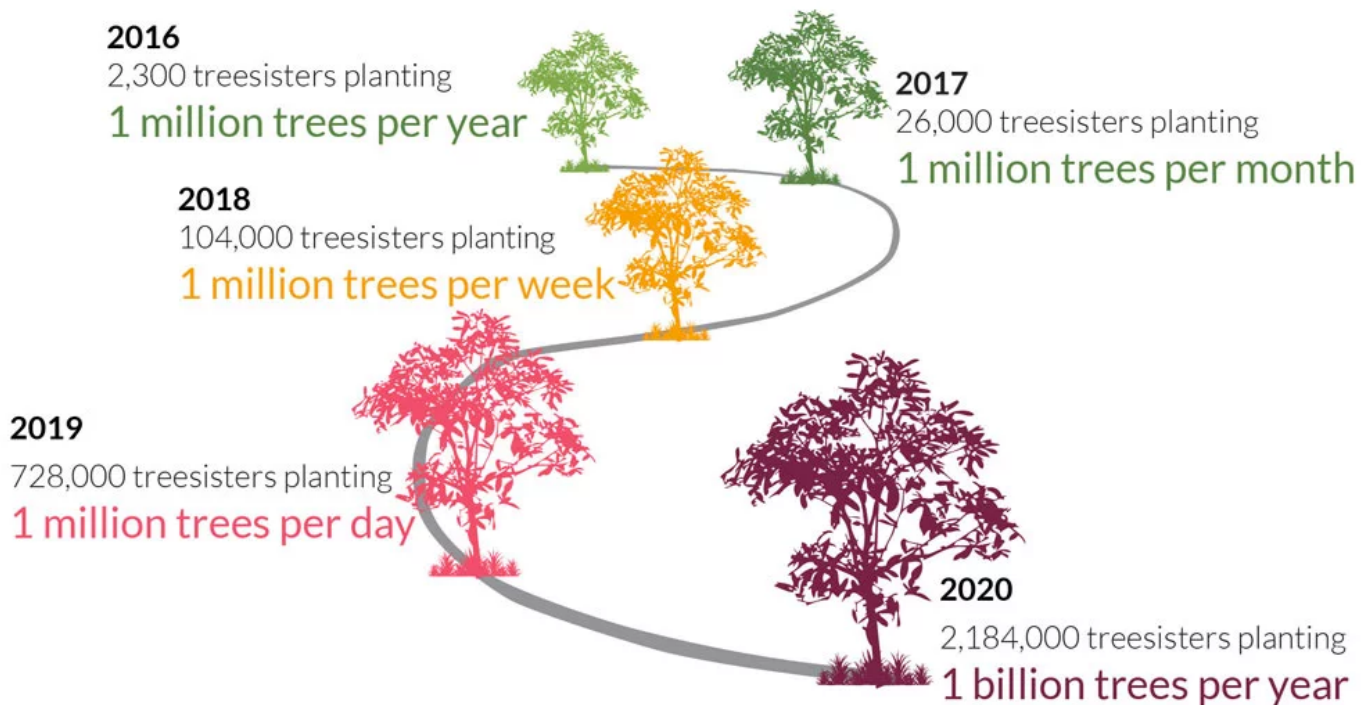
Nature and women are the life givers on Earth, and yet environmental and women's causes currently receive less than 4% of global giving. A radical re-evaluation is needed. Within the Catalyst Groves, we invite you to explore how we shift resource flow to dramatically impact these two critical needs while also, sitting in a community that is reimagining what it means to be a bold philanthropist.

We are planting our feet firmly on the path to a billion trees so that we can move towards becoming a Restorer Species and embracing life through the forests and the feminine. If you or anyone you know would like to join a Catalyst Grove, or explore what it means to be in a Catalyst Grove, please contact Alyssa Wright, our philanthropy advisor. Active Catalyst Groves exists in New England, New York, Nevada City and the UK. Join us and unleash your boldest philanthropic self on behalf of the forests and the feminine.

It's time to reinstate the Feminine:
www.treesisters.org/ignite



PATH TO A BILLION TREES A YEAR



Women are the greatest untapped resource on this planet. Women are wild, powerful forces of nature. But how many of us have become tidy, contained, acceptable versions of ourselves when raging rivers run beneath the surface? We need those rivers, let loose in creative expression and audacious action. Freed up and bonded together we could move mountains. What could be more needed than millions of heart centred women offering their gifts in service to the one who Mothers us all?

CLARE DUBOIS, FOUNDER OF TREESISTERS