

# Lark in the Park - Saturday, September 25, 7-10pm

**Ansley Park Beautification Foundation** will sponsor **Lark in the Park on Saturday, September 25 from 7:00-10:00pm at East Park Lane and McClatchey Park**. Think—outside dining, roaming mariachi band, spontaneous dancing, sipping festive beverages, seeing new and old neighbors, and enjoying our lovely neighborhood! Tickets will go on sale in AUGUST—and this event is sure to sell out, so stay tuned to ensure you get a seat.

Please consider becoming a sponsor for this important event. Sponsorship levels are listed below—and if you become an early sponsor, you can be recognized in the June/July *Ansleyphile*! To become a sponsor, please reach out to

## Platinum Ginkgo \$5000

Includes 4 dinner tickets, your business logo or name in the August and September *Ansleyphile*, mention in our Ansley eNews, your business logo or name on the printed event promotional materials

## Golden Ginkgo \$2500

Includes 2 dinner tickets, your business logo or name in the August and September *Ansleyphile*, your business logo or name on the printed event promotional materials

## Silver Ginkgo \$1000

2 dinner tickets, your name in the August and September *Ansleyphile*, and a mention in the printed event promotional materials

## Copper Ginkgo \$500

Includes one dinner ticket, your name in the August and September *Ansleyphile*, and mention in the printed event promotional materials.

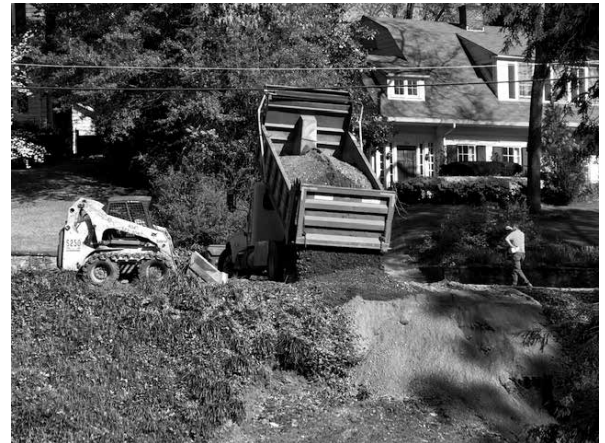
## Friends of the Ginkgo \$300

Includes your name in the August and September *Ansleyphile*, and in the event promotional materials.

Lark in the Park replaces the typical Ansley Park Beautification Foundation “Art in the Park” fundraiser, which occurs every odd year. APBF uses the funds raised from this event for everything from doggie bags to traffic island landscaping to planting new trees and rebuilding/reseeding our parks.

APBF’s latest project is rebuilding the bank of Winn Park, where a tree fell in December 2020. APBF paid for the tree removal and stump grinding—and then used the mulch on the walkways in our parks. In April, APBF coordinated the work of adding several tons of dirt to rebuild the bank of the park. You may notice the area is cordoned off right now—as the newly planted grass seed takes root. (See the amazing photos of this work in progress.)

—Sudie Nolan-Cassimatis, Greenspace Chair



## A FEW WORDS ABOUT LEAF BLOWERS

Our President, **Paul Dimmick**, discussed in his letter in the February issue of the *Ansleyphile* the heightened awareness this past year of the noise caused by leaf blowing in our neighborhood. Perhaps you have experienced sitting down for your next Zoom call when the noise of your neighbor’s leaf blower roars in the background. Or perhaps you are ending the day and step onto your porch to wind down with a cocktail and the leaf blower across the street is your background music. While well-manicured lawns are appreciated, many neighbors have inquired if anything can be done to alleviate the seemingly constant noise of the leaf blower. As Bill Torpy noted in a November 2020 *AJC* article, “leaf blowers are alternately a beloved timesaver and a despised community annoyance.”

Landscape designer, **Marcia Weber** of Gardens to Love, is an advocate for less leaf blowing. She says, “I am seeing damage done to landscapes from overuse of blowers.” The soil is compacted from too much blowing and no organic matter is left to decompose and feed the ground. She suggests blowing only hardscapes such as the driveways and walkways while leaving the leaves in the ivy and bushes to allow the fallen foliage to feed the roots and soil.

Most landscape companies use gas powered blowers which can be a pollutant in both exhaust emissions and sound levels. Decibel levels can vary from 65-80 decibels. Electric blowers do not have the exhaust pollutants and are often quieter than the gas-powered blowers. However, electric blowers are not generally as efficient as gas blowers in handling large volumes of fallen leaves. Electric blower technology is improving both in terms of output and longer battery life. Also, gas blowers continue to improve as well with recent models providing more efficiency with less emissions. You should check with your landscaper to see what they are using and if you manage your own yard, you should consider replacing older equipment with newer and more efficient models.

Neighbors have found that landscape companies are willing to use an owner’s electric blower if requested by the homeowner. If you are interested in purchasing an electric blower and have questions, **Jane Jackson** has offered to help. You may contact her at [janejackson@me.com](mailto:janejackson@me.com).

There are restrictions in place which specifically limit when leaf blowers or other lawn care equipment can be used in the City. Did you know that the City of Atlanta restricts leaf blowing between the hours of 8:00 pm – 8:00 am while construction can begin at 7:00 am? Atlanta City Council Member Jennifer Ide recently presented a resolution to the City urging the City of Atlanta to work with the Environmental Protection Division of the State of Georgia and/or the Georgia General Assembly to determine whether there is a manner to address the environmental nuisance of gas-powered leaf blowers. This investigation will be completed by May 31 so we will update the neighborhood with the results of this discussion after that date.

Perhaps the best approach is to be mindful of your neighbors when you or your landscaper is working on your property. Do your research and determine if you can help ameliorate both noise levels and emissions with updated equipment. Ansley Park is a lovely place to live. Our lawns and landscaping are among some of the best manicured in the City. Let’s see if we can maintain our beautiful landscapes with less noise and emissions. That would make our community even more lovely.

—Susan Callaway, Vice President

