Dr. Bonnie Lee Appleton  
November 18, 1948 - July 21, 2012

Anyone who met or worked with Bonnie quickly realized what an amazing person she was. She had a passion for horticulture and arboriculture, and shared that enthusiasm with all who knew her. She was known internationally as an author of five major books, 30 industry journal articles and more than 800 articles for newspapers and trade and consumer publications. The Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund and Scholarship Program will be a tribute and legacy for all of Bonnie’s accomplishments.

Bonnie received her B.S. in Plant Science and her M.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Delaware. She earned her Ph.D. in Crop Science/Nursery Management at Oklahoma State University. As a Professor of Horticulture and Extension Nursery Specialist, Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Virginia Tech University, Virginia Beach, VA from 1985 to 2010, she mentored more than 60 master’s students. Appleton developed an innovative, nationally recognized Extension program, which focused on the development and delivery of research-based technology, and production and management strategies for the nursery, landscape and arboriculture industries.

Over the years, she earned many awards including:

- MAC-ISA Lifetime Achievement Award, 2011
- Conferred as Professor Emeritus, Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, 2010
- American Society for Horticultural Science Extension Materials Award, 2007 and 2008
- Award for Outreach Excellence, Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2007
- Certificate of Teaching Excellence, Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2006
- Southern Group of State Foresters Urban Forestry Award for Partnership, 2004
- Scenic Virginia’s Most Creative Scenic Improvement Award, 2004
- Nursery Extension Award, American Nursery and Landscape Association, 2003
- Alex Shigo Award for Excellence in Education, International Society of Arboriculture, 2000

Her areas of research included:

- Utility easement-compatible trees and shrubs; development of utility line arboreta;
- Landscape installation systems – wire basket modification; tree stabilization (staking vs. root ball anchoring);
- Tree wounds vs. % of tree girdled;
- Bare rooting trees at transplant; root “washing” at transplant;
- Viability and usefulness of mycorrhiza inoculation, and
- Using trees for phytoremediation.

Bonnie was a facilitator who brought together arborists, horticulturalists, nursery personnel and utility professionals to work collaboratively to solve industry issues. The tree care industry will continue to benefit from all of her hard work and research. This scholarship will help support worthy students continuing in her footsteps to benefit the green industry.
Join MAC-ISA and Trees Virginia in a lasting tribute to Dr. Bonnie Appleton’s contributions to horticulture and arboriculture education and research.

The Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund was recently established at the TREE Fund to honor Dr. Appleton’s passion and advocacy for horticulture and arboriculture education and research.

Your gift will help us reach our goal of $100,000 to support an endowment for scholarships for undergraduate students. Scholarships will begin to be awarded after reaching this initial goal.

_____Yes, I would like to donate $________________ to the Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund.

Name: _____________________________ Company: _____________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________

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Phone: ___________________________ Fax: _____________________________

Email: ___________________________ Do you need a receipt: ____ yes ____ no

Would you rather remain anonymous in our recognition materials ____ yes

Payments can be made by check or credit card. Please make check payable to TREE Fund. (donations by credit card can be no less than $50)

Amount Enclosed: ______________________ Payment by: ____ Check ____ Visa ____MasterCard

Card #: ___________________________ Exp. Date: __________ *Vcode: __________

Credit Card Holder Name and Address if different from above: ________________________________

*The Vcode is a 3-4-digit number found on the signature panel or near the account number on the front of the card.

Make checks payable to The TREE Fund.

Mail form to MAC-ISA, PO Box 1200, Haymarket, VA 20168 or Fax to 703-894-4994.

Credit cards will be processed by MAC-ISA and all funds will be forwarded to the TREE Fund.

Contact 703-753-0499 or exdirector@macisa.org for more information.

Click here to donate directly to the TREE Fund and select the Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund (third one down). All donations are tax deductible.