



June 2022 Newsletter

School's Out for Summer

As another school year wraps up in the U.S. and in Vietnam, PeaceTrees would like to congratulate all students on their graduations and accomplishments! PeaceTrees team members visited our kindergartens and delivered small graduation gifts to help students and their families kick-off summer.



Students at the Cheerful Children Kindergarten in Vay Village-Quảng Trị Province



A student wearing her new PeaceTrees sun hat at the Ban Ke Kindergarten-Quảng Bình Province



Students holding up their new backpacks at the Cua Village Kindergarten-Quảng Trị Province



A student on the last day of school at the David Warner Kindergarten in Amor Village- Quảng Trị Province

PeaceTrees would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 2021-2022 Academic Intern, **Laura Van Arsdel**, on her graduation from the University of Washington! Laura received her Bachelor of Arts in History with minors in Art History and Environmental Studies. In the fall, Laura will join Columbia

University's graduate program to continue studying International and World History. Thank you for spending the year with us, Laura! And best of luck on all your future endeavors!

PeaceTrees Hiring a 2022-2023 Academic Year Intern

PeaceTrees is thrilled to announce an internship opportunity for the upcoming academic school year! This internship is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors studying at a place of higher learning in the Seattle area. This internship is expected to run from September 2022-June 2023. [Visit our website to learn more and apply!](#)

Updates from Vietnam

Explosive Ordnance (EO) Accident in Quảng Trị Province

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news that there has been another EO accident in Quảng Trị Province. Earlier this month, Hồ Văn Sỹ, a 15 year-old from Xa Bai Village was out searching for honey with two other friends when they encountered an EO. Although they had a suspicion of what it might be, Sỹ thought he would try to move it and unfortunately the bomb exploded. Sỹ was significantly injured by the accident but luckily his two friends stayed far enough away and were unharmed. Sỹ is now recovering at Quảng Trị General Hospital. PeaceTrees staff visited Sỹ and his family to provide emergency financial assistance, and will work to provide scholarships to Sỹ and his younger brother Hồ Văn Lúc. This terrible accident tragically highlights the continued need for explosive ordnance risk education for students of all ages.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) at Tay Trach Secondary School

With the support of Rotary International, PeaceTrees was able to organize an EORE event at Tay Trach Secondary School in Quảng Bình Province! Students learned from PeaceTrees' Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technicians how to keep themselves safe if they encounter a suspected EO and got to hear from an EO accident survivor. Students played games to accompany their learning, and kicked off a drawing contest to illustrate what a world without EO accidents could look like. This is the second EORE event supported by Rotary International, and PeaceTrees is grateful for the opportunity to lead this lifesaving work in Quảng Bình Province alongside our community partners and friends.



An EO accident survivor sharing his story and helping students understand how to stay safe from EO



A student winning a prize after playing a trivia-like game about the dangers of EO

102 EO Safely Removed from Pineapple Plantation in Quảng Bình Province

PeaceTrees EOD teams responded to community calls about suspected EO discovered in a pineapple plantation in Co Do Village, Quảng Bình Province. With help from local farmers, PeaceTrees teams were able to locate and safely remove 93 items of EO and conduct a safe, on-site detonation for the nine remaining explosives deemed un-safe to remove. PeaceTrees is so grateful for the residents of Co Do Village, because of their proactive response, more people can plant and harvest crops on this safely cleared land.



Most of the 91 projectiles found and removed during PeaceTrees' clearance work- Quảng Bình Province



A Co Do Village resident pointing out a suspected EO to a PeaceTrees EOD technician- Quảng Bình Province

Citizen Diplomacy Travel

If you are interested in traveling with PeaceTrees to Vietnam on a Citizen Diplomacy trip, we invite you to email info@peacetreestvietnam.org to add (or confirm) your name to our interested traveler list.

While we look forward to traveling to Vietnam again, we wanted to share a beautiful photo taken this spring of a PeaceTrees EOD technician bush cutting to prepare the land for clearance. - Xa Xi Village, Quảng Trị Province



Community Events and Further Reading

- Read Kim Phuc Phan Thi's guest essay in *The New York Times*, ["It's Been 50 Years. I Am Not 'Napalm Girl' Anymore."](#)
- Learn more about the life of Sgt. Rodney Davis and [how his heroism in Vietnam still inspires his grandchildren today.](#)
- Join [Friends of Little Saigon](#) on Saturday, **July 2 from 9:30-11:30am** for a community clean-up! [Learn more and register here!](#)
- Seattle's Chinatown-International District has brought back their summer 'Food Walks'! [Gather at Hing Hay Park in Seattle on July 16 or August 20 for a taste of everything this neighborhood has to offer.](#)

Donate a Used Vehicle to PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! We partner with CARS, a nonprofit organization that facilitates vehicle donations. All vehicles are



eligible for donation, even if they are not running! CARS makes it easy and gives your unwanted vehicle a new purpose.



Your monthly reminder to make PeaceTrees your Amazon Smile beneficiary!

Amazon Smile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is designate PeaceTrees and start your shopping!

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