

June 2023 Newsletter

PeaceTrees Vietnam is Hiring an Intern!



PeaceTrees Vietnam is thrilled to announce an internship opportunity for 10-12 hours per week during the 2023-2024 academic year. This internship is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors studying at a place of higher learning (community college, university, or vocational school), and will run from September 2023-June 2024. We invite you to learn more at our <u>website</u>.

Updates from Vietnam

750 lb. Bomb Removed in Quang Binh Province

On June 14, a large bomb was uncovered by construction workers in Ha Trach Commune, Bố Trach District. PeaceTrees received a request for assistance with clearance from the Quảng Bình Provincial Military Command and sent a team of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) technicians to safely remove the bomb. They identified the bomb as a 750-pound M117 US aircraft bomb and determined it was safe to move.

It has been nearly fifty years since the war ended, and leftover remnants of war still pose a threat to people's lives and livelihoods. PeaceTrees is grateful to our organizational partners and the U.S. Department of State for supporting our work in Quang Tri and Quang Binh!



PeaceTrees EOD technicians take measurements of the bomb found buried in Quảng Bình Province



A team of PeaceTrees EOD technicians using bamboo poles to safely remove the large bomb - Quảng Bình Province

Explosive Ordance Education Event in Quang Binh Province

With the support of a grant from Boeing Southeast Asia, PeaceTrees Vietnam successfully organized two Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) events in Quảng Bình Province. The events took place on May 16th and 26th at Trường Xuân Secondary School in Trường Xuân Commune, Quảng Ninh District, and Hòa Trạch Secondary School in Hòa Trạch Commune, Bố Trạch District.

Summer is a critical time to raise awareness about the dangers of explosive ordnance (EO) because students spend less time at school and more time out in spaces where EO are more common. EORE events aim to raise awareness about the risks associated with explosive ordnances (EOs). Students learn how to stay safe, and who to call if they find a suspected bomb.



Students receiving Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in Bố Trạch District



Two students in Bố Trạch District showcase materials for the Explosive Ordnance risk Education event

PeaceTrees Holds Annual Retreat for Board of Directors

On June 9th, PeaceTrees Vietnam Seattle staff joined the Board of Directors for an in-person retreat. The retreat provided a platform for engaging, creative, and thoughtful conversations, aimed at enhancing the overall experience for Citizen Diplomacy program participants and considering how this beloved program can continue to evolve in the future. At PeaceTrees, we remain dedicated to the principles of diversity and inclusion, ethical travel practices, and maintaining a conscious understanding of our impact on the people and places we visit.

Wishing You a Peaceful, Healthy Summer



Happy Summer Solstice from PeaceTrees Vietnam! June 21st marks the official start of summer and we at PeaceTrees are reminded of the importance of our work in addressing environmental concerns in central Vietnam. In addition to the ongoing challenges caused by the war, Vietnam is now facing new difficulties due to extreme weather events and climate change. The country is at a high risk of floods and experiences more frequent tropical storms. PeaceTrees is dedicated to assisting communities in central Vietnam as they confront these new challenges. Our programs increasingly focus on addressing flood risks, promoting diverse livelihoods, and ensuring access to clean water in areas that are affected by both environmental hazards and war remnants. To learn more about our work on climate and resilience, click here.

What We're...

Looking Forward to: <u>CID Food Walk, July 15, 11am -</u> 4pm | Chinatown-International District

A summer favorite in Seattle, the CID Food Walk series showcases over 40 CID restaurants and businesses in bite-sized form. Whether you're craving Thai noodles, spicy Sichuanese wontons, or bubble tea galore, the Food Walk is the spot to satisfy your cravings. This month's food walk will benefit the ACRS Food Bank.

Reading: <u>NYT's "Making Art Out of Bombshells and</u> <u>Memories in Vietnam"</u>

Vietnam born artist and sculptor Tuan Andrew Nguyen has a new intriguing, thought-provoking exhibit set to open at the New Museum in Manhattan on June 29 – less than a month after he was awarded the 2023 Joan Miro Prize in Barcelona. In this article, Nguyen goes into detail about his inspirations, experiences, and process that creates his showstopping works of art.





Listening to: "Australia & the Vietnam War"

Podcast "Warfare" brings Australia's role in the Vietnam War to the table. With 60,000 Australian troops serving on the ground, in the air, and the navy, their role was undoubtedly significant but few know of this history. Author & historian David W. Cameron explores the various aspects and questions of Australia's involvement and legacy. Available wherever you get your podcasts!



Donate a Used Vehicle to PeaceTrees

Make your tax-deductible gift to PeaceTrees by donating your unwanted vehicle! We partner with <u>CARS</u>, 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.

