

**Please Support
The Sugar Pine Foundation!**



- Select your membership level:
- Seed Tree*\$1000
 - Old Growth*\$500
 - Second Growth*\$100
 - Sapling*\$50
 - Seedling*\$20
 - Other*\$_____

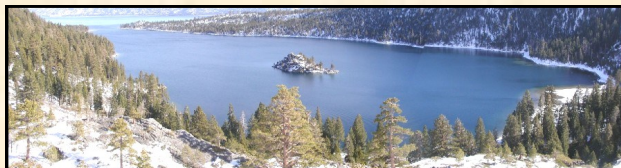
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____



**We are extremely grateful to our sponsors,
partners, members and volunteers!**

Sponsors

- Patagonia Inc. & Employees
- Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation
- Arbor Foundation
- American Forests
- Rose Foundation
- Tahoe Mountain Resorts Foundation
- Vail Resorts Echo
- Rotary, Soroptimist, Kiwanis Clubs

Partners

- US Forest Service
- California & Nevada State Parks
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition
- Sierra Watershed Education Partnership
- Tahoe Institute for Natural Science
- Lake Tahoe Fire Districts

What You Can Do

We rely on financial contributions from people like you, who care about the future of our forests! All donations are greatly appreciated and tax deductible. You can choose a membership level and mail in the form on this brochure.

Donations can also be made securely online through our website.



5 Ways to Help SAVE THE SUGAR PINES!

- * **Sponsor a restoration project!** Our rust-resistant seedlings are being planted around Lake Tahoe and beyond. Consider sponsoring the re-greening of an acre, or more!
- * **Adopt a tree!** This is a great “green” gift idea! You’ll get a certificate with your tree location.
- * **Plant your own sugar pine seedling!** Available on our website. You can plant it in your yard, or out in the wild! We also sell sugar pine seeds if you want to sprout them yourself!
- * **Volunteer!** Join us for cone collections or planting projects in the spring or fall.
- * **Attend an event!** Join us for a guided hike or a fundraiser and tell your friends how fun it was.

For details on these and other ways to get involved, visit:
www.sugarpinefoundation.org

The Sugar Pine Foundation

The Sugar Pine Foundation (SPF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring sugar pines and other white pines in the Lake Tahoe region. By involving volunteers in hands-on forest stewardship, SPF educates local communities about the importance of conserving native species and people’s role in enhancing forest health.



**The Sugar Pine Foundation
1458 Mt. Rainier Dr.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**

**admin@sugarpinefoundation.org
(650) 814-9565**

EIN: 25-1909869

www.sugarpinefoundation.org

The Threat: White Pine Blister Rust

White pine blister rust is a non-native, invasive fungus that kills all white pines. The fungus was accidentally introduced in Canada in the early 1900's and it has devastated white pine ecosystems in Canada and the U.S. ever since. In the Lake Tahoe region, blister rust has become an epidemic.



An infected western white pine.

There is no cure for blister rust. It kills young trees easily and therefore severely limits the natural regeneration of sugar pines and other white pines.

The Value of White Pines

Sugar pines, western white pines and whitebark pines are the three species of white pine found in the Lake Tahoe region. White pines play important roles in the ecosystem: they provide food and habitat for wildlife, stabilize soils and snowpack, and increase forest diversity, enhancing the forests ability to cope with fire and disease.

Sugar pines are the world's largest pine species, and they are beloved for their unique shape and enormous cones. People like to collect sugar pine cones and use them as decorations. Tahoe's scenic beauty wouldn't be the same without sugar pines!



Little girl gathers sugar pine cones

Our Restoration Strategy

Historically, sugar pines made up roughly 25% of Tahoe's forests. Due to the combined effects of logging, fire suppression and blister rust, they now make up less than 5% of the region's forests.

The SPF is working to restore white pine populations in the Tahoe region by planting trees that have a natural ability to tolerate the presence of white pine blister rust. About 3-5% of sugar pines and western white pines are resistant to blister rust. These trees are key to the SPF's restoration work, which entails:

- 1) Identifying rust-resistant "seed" trees,
- 2) Harvesting their cones,
- 3) Planting their progeny, and
- 4) Educating and inspiring the community through direct involvement in forest stewardship.



John Pickett, SPF's founder, harvesting rust-resistant sugar pine cones.

The SPF works with public and private landowners to develop planting projects in fire scars, on eroded slopes and in other thinned areas in need of restoration.

In collaboration with local schools, community groups, non-profits and service organizations, the SPF organizes plantings with students and community members. Our volunteers learn about forest and fire ecology, and the threat of non-native invasive species, which allows them to fully understand the significance of forest health and stewardship.

Our Accomplishments

Since 2005, the SPF has harvested seed from over 500 trees for rust resistance testing. To date, 64 resistant sugar pine "seed trees" have been identified in the Tahoe region. Every summer, the SPF collects about 40 pounds of seed from these trees to use in restoration projects.

Since 2008, the SPF has hosted volunteer planting events in the spring and fall with local students and community members. Every year, over 800 volunteers and work crews plant about 10,000 trees in our local forests!



From left to right: Kim Jardine (Board Member), Maria Mircheva (Executive Director) and Hugh Denno (Project Coordinator) plant a resistant sugar pine seedling together.

Planting trees is fun, educational and rewarding for all ages. Our volunteers love digging in the dirt to plant trees, knowing that it will make a difference in our community for generations to come.

To get involved, check the website for planting dates and locations: www.sugarpinefoundation.org



Father and son before a planting