



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NEW JERSEY STATE FORESTRY SERVICES

MAIL CODE 501-04

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Acting Commissioner

March 2, 2018

Emily Goldman
Shade Tree Commission
City of Lambertville
18 York Street
Lambertville, NJ 08530

Transmitted via email: Goldman_emily@comcast.net

Dear Ms. Goldman:

Congratulations! On behalf of New Jersey State Forest Service (NJFS), I am pleased to inform you that the City of Lambertville's second 5-year Community Forestry Management Plan is approved for 2018-2022.

The major goal of the state's Community Forestry Program is to educate all municipalities and counties in the state about the benefits of developing their own distinctive Community Forestry Management Plan. As these plans develop, the health of the tree cover will improve, the number of trees will increase and the awareness of our state's residents will rise.

As you know, a management plan is an essential guide to successfully achieving a healthy and safe community forest. The approval of your second 5 year Community Forestry Management Plan is a great accomplishment, and a testament to the growth and sustainability to your shade tree program. We look forward to continuing this partnership with you and your community, and your continued success.

If you are a participant in the Green Communities grant program, NJFS will follow-up with you on the documentation required for the reimbursement request.

Please find the enclosed certificate of approval and a signed certification by the State Forester within your management plan.

Sincerely,

Carrie A. Sargeant
Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator

Encl. (2)

eCC: David DelVecchio; Cynthia Ege; Carrie Sargeant, NJFS; Patricia Shapella, NJFS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
New Jersey State Forestry Services

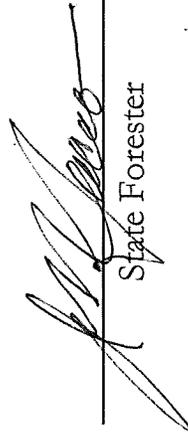
Hereby presents the

Certificate of Approval

awarded to

City of Lambertville

*For the successful completion of an approved
2nd 5-year Community Forestry Management Plan in accordance with the
New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act,
P.L. 1996, Chapter 135.*


State Forester

March 2, 2018



2018 – 2022

COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

**City of Lambertville
Hunterdon County
New Jersey**

Mayor & Council

David DelVecchio, Mayor
Steven Stegman, Council President
Elizabeth Asaro, Councilperson
Wardell Sanders, Councilperson
Elaine Warner, Councilperson

City Clerk & Registrar

Cynthia L. Ege, RMC, CMR

City Planner

Emily Goldman, PP, AICP

Lambertville Shade Tree Commission

Emily Goldman	Deborah Galen
Art Legere	Susan Wydick

Plan Prepared by

Farr Forestry Services
6 Ricker Road
Newfoundland, NJ 07435
farrforest@yahoo.com
973-908-9136



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1. **MUNICIPAL/COUNTY INFORMATION FORM**

Municipality City of Lambertville
County Hunterdon County
Address 18 York Street
Lambertville, NJ 08530

Contact Name and Title Emily Goldman, Shade Tree Commission Chairperson
Phone Number 609-658-4061
Fax # and E-mail 609-397-2203 goldman_emily@comcast.net
Organization Name City of Lambertville Shade Tree Commission

Mayor's Signature _____
I certify that this Community Forestry Management Plan was developed specifically and exclusively for our municipality.

Date of Management Plan Submission February 2018

Time Period Covered In Management Plan 2018-2022

- Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Identified in Management Plan
- X CSIP# 1 Training
 - X CSIP# 2 Community Forestry Ordinance Establishment
 - X CSIP# 3 Public Education and Awareness
 - X CSIP# 4 Arbor Day Activities
 - X CSIP# 5 Tree Inventory
 - X CSIP# 6 Hazard Tree Assessment
 - X CSIP# 7 Storm Damage Assessment
 - X CSIP# 8 Tree Maintenance and Removals
 - X CSIP# 9 Insect and Disease Management
 - X CSIP# 10 Wildfire Protection
 - X CSIP# 11 Tree Planting
 - X CSIP# 12 Tree Recycling
 - X CSIP# 13 Sidewalk Maintenance Program
 - X CSIP# 14 Storm Water Management
 - X CSIP# 15 Other

Official Use Only Certification

The above-named municipality/county has made formal application to the New Jersey Forest Service. I am pleased to advise you that after our review, the NJ Forest Service has concluded that this plan meets the standards set forth by the State and the NJ Community Forestry Council and is approved for the period covered.

Signed _____
State Forester Approval Date _____

2. Introduction

Scope

The City of Lambertville applied for and received a Green Communities Grant to finance the development of this five-year plan. The City of Lambertville Community Forestry Plan is the second being developed by the City of Lambertville and the Lambertville Shade Tree Commission (“LSTC”). The City’s initial Community Forestry Plan was approved by the NJ Forest Service in 1999.

The community forest resource is an important resource that contributes to the quality of life for the residents of the City of Lambertville. This community forest resource works to improve air and water quality, reduce energy costs, increase property values, increase economic stability, improve citizen health and beautify the City.

The following plan outlines the programs, policies and procedures by which shade tree resources within the City of Lambertville will be managed during the period of January 2018 through December 2022. The objectives in this five-year plan address street trees, park trees, and trees on other public grounds.

Mission Statement:

To maintain and provide an attractive and sustainable tree canopy within the City of Lambertville which will: compliment the architectural heritage of this historic city, and maintain and improve the physical environment for the citizens by providing aesthetics, shade for temperature moderation, noise and air purification.

Goals and Actions

The New Jersey Community Forestry Council has identified fifteen Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) practices that together comprise a complete and comprehensive community forestry program that will help the City complete the goals laid out in this plan.

Within each of the plan elements that follow, existing City programs, policies and procedures are described, intermediate end element-specific goals are established, and five-year CSIP-based objectives are set.

Systematic fulfillment of the CSIP-specific goals and objectives will gradually move the City’s Shade Tree Program toward its overall program goals, which have been established as follows:

1. Develop and perpetuate a beneficial shade tree resource and community forest sustainability.
2. Reverse the tree deficit.
3. Maximize the benefits of trees to the community.
4. Maximize long-term stability and sustainability in the shade tree resource.

5. Optimize the balance between tree health, maintenance costs and budgetary constraints.
6. Minimize the risks of trees to public safety.
7. Work with local schools and develop an educational program to inform and promote the importance of trees to the City of Lambertville.
8. Minimize conflicts and integrate trees in the City infrastructure.
9. Effectively use the community forest to address storm water issues.
10. Improve and maintain public interest, appreciation and support for public shade tree programs and encourage volunteer participation.
11. Encourage the planting and proper care of trees on private property.
12. Meet all eligibility requirements of the NJ Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act.

GOAL #1 Promote community awareness of the goals of the LSTC and value for the many benefits of the existing shade trees within public space in the city.

Objectives Through printed and posted articles and educational programs raise the awareness of the importance of the Community Forest resource and its many benefits to the community.
Formally celebrate Arbor Day to promote the Shade Tree Program.

GOAL #2 Complete the shade tree inventory which will establish the quantity and quality of the existing street tree capital. This will include hazardous situations, general health of each tree, sidewalk conditions, overhead and underground utility conflicts and locations where new trees are needed.

Objectives The tree inventory will aid in prioritizing trees to be treated: pruned, fed, replaced or removed to efficiently use the limited funds available for tree work/projects.
Publicize the inventory efforts and results (such as articles about significant large trees).
Use tree inventory to prioritize locations for new trees for parks and streets.
Hazard trees will be mapped and prioritized during the forest inventory, if CSIP funding is received.

GOAL #3 Involve local groups to assist in the onsite inventory and organize data so it can best be utilized by the City to track tree work.

Objectives Working to maximize limited funding for tree projects, utilize volunteers to develop a forest inventory which will guide future management decisions and increase enthusiasm and buy in to tree related projects.

GOAL #4 Encourage community involvement in care for existing trees.

Objectives Develop community work days to properly plant, mulch, water and prune existing and newly planted trees.
Raise awareness of potential pathogens and hazards to increase the number of residents monitoring tree health and resources.
Develop an adopt a tree program for Lambertville School students.

GOAL #5 Pursue sources of funding for maintenance of existing trees, especially with the adjacent property owners.

- Objectives Work to secure funding to provide proper pruning, mulching and maintenance of trees within the City right of way and on adjacent privately-owned parcels. Possibly develop an Adopt a Tree Program or a Tree Trust to fund tree work and tree planting.
- GOAL #6 Work with public utilities to minimize impact of tree trimming within the city.**
- Objectives Assure that the public utilities and their contractors are utilizing acceptable pruning techniques with the City of Lambertville during their cyclic maintenance programs.
Reduce the impact of infrastructure repairs and maintenance on existing trees.
- GOAL #7 Encourage planting of new trees.**
- Objectives Work to increase the number of trees being planted within municipal right of ways as well as on private property and reverse the current tree deficit.
- GOAL #8 Work with the Recreation Commission and the school to coordinate new trees at that location.**
- Objectives Through the School and the Recreation Commission work to plant suitable trees for the sites delineate for tree planting and remove any hazard trees which may be located in the park as part of the improvement projects.
- GOAL #9 Work with the City Engineer, Public Works Department, and Public Utilities to maximize the quantity and quality of new trees included in street upgrades and utility work.**
- Objectives As part of infrastructure improvements the City’s construction contractor and Public Utilities will replace trees removed during said work and work to fill vacant planting sites as part of the project.
- GOAL #10 Establish and regularly update the recommended list of preferred trees, including full grown size, hardiness, individual attributes and availability.**
- Objectives This list will help to guide the City in recommending suitable trees for suitable sites and be an asset for resident who are choosing to plant trees.
- GOAL #11 Raise awareness of green infrastructure and stormwater retention potential of tree resources.**
- Objectives Develop a rain garden on City owned property potentially on North Union Street Park behind CVS.

Possibly install a green roof or silva cell as a stormwater management tool.
- Goal #12 Develop a program to remove invasive species on public land.**

Objectives Apply for CSIP grant to remove invasive species from public land that appear on the do not plant list. Plants should be replaced with native species as part of the grant.

Goal #13 Restore a Riparian Area

Objectives Using native species restore a small portion of a riparian zone as an educational tool.

Goal #14 Apply for CSIP to develop an Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan and monitor the extent of the Bacterial Leaf Scorch on Bridge and Union Streets.

Objectives Monitor the Bacterial Leaf Scorch outbreak. While the partial inventory showed some Ash trees there may be large numbers of Ash trees near the Delaware River and other locales within the City.

Goal #15 Evaluate the existing tree ordinance and if it is applicable to the City's needs.

Objectives Review the existing tree ordinance and update if necessary.

Goal #16 Evaluate vacant planting sites during the forest inventory. Review and possibly develop an alternative source of funding for tree planting.

Objectives Contemplate creative ways to increase available funding for tree planting within the City. Potentially create an Adopt a Tree or Memorial Tree Program.

HAZARDS AND LIABILITY STATEMENT

As is the case with all municipal assets, trees require maintenance and it is inevitable that potentially hazardous conditions will emerge. Nevertheless, a complete, comprehensive and proactive shade tree program will strive to prevent, anticipate and correct such problems that maximize the benefits of trees to the community while minimizing the threat to public safety and exposure to liability. All elements of the Community Forestry Management Plan are designed to optimize the balance between tree benefits and risks.

The City of Lambertville acknowledges that not all hazardous conditions can be or will be predicted. It must work within a limited budget and may not be able to meet every need immediately. The intent of the plan is to direct available resources toward the greatest needs and systematically develop and maintain a healthy shade tree resource with a commensurate reduction in any threats to public safety.

Public safety will be a primary consideration in the development and implementation of all shade tree plans and programs. This plan provides a means of identifying and abating existing tree hazards on a prioritized basis. Further, it provides a means of reducing the potential for future hazards and liability through responsible planting and preventive maintenance.

3. Community Overview

City of Lambertville History and Demographics

The City of Lambertville History

Lambertville is Hunterdon County's only city and was incorporated as such in 1849 even though it was settled in the early 1700's. Nested between the Sourland Mountain range and the Delaware River, it has remained a green settlement for most of this time. However, due to an economic downturn prior to the Great Depression and continuing through the 1970's, Lambertville was unable to maintain its urban canopy and lost a substantial percentage of its street trees. The City continues to be a pedestrian friendly city and it is usual practice for residents to leave their cars parked for the weekend and walk the town for recreation, chores and social interaction with neighbors. Trees add not only to the ambiance of this beautiful town, but provide shade and comfort during three seasons each year. Visitors and tourists are practically the sole "industry" today and street-treed landscape adds to the city's attractiveness and economy. Since the 1980's the Lambertville Shade Tree Commission has added several dozens of trees to replenish the city's former glory, but many more are needed to both replace and maintain the City's streetscape.



Lambertville Today and Demographics

Today's Lambertville is a 1.298 square mile city in south western Hunterdon County. It is bounded by the Delaware River on the west, Delaware Township to the north and West Amwell Township to the

south and east. The City of Lambertville’s population has increased and fallen over the years, from 3,927 residents in 1990, to 3,868 in 2000, to 3,906 in 2010 in the City. Its peak population was 4,660 in the 1920 census.

At the 2010 United States Census, there were 3,906 people, 1,958 households, and 896.8 families residing in the City. The population density was 3,386.1.8 per square mile (1,307.4/km²). There were 2,075 housing units at an average density of 1,798.8 per square mile (694.5/km²). The racial makeup of the City was 91.3% (3,566) White, 1.9% (76) Black or African American, 0.2% (1.31) Native American, 1.3% (51) Asian, 0% (0) Pacific Islander, 4.1% (161) from other races, and 1.1% (44) from two or more races. Hispanics or Latinos of any race were 9.75% (381) of the population.

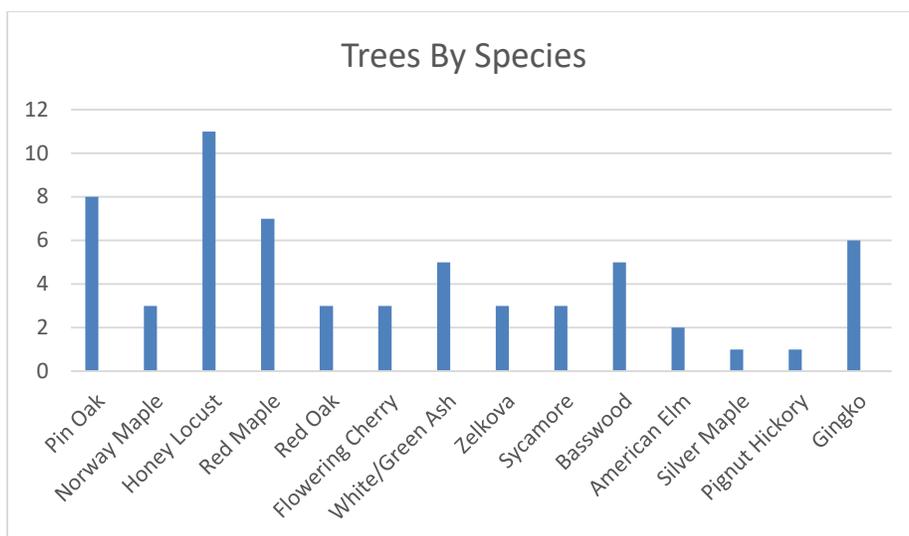
There were 1,958 households, of which 15.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 36.0% were married couples living together, 6.8% had a female householder with no husband present, and 54.2% were non-families. 41.4% of all households were made up of individuals, and 14.5% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 1.98 and the average family size was 2.72.

In the City, 13.7% of the population were under the age of 18, 5.9% from 18 to 24, 26.9% from 25 to 44, 36.1% from 45 to 64, and 17.5% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 47.3 years. For every 100 females there were 95.8 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 93.6 males.

The Census Bureau's 2006-2010 American Community Survey showed that (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) median household income was \$71,532 (with a margin of error of +/- \$7,040) and the median family income was \$100,952 (+/- \$14,554). Males had a median income of \$57,596 (+/- \$17,671) versus \$53,869 (+/- \$30,408) for females. The per capita income for the City was \$47,648 (+/- \$6,399). About 2.3% of families and 8.66.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 7.8% of those under age 18 and 5.1% of those age 65 or over.

Current Tree Resource

Four streets were randomly selected and street trees were identified. The following chart is a list of the species and number of each species found within 15 feet of the edge of roadway. Sixty-one trees were identified on these 4 blocks and fourteen species represented on those four streets. Many trees appeared to be recently planted while larger mainly native trees are the older and larger species.



Relation to the City's Master Plan

Implementation of this Community Forestry Management Plan will directly or indirectly help satisfy several goals and objectives of the City's Master Plan Re-examination completed in July 2009.

Page 3 discusses Hillside Zoning in terms of soil erosion, tree and forest removal.

Page 5 discusses utilizing streetscape techniques combined with roadway improvement to reduce vehicular speed and safer travel for pedestrians and cyclists.

Tree planting and maintenance is described on page 6 #10, Encourage tree planting and maintenance of the existing trees to enhance neighborhood quality.

Page 7 #16 discusses goals concerning the streetscape with new development and maintaining property values and characters of neighborhoods and buildings.

Trees can also be integral to the reduction of stormwater flows by regulating the amount of precipitation reaching impervious surfaces and increasing infiltration by reducing the amount of water reaching the soil over a short period of time.

4. COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Lambertville's Community Forestry Tree Program

Although a tree inventory is one of the first priorities of this plan, a rough estimate is that the City has approximately 1,200 trees under the jurisdiction of the LSTC. Due to the compact streetscape, many of the trees are in spaces way too small, are causing sidewalks to heave and conflict with overhead utilities. A number of trees are damaged by cars and trucks.

Despite all of the positives, many of the trees are aging and inevitably will require replacement or maintenance. With age and deterioration, come increased needs for hazard identification and abatement. The sidewalk replacement program is also contributing to the decline, as a result, segments of the public tree population are demanding a higher level of attention than before and removal and replacement needs are increasing.

The City of Lambertville looks to reverse the tree deficit incurred during recent times. A tree deficit means that the City has been removing more trees than it is replanting.

Program Administration

Shade Tree Program, Structure and Responsibilities

SHADE TREE PROGRAM STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Lambertville Shade Tree Ordinance makes landowners primarily responsible for the management of public trees in the City of Lambertville. However, landowners require shade tree commission approval to do any maintenance, pruning, planting and removal prior to the start of such work. The Public Works employees operate with advisement from the Shade Tree Commission and in cooperation with various other bodies discussed below.

The Lambertville Shade Tree Commission is a five (5) member volunteer commission appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. The LSTC meets on the second Thursday of each month to discuss tree removals, plantings and community projects. Members respond to requests from property owners to trim or remove trees and personally contact property owners about their adjacent trees that need attention.

The City of Lambertville has an existing Shade Tree Ordinance: property owners, landscape contractors, and tree trimmers are requested to contact the LSTC prior to planting, pruning, or removing street trees or any trees on public property. (A street tree is defined as any tree in a public place, street, special easement or right-of-way adjoining a street constituting a large tree in size when mature). The LSTC has a strong track record with our tree planting projects.

The Commission members are:

Dr. Arthur Legere, Vice Chair – since 1992

Art is a chiropractor who practices in New Hope, PA. As an independent business man with ten years of experience, Art knows how to run an organization efficiently and effectively. Since he works locally, Art is on call and can be reached quickly for onsite consultations. Art has surveyed the planting of close to 175 trees during his tenure on the LSTC.

Susan Wydick – since 1996

Susan is a NJ registered Landscape Architect who has been practicing for over 20 years and currently is self-employed. Susan attends tree related continuing education classes on a regular basis. She is a member of the National Arbor Day Foundation and the Friends of Tree City USA.

Emily Goldman, Chair – since 2006

Emily is a Professional Planner with over 15 years of experience and is currently employed by Clarke Caton Hintz. She has served as the City Planner for Lambertville since 2013. She formerly served on the Environmental Commission and Planning Board. In order to better lead the LSTC, she completed a Municipal Shade Tree Management Course through Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies in February 2014.

Irene Rudolph – since 2011

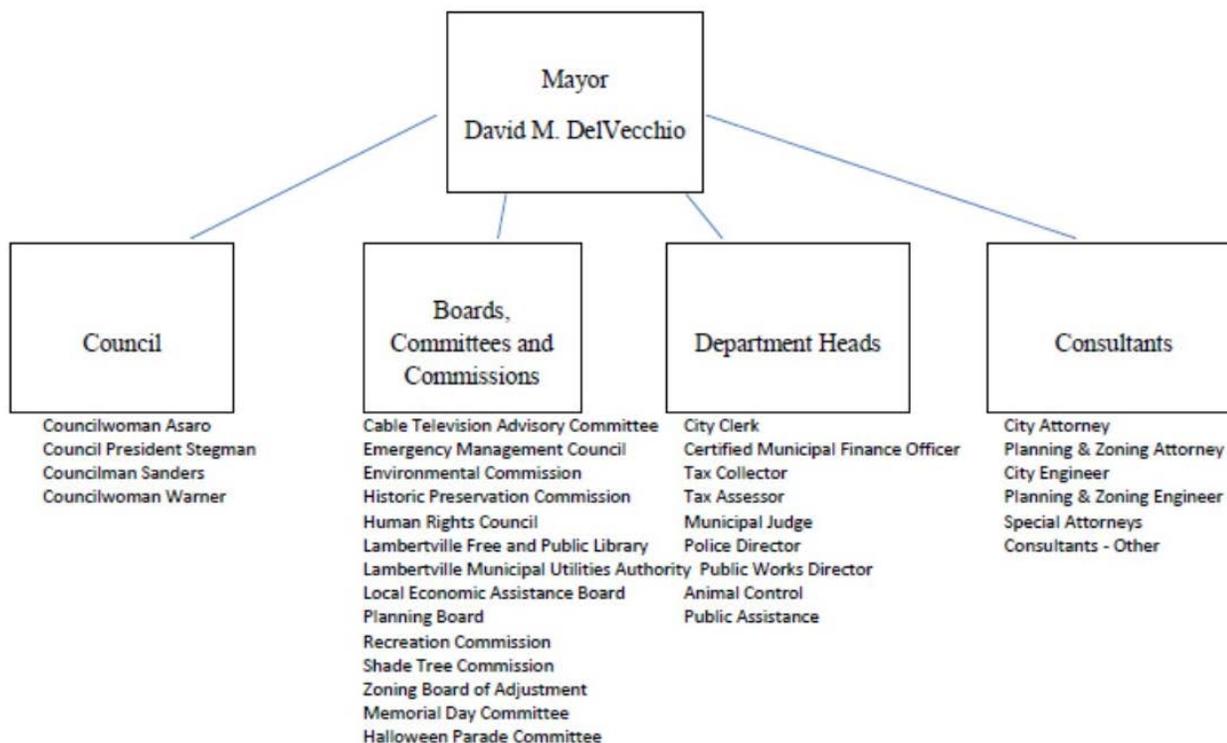
Before moving to Lambertville in 2008, Irene owned a retail business in Westwood, NJ for 18 years. She has been on the board of the Lambertville Historical Society since 2008 and co-chaired the annual

House Tour that same year. In order to better serve on the LSTC, she completed a course in Tree Care Essentials through the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in October 2011. Irene has also attended continuing education courses presented by Bartlett Tree Service and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 2014, 2016 and 2017 and a tree seminar presented by PSE&G and JCPL on tree placement under utilities in March 2016.

Deborah Galen – since 2012

Deborah has lived and gardened in central New Jersey since 1985. She is the Chair of the Kalmia Club Landscape Committee. After renovating a house and its garden, she contributes many hours maintaining the gardens in Lambertville’s Mary Sheridan Park and restoring the native plantings at a farm outside of Lambertville adjoining the Lambertville Water Company.

Commissioners attend to tree service requests at monthly meetings. The commission either gives owner’s permission, request the City’s Public Works Department, or occasionally hires outside contractors to perform necessary tree maintenance services, as needed on city-owned land. Otherwise landowners are responsible for hiring contractors to care for street trees.



1. Mayor and Council

- a) The Mayor and Council are responsible for appointing members of the Shade Tree Commission whose members along with employees will be responsible for the tree resource and implementing the plan.
- b) The Mayor and Council have ultimate authority over the policies, procedures and programs of the Shade Tree Program and are responsible for approving the city budget.

2. City Clerk

- a) Under the direction of the Mayor and Council, the City Clerk supervises the daily operations of the City's various departments and serves as its Chief Administrative Officer.
- b) In addition, the City Clerk is responsible for:
 - Developing the budget.
 - Functioning as the purchasing agent.
 - Handling citizen inquiries.
 - Performing various other administrative duties and completing special projects in connection with the Mayor and Council.

3. Shade Tree Commission

- a) The Shade Tree Commission is a group of five (5) residential volunteers who are appointed by the Mayor.
- b) The Shade Tree Commission is responsible for:
 - Reviewing Tree Action Requests from landowners to maintain, remove, plant, etc. trees within the right-of-way.
 - Advising the Governing Body and the Department of Public Works as to the future plans for the planting, pruning, removal, and care of trees and shrubs in City rights-of-way and on public lands.
 - Assisting in the development and implementation of solutions for problems and issues relating to public trees.
 - Seeking additional funds in the form of grants, capital budgeting, donations, to further advance programs for public trees.
 - Develop educational programming for important tree related topics.

4. Planning Board

The Planning Board is responsible for implementing and enforcing various elements of the City Code and Master Plan that relate to the planting and preservation of public and private trees, landscaping and buffers.

6. Property Owners

Private property owners are directly involved in the Shade Tree Programs to the extent that they:

- Notify the City of potential hazard trees and future planting locations.
- Are to be stewards of new tree plantings adjacent to their properties within the City right of way.
- Are encouraged to plant and properly maintain trees and landscaping on private property, native trees where possible.
- Maintain street trees on their properties.

7. Community Volunteers

Community Volunteers occasionally assist in completing certain projects and tasks relating to the Community Forestry Program, mainly pruning of low hanging branches on street trees.

8. Tree Maintenance Contractors

- a) Private tree maintenance contractors will be hired by private landowners, upon LSTC approval, or the City to complete public tree removal and maintenance work and provide emergency service after storms on city property and by residents for street trees on their property.
- b) Contractors are, within the terms of their agreement, responsible for:
 - Following all current and accepted arboricultural standards and practices and abiding by all current and applicable safety standards relating to tree care operations.
 - Reporting any tree-related hazards or other problems immediately to the City.

9. Public Utilities

- a) The role of public utilities in the Shade Tree Program is primarily to minimize conflicts between trees and their facilities and infrastructure.
- b) While working on or around City trees, public utilities report to the City. Shade Tree Commission upon request will assist the City to monitor the activity of the public utility, which will be responsible for:
 - Abiding by all applicable ordinances.
 - Keeping the City informed as to their work plans and schedules.
 - Exercising reasonable diligence in the installation and maintenance of its facilities to avoid damage to public and private trees.
 - Following all current and accepted arboricultural standards and practices.
 - Not removing any tree without prior approval of the Shade Tree Commission.

TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Lambertville has a shade tree ordinance, 3-16 Shade Tree Commission, which deals mainly with uncontrolled tree removals, protection from injurious chemicals and protection from wires and sets the Shade Tree Commission permitting process. The City Shade Tree Commission should review this ordinance during this planning period. It is attached as an addendum.

SHADE TREE POLICIES

Lambertville has formal policies and protocols for pruning, root grinding, tree removal and stump removals. These policies will be discussed further below.

TREE SERVICE REQUEST PROCEDURES

Requests for the pruning, removal or other treatment of public trees are received from landowners. All service requests are addressed in the following manner:

Residents make requests for trees to be removed. The LSTC evaluates the tree and grants an approval or denial of the proposed removal. An approval to remove a street tree is often conditioned on a new tree being planted in its place, or if it is not feasible to plant in the same location, planted in a location identified by the LSTC. The City does not currently maintain a priority list of trees that require removal.

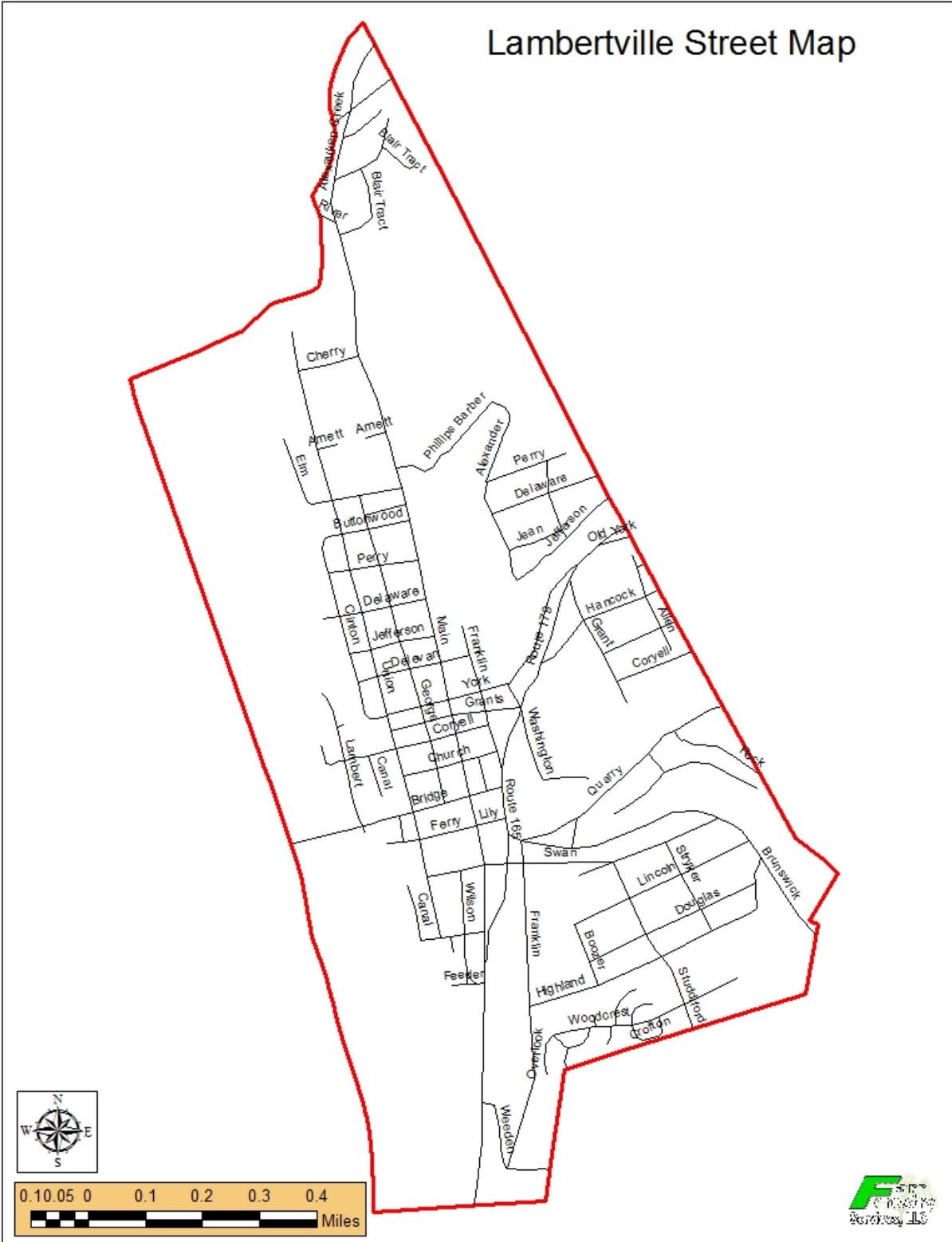
2017-2021 Administration Objectives

1. Ongoing Administrative Programs

1. 2017-2021

- Continue implementing the administrative programs, policies and procedures already in effect. This system has worked effectively and efficiently over time. A formal hazard trees survey completed using CSIP funding may help prioritize hazard trees.

5. CITY MAP



Lambertville Aerial Map



6. TRAINING PLAN

CSIP #1 TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

City of Lambertville recognizes that a continuous, comprehensive training program is necessary for individuals at all levels of the Community Forestry Program to ensure effective shade tree management over the long term. Specifically, ongoing training and professional development will, if funding is available:

1. Ensure that individuals within the Community Forestry Program have sufficient knowledge to make effective management decisions.
2. Ensure that all tree planting and maintenance activities are planned and completed in accordance with the latest scientific knowledge and current industry standards.
3. Satisfy the requirements of the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act Training Skills and Accreditation Program.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICES AND PROCEDURES

1. Training Provision:

- a) Two people have completed CORE Training, Susan Wydick and Lester Myers, Jr.
- b) The cost of existing training programs will need to be covered through CSIP grants. The City's ability to meet these objectives may fully depend upon the availability of external sources of funding.

2. Licenses, Certifications and Recent Training:

- a) Members of the LSTC do not currently hold licenses or certifications directly related to arboriculture and urban forestry, and are not required to.
- b) Currently there is one volunteer who attended CORE training.

3. New Jersey Community Forestry's Training Skills and Accreditation Program:

At the time this plan was prepared, Two City employees or volunteers have satisfied the CORE Training requirements of the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act Training Skills and Accreditation Program.

CURRENT TRAINING NEEDS

The City has identified the following areas in which training is currently needed or desired if CSIP funding is available for training:

1. At least one additional volunteer and one employee must complete CORE Training in order to assure that two people are always CORE certified and to prevent lapses should there be turnover.
2. Other training could include identifying hazard trees and proper tree planting.

2018- 2022 OBJECTIVES

1. Ongoing Training Programs

2018-2022

- Strive to maximize the number of individuals with basic training--including both employees and volunteers—and increase their level of expertise through CORE training and annual CEU's to meet the requirements of the Community Forestry Accreditation.

2. N.J. Community Forestry's Training Skills and Accreditation Program

Annually

- Review training needs and upcoming training opportunities. Ensure that the City will accumulate the necessary continuing education credits required by the N.J. Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act Training Skills and Accreditation Program by the end of each year. This may be provided by the Consulting Forester if desired.

January 2018- December 2018

- Obtain CORE Training for one or more Shade Tree Commission volunteer and one or more City employee or elected official.

3. Tree Hazard Evaluation Training

January 2019- December 2019

- Train the Shade Tree Commission and/or another key employee or volunteers to further advance their ability to recognize and evaluate tree hazards using the latest information and techniques. This will be accomplished via attendance at a professional course or seminar.

4. Annual Training

January – February annually

- Review training needs and upcoming training opportunities. Ensure that the City will accumulate the necessary eight continuing education credits required by the NJ Shade Tree and

Community Forestry Assistance Act Training Skills and Accreditation Program by the end of the calendar year. This may be provided by the Consulting Forester if needed.

CONTRACTORS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

Contractors working for the City and utility contractors working in or around City trees must have sufficient training and knowledge to ensure that all treatments are completed to applicable American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) standards and practices and performed in a safe manner. They must also possess all appropriate certifications.

Evidence of training and appropriate certifications must be provided to the LSTC and/or Department of Public Works prior to commencing work.

7. PUBLIC EDUCATION/AWARENESS/OUTREACH

PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND OUTREACH CSIP #3

PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND OUTREACH GOALS

The Shade Tree Commission has already worked to build strong City and citizen support. However, it recognizes that ongoing public education, awareness and outreach programs are necessary to ensure continued success over the long term. Specifically, such programs will:

1. Maintain and further increase the interest and active support for City of Lambertville's Community Forestry Program.
2. Encourage public assistance in implementing various programs, protecting public trees, and beautifying the City.
3. Encourage the planting, protection and care of native trees and shrubs on private property for the benefit of the entire community and stormwater reduction.
4. Develop a rain garden on public property to raise awareness of green infrastructure concepts.
5. Create a largest tree in Lambertville contest to raise awareness of the public's recognition of the forest resource in Lambertville.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. The LSTC worked with Lambertville Public Works Department and NJ Department of Transportation in street improvement projects. The rebuilding of Route 29 resulted in planting of new street trees. Rebuilding of Delaware, Buttonwood, Elm and portions of North Union Streets also included numerous new and replacement trees.

2. The LSTC has participated indirectly in Arbor Day activities in conjunction with the Lambertville Shad Festival held each year in April. In the past, it set up booths for public education and accepted donations in exchange for shade tree seedlings and tee-shirts.
3. The LSTC will submit press releases and photos to the local paper for tree plantings and pruning.
4. At least one member of the LSTC will be a member of the National Arbor Day Foundation and Tree City USA. The member of each organization will share the bulletins and program information with the other members of the LSTC.

2018- 2022 OBJECTIVES

1. Continue to develop Public Education, Awareness and Outreach Programs to meet the requirements of the Community Forestry and Shade Tree Act and build public support over the planning period.
2. Lambertville should to be recognized as a Tree City USA work to maintain the certification.
3. Utilize the City's internet web site (<http://www.lambertvillenj.org/>) to post announcements relating to the Community Forestry and Shade Tree Program, such as educational articles, grants applied for and received and about progress being made in this program.
4. Submit at least two articles a year discussing the Community Forestry Program, accomplishments of the program, educational articles, etc., to the local newspapers.

8. STATEMENT OF TREE BUDGET

ANNUAL BUDGET AND RESOURCES

Overview

The LSTC writes grant proposals, accepts donations and volunteer services to augment our small but committed commission. The City does necessary tree trimming at the street and sidewalks, storm damage tree removal, and cuts sidewalks for new tree plantings on city owned property. The City does not have a specific budget allowance for shade tree planting. However, it has paid for LSTC member's attendance at related training programs.

The LSTC works with all utility companies to minimize aggressive tree trimming and to urge the removal and replacement of trees severely damaged by their trimming. The City has been successful in obtaining numerous new trees in the past.

Completion of some of objectives contained in the Plan will require resources that the City may not be able to internally meet. The City's ability to satisfy these objectives may fully depend on obtaining additional funding through external sources and grant programs.

The City over the last 3 years has averaged \$7,000 per year for the maintenance of trees. This amount includes chipper rental, tree trimming and removal of dead trees. This number does not include employee time/salaries or the cost of equipment the city owns and maintains. Specifically, \$8,295.00 for tree removals, \$2,105.00 for tree trimming and \$1,250 for chipper rentals during the last 3 years.

Tree planting in the last two years in association with road work projects is \$8,100.00. Including \$3,600.00 on Union Street Park and \$4,500.00 on North Union Street Phase 3. Additionally, in 2015, the City received a donation of 15 trees that were planted by a volunteer.

In the future, the City will work to track hours related to Community Forestry Projects in the following categories (if any):

1. EMPLOYEE SALARY AND WAGES
2. OPERATIONS
3. CITY EQUIPMENT
4. TREE PLANTING
5. WASTE RECYCLING
6. CAPITAL BUDGET
7. VOLUNTEER SERVICES

2018-2022 Budget Implementation Strategy

1. Ongoing Budget

1. 2017-2021

- Volunteer hours will need to be tracked closely as their number and hours will increase over time with the implementation of this plan.
- Any tree related projects should be tracked to determine the real costs including employee and volunteer time.
- Tracking the budget is a requirement for the program as well as inclusion into Tree City USA.

9. STATEMENT OF PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

2018

- Attain at least 8 continuing education units to maintain certification.
- Commemorate Arbor Day with a tree planting and Mayor and Council Proclamation.
- Work to track all volunteer hours throughout the year.
- Submit two tree related articles for publication, including one discussing the history of the Lambertville Shade Tree Commission and another on the Emerald Ash Borer.
- Work with the Recreation Commission and the school to select trees for the park.
- Set up an informational table at the Shad Festival and provide information about the Emerald Ash Borer.

2019

- Apply for CSIP funding to begin to implement a Forest Inventory and Hazard Tree Survey.
- Develop and Emerald Ash Borer response plan. The forest inventory should provide information on the location of Ash trees. Apply for funding if available.
- If CSIP funding is received, complete a forest inventory and hazard tree survey throughout the City. Funding should be included for treatment or tree removal by private contractors and possibly replanting.
- Attain at least 8 continuing education units to maintain certification.
- Commemorate Arbor Day with a tree planting and Mayor and Council Proclamation.
- Submit two tree related articles for publication.
- Work on creative ways to fund the community forestry program.
- Create a largest tree in Lambertville Contest to raise awareness with the public of the tree and forest resource.
- Develop a rain garden on City Property to raise awareness of green infrastructure and Stormwater retention.

2020

- Complete the forest inventory.
- Conduct a windshield survey to prioritize hazard trees for removal during the next 12 months.
- Attain at least 8 continuing education units to maintain certification.
- Commemorate Arbor Day with a tree planting and Mayor and Council Proclamation.
- Obtain CORE training for one more volunteer and one more City employee if turnover has occurred.
- Publish the findings of the largest tree in Lambertville contest.
- Remove invasive species from City owned land and replace with native species.

2021

- Submit the final inventory and hazard tree survey report if CSIP funding was received.
- Apply for a second Green Communities grant to complete the second five year plan.
- Attain at least 8 continuing education units to maintain certification.

- Commemorate Arbor Day with a tree planting and Mayor and Council Proclamation.
- Conduct a windshield survey to prioritize hazard trees for removal during the next 12 months.
- Submit two tree related articles for publication.

2022

- Complete the second five-year Community Forestry Plan submit by mid-year.
- Attain at least 8 continuing education units to maintain certification.
- Conduct a windshield survey to prioritize hazard trees for removal during the next 12 months.
- Commemorate Arbor Day with a tree planting and Mayor and Council Proclamation.
- Submit two tree related articles for publication.
- Apply for a CSIP grant to help pay for the development of a restoration plan for a riparian area.

TREE INVENTORY CSIP #5

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The City does not currently have a current inventory of its street trees. Given the nature of the City it is critically important to complete an inventory of existing tree and maintain an inventory of all removals and plantings. Conducting a full inventory will be outside the budget of the City. The LSTC should complete a CSIP grant should it be decided to complete an inventory. A limited inventory was conducted on four randomly selected streets. Although discussed above below if a chart of species and number of trees found by species.

#	Species
8	Pin Oak
3	Norway Maple
11	Honey Locust
7	Red Maple
3	Red Oak
3	Flowering Cherry
5	White/Green Ash
3	Zelkova
3	Sycamore
5	Basswood
2	American Elm
1	Silver Maple
1	Pignut Hickory
6	Gingko
61	Total



INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT GOALS

The goals of a tree inventory are to:

1. Provide accurate baseline information on which sound shade tree management plans and decisions can be made.
2. Monitor and evaluate the impact of management activities on the tree population and progress towards the overall goals of the Community Forestry Program.
3. Improve or establish proactive maintenance programs (e.g. systematic tree pruning, implementing young tree developmental pruning to reduce utility conflicts and structural failures in the future, etc.).

2018- 2022 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

1. Community Forest Inventory

January 2018 – January 2021

- Complete a CSIP grant for a Forest Inventory. The Community Forest Inventory will include an
- inventory of the City owned trees/forests as well as the street trees.
- The final inventory report should include recommendations for the forested parcels and include a threatened and a natural heritage database search of the City. This should be completed by December 2020 and submit the final report in 2021 if volunteers are utilized for the inventory.

HAZARD TREE ASSESSMENT CSIP #6

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Tree Hazard Identification

The City currently removes hazard trees utilizing a private contractor on city owned parcels. Residents are responsible for the street trees on their properties.

HAZARD MANAGEMENT GOALS

While the benefits of shade trees to City of Lambertville residents are obvious, the City recognizes that they also present risks and the potential for liability.

The sole purpose of the Tree Hazard Management element of this plan is to ensure public safety. The City is committed to improving safety and reducing liability through comprehensive and proactive shade tree management. Public safety shall be the primary consideration in all shade tree planning, decision-making and activities at all levels of the Community Forestry Program.

2018- 2022 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Future Tree Hazard Management Programs

January 2018 – December 2020

- Continue to address hazard abatement needs as they are identified and as funding allows.
- Apply for CSIP funding to complete a hazard tree survey concurrently with the community forest inventory. The CSIP grant should include funding to hire a contractor to remove the highest priority trees.
- Complete annual windshield surveys to coordinate and prioritize hazard tree removal for the subsequent year.

TREE PLANTING CSIP#11

PLANTING GOALS

The stability of the tree population will be improved by manipulating and optimizing its species composition and age distribution via careful species selection and consistent planting from year to year. Responsible species selection, placement and planting techniques will help reduce tree and infrastructure conflicts. Native species will be recommended for planting wherever possible.

1. Improve and maintain species diversity to help insulate the tree population from catastrophic losses to species-specific insects and diseases.
2. Improve and maintain age diversity so that the number of trees requiring removal and replacement due to advanced age is consistent from year to year. Systematic tree planting will help maintain the tree lined streets and character of the City.
3. Minimize conflicts between trees and buildings, utilities and other public and private fixtures.
4. Minimize future maintenance needs and costs by strategically and systematically planting the right species in the right place with storm water issues in mind.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The City will continue to work with utility companies and transportation project engineers to plant new and replacement trees but is still operating in a tree deficit, removing more trees than it is planting. Vacant planting sites remaining within the City are tracked as well as locations where trees have been removed but not yet planted. The City should adopt a policy that when a street is repaved all the vacant planting sites are replanted.

2018- 2022 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

1. Tree Planting Programs

2018-2022

Work to develop an additional funding source for replacement of trees removed during the planning period.

2. Vacant Planting Site Identification

January 2018 – October 2020

- Prioritize all existing vacant planting sites identified by the tree inventory and the Shade Tree Commission to be utilized for future planting projects if CSIP funding is available.
- Contact landowners to determine if they want a replacement tree and create a procedure to be followed should a landowner want to contact the City to inquire about a replacement tree.

3. Continue to work toward creating a Tree Trust for future planting of trees in Lambertville where residents or businesses could donate to help support the Community Forestry Program either tree planting or hazard tree removal etc.

4. The City can create a Memorial Tree Program and Adopt a Tree program to allow residents to donate trees for planting within the City.

TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVALS CSIP#8

Maintenance Goals

The City recognizes that proactive, systematic tree maintenance more cost effectively improves tree condition and appearance, extends their service life, and reduces hazards instead of having a haphazard “crisis” approach. The City recognizes the tree resource as Green Infrastructure which implies that it requires maintenance over time to be kept in optimal condition.

Maintenance needs are addressed before trees are planted by selecting species and disease-resistant cultivars that are suited to the area in which they will be planted to minimize stress, insect and disease infestations and unnatural pruning needs. Developmental pruning early in the tree’s life will minimize future pruning needs and the development of structural defects. Conditioned maintenance as they mature will help extend their service life, increase their benefits relative to costs, and reduce their hazard potential.

Specifically, the goals of the tree maintenance program are to:

1. Improve and maintain the health and physical condition of the tree population.

2. Maximize the service life of existing trees.
3. Maximize the cost-efficiency of tree maintenance activities.
4. Maintain public safety.
5. Optimize the benefits that trees provide to the community relative to the cost of maintaining them.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. The City has a limited maintenance program working only on city owned land.
2. Private Contractors
 - a) Private tree companies are occasionally hired to complete pruning and to respond to storm related emergencies. Utility companies often utilize private tree contractors to complete their pruning work.
3. Private Landowners
 - a) Private landowners are responsible for tree maintenance on their property and within the City right of way.
4. Tree Removal
 - a) It is the City's policy to allow private residents to remove public trees within the City right of way if there is a valid reason, subject to the approval by the LSTC and replanting of a new tree.
6. Funding

The City currently spends about \$1,000.00 per year on tree pruning and maintenance.

2018- 2022 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Ongoing Tree Maintenance Programs

2018-2022

- Continue implementing existing tree maintenance programs, policies and procedures on a regular basis. All funding spent on tree maintenance will be tracked for the annual reports as well and future Community Forestry Plans.

10. COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CSIP)

TRAINING PLAN CSIP #1

Training is discussed in Section 6 beginning on page 20.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHMENT CSIP#2

The Community Forestry Ordinance Establishment CSIP#2 is discussed in Section 4 on page 15.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CSIP#3

Public Education, Outreach and Awareness are discussed above in section 2, goal 1, page 6 and section 7, starting on page number 22.

ARBOR DAY ACTIVITIES CSIP#4

Arbor Day Activities CSIP#4 are discussed above in Section 7, starting on page number 23 and again in Section 9, starting on page number 25, and 26.

TREE INVENTORY CSIP#5

The tree inventory goals are discussed in section 2, goals 2 and 3, page 6 section 9 on pages 25 to 28 above.

HAZARD TREE ASSESSMENT CSIP#6

Hazard Tree assessment goals are discussed in section 6, page 21 and section 9 on page 27.

STORM DAMAGE ASSESSMENT CSIP#7

Storm Damage Assessment goals are discussed in Hazards and Liability Statement on page 8.

TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL CSIP#8

Tree Maintenance and removal goals and objectives are discussed above in section 9, page 30.

INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT CSIP #9

Insect and disease management are discussed in section 2, goal 14, page 8 and section 9 page 25.

WILDFIRE PROTECTION CSIP#10

The Wildfire Protection is not a concern, however is covered above in section 2, page 8.

TREE PLANTING CSIP#11

Tree planting goals and objectives are discussed above in section 2, goal 7, page 7 and section 9, page number 28.

TREE RECYCLING CSIP#12

Tree recycling goals are discussed above in section 7, page number 22.

SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM CSIP#13

Sidewalk Maintenance is discussed in section 2, page 5, section 4, page number 11 and section 8, page 23.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CSIP#14

Stormwater Management is discussed in section 3, page number 11.

OTHER CSIP#15

Invasive species from public land and education to residents is discussed in goal number 12, page number 7.

PLAN PREPARATION AND EVALUATION

Plan preparation and evaluation goals are discussed in section 9, page number 25.

Addendum 1

Shade Tree Commission Ordinance

ORDINANCES:

ARTICLE IV, BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS

3-16 SHADE TREE COMMISSION.

3-16.1 Members; Appointment. The Mayor is hereby authorized to appoint five (5) persons to act and be known as the Shade Tree Commission for the City of Lambertville, N.J. The first commissioners shall be appointed within sixty (60) days after this subsection becomes effective and their terms shall be for one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) years expiring December 31st. In the event of a vacancy, the appointment shall be for the unexpired term. All subsequent appointments shall take effect January 1 and be for five (5) years. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 1; Ord. #92-07, paragraph 1)

3-16.2 Statutory Authorization. The provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:64-1 to 40:64-14 as amended wherein the amendments apply to a municipality shall be part of this section. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 2)

3-16.3 Acts Requiring Permission from the Shade Tree Commission. No person shall do, or cause to be done any of the following acts upon a street within the City of Lambertville without the written permit of the Shade Tree Commission.

Plant shade or ornamental trees and shrubbery.

Cut, trim, break, climb with spikes, disturb the roots of, or otherwise injure, or spray with any chemical, or remove any living shade or ornamental tree or shrub, or injure, misuse or remove any structure or device placed to support or protect such shade or ornamental tree or shrub.

Fasten any rope, wire, electric attachment, sign or other device to a shade or ornamental tree or shrub or to place any guard about such shade or ornamental tree or shrub.

Close or obstruct any open space provided about the base of a shade or ornamental tree or shrub to permit the access of air, water or fertilizer to the roots of such shade or ornamental tree or shrub.

Pile any building material, or make any mortar or cement within six (6') feet of a shade or ornamental tree or shrub. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 3)

3-16.4 Protection of Trees and Shrubs from Wires. Any person having control over any wire for the transmission of electric current or telephone or telegraph service along a public street shall at all times guard all shade and ornamental trees and shrubs through which such wires pass against any injury from the wires or from the current carried by them, the device or means used shall be subject to the approval of the Shade Tree Commission. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 4)

3-16.5 Protection of Trees and Shrubs from Injurious Chemicals. No person shall permit any brine, gas or injurious chemicals to come in contact with the stem or roots of any shade or ornamental tree or shrub upon a public street. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 5)

3-16.6 Interference with Shade Tree Commission Prohibited. No person shall prevent, delay or interfere with any lawful work undertaken by the Shade Tree Commission or its authorized agent. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 7)

3-16.7 Penalty. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be liable to the penalty in Chapter I, Section 1-5 for each and every such violation to be recovered as provided by law. (Ord. 9/21/53, paragraph 7)

3-17 – 3-20 RESERVED.

Please contact the City of Lambertville prior to removing a street tree. This action needs to be approved by the Shade Tree Commission.