Department of Public Works
307 East 7th Street
Clifton, New Jersey 07011

CITY OF CLIFTON

Tree City U.S.A.

Postal Patron
Clifton, NJ

Hackberry Tree — Main Memorial Park
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Introduction

During the past four years, the City of Clifton has taken advantage of two incentive grants from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forestry, Community Forestry Program.

The first grant in the amount of $2,500.00 was funded by the New Jersey Green Communities Challenge Grant and the in-kind services of City Officials and volunteers in order to create a five-year street-tree management plan, and to carry out the planting and maintenance activities specified in that plan.

The Mission Statement of this plan is “To improve the quality of life in the City of Clifton by maximizing the economic, environmental, and social benefits of trees to the community while minimizing the associated costs and liabilities.”

The second grant in the amount of $9,000.00 from the Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) has been allotted to the City of Clifton for the production of (this) booklet to educate citizens about the value of shade trees and encourage more active support for the Shade Tree Program.
**History of Trees**

According to the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, "Urban and community forestry is an integral part of United States' history. The tradition began when the first public shade tree planting was completed along the roadway between Boston and Roxbury in 1646. In the eighteenth century, William Penn, proprietor of Pennsylvania required that when clearing land, one acre in every five remain as trees. In 1791, Pierre L'Enfant designed Washington, D.C.'s roads in a radial pattern and lined them with trees. By the 1850s, Frederick Law Olmstead's design for Central Park emphasized the importance of open space. The late 1800s marked the passage of various state legislation allowing municipalities to spend public funds for arboriculture-the planting and maintenance of city shade trees. The importance of tree planting and care was formally recognized with the creation of Arbor Day in 1872."

**Arbor Day (Tree Planting)**

A pioneer named J. Sterling Morton moved into the Nebraska territory from Detroit. He and his wife were lovers of nature, and the home they established in Nebraska was quickly planted with trees, shrubs and flowers.

On January 4, 1872 at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, Morton proposed a tree planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day." The date given for this day was set for April 10, 1874. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for properly planting the largest number of trees on that day.

In New Jersey, Arbor Day is always on the last Friday in April. On this annual tree planting day, thousands of trees are planted throughout New Jersey and across the nation, reminding citizens to celebrate the important role trees play in our lives, and that trees are one of our most valuable natural "renewable" resources.
For the past six years, CLIFTON has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation, and a recipient of the Tree City USA Growth Awards. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Clifton had to meet four standards to become a Tree City USA:

1. Establish a tree board or department
2. Create a tree care ordinance
3. Celebrate an annual Arbor Day observance
4. Develop a comprehensive community forestry plan.

The Growth Award recognizes environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities.

Clifton was recognized for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program in the following areas:

1. A nationally recognized Tree Farm
2. The distribution of trees on Arbor Day to residents to be planted on private property
3. The recycling/composting of vegetative waste such as branches, trees, leaves, and grass

The Community Forestry Management Plan 2001-2005 was prepared by Paul Cowie & Associates, Consulting Arborists and Urban Foresters, in cooperation with the City of Clifton's Beautification Committee, Department of Engineering, and Department of Public Works.

The objectives contained in this plan focus primarily on street trees, but also apply to trees in City parks and on public properties. Clifton's Shade Tree Program is governed by and with the authority of:

- Chapter 433, Trees and Shrubbery of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Clifton and its amendments and supplements
- Chapter 461 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Clifton, which contains requirements regarding trees and landscaping for site development.
**Administration Shade Tree Program**

The structure and administration of the Shade Tree Program is outlined below and taken from the Community Forestry Management Plan.

The Mayor and Council have ultimate authority over the policies, procedures, and budget of the Shade Tree Program.

They also have the power to appoint members to the City's various boards and committees. The City Manager supervises the daily operations of the City's Departments.

The Beautification Committee is a group of resident volunteers to advise and facilitate communications between the various bodies responsible for implementing the shade tree and other related programs.

The Planning and Zoning Boards are responsible for implementing and enforcing various elements of the City Code and Master Plan that relate to the planting, landscaping and preservation of public and private trees. Other Departments are needed from time to time to implement policies, procedures and ordinances. Additionally, the City hires independent consulting arborist(s) for technical advice.

The City Engineer manages the protection, removal and replanting of trees on reconstruction and other street improvement projects. The Engineer will also work with tree maintenance contractors and public utilities to ensure all work plans, schedules and minimize any conflicts between contractors and utilities.

**Operations Shade Tree Program**

The Director of Public Works (DPW) is primarily responsible for the daily operations of the Shade Tree Program with the advice of the Beautification Committee.

City Forester — Andrew Wohr, at the City's nationally recognized tree farm!
Committee and the consent of the Mayor and Council.

The Director of Public Works through the hands-on work of the Shade Tree Division is responsible for planting, maintaining, removing, and any other work performed on public trees.

The Director and City Forester are also responsible for the City's nationally recognized Tree Farm and Greenhouse which is located on Route #3 east, near Bloomfield Avenue. Each year the city receives hundreds of trees and tublings from the New Jersey Tree Foundation. These trees are planted at the Tree Farm for about two years and then replanted throughout the city's parks and other public places. The City Forester at times will obtain trees donated through local nurseries which will be planted at the tree farm. These trees are then given to residents during the annual Arbor Day celebration. During the past five years over 2,500 young trees and tublings have been given away during the annual Arbor Day celebration.

**TREE REMOVAL/BRANCH PICKUPS**

**Leaf Collection**

**TREE REMOVAL (PUBLIC/CURBSIDE):**

The City of Clifton will remove a public street tree if it is dead, dying, or if there is a dangerous situation regarding the immediate removal of a tree(s). In order to have a tree removed, a resident must complete a Hold Harmless Agreement supplied by the city for the removal of the tree and stump. Residents are not permitted to remove or trim any public tree.

After a public street tree(s) is removed by the City, Ordinance No. 6015-98 Chapter 433-25 requires the property owner to replace the curbside tree(s). Residents must obtain an application for permit to plant a new tree(s) from the Engineering Department.

**TREE REMOVAL (PRIVATE):**

A resident who removes a tree on private property must first obtain a permit (no fee) from the Engineering or Public Works Department. If a private contractor removes the tree the contractor is responsible to remove all tree parts from the residential property.

**BRANCH PICKUPS:**

The City's Tree Crew will collect branches from residential properties that are trimmed by the "homeowner" and neatly placed at the curb. If a private contractor trims or cuts your trees they are responsible for removing all tree parts from your home. For branch pickups residents must call the Department of Public Works at (973)470-2239 to be placed on the list for collection.
FALL LEAF COLLECTION:

From the middle of October through the middle of December residents are permitted to place leaves in the street near the curb for recycling. Leaf trucks will be working daily during this season and leaves will be collected in a timely manner. There is no need to call for leaf pickup. Leaves are brought to a compost facility and recycled into rich black compost which can be used for your flower gardens or spread throughout your lawns.

20 GREAT TREES IN THE CITY OF CLIFTON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Botanical Name</th>
<th>Size diameter at breast height in inches</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Black Birch</td>
<td>Betula lenta</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Wessel Brook at Ravine Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pin Oak</td>
<td>Quercus palustris</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Holy Face Monastery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Black Willow</td>
<td>Salix nigra</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Morris Canal Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Black Walnut</td>
<td>Juglans nigra</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Morris Canal Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Willow Oak</td>
<td>Quercus phellos</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Office Building, Broad Street at Anderson Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>American Elm</td>
<td>Ulmus americana</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Old Hepburn Road bridge over Third River near Broad Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Swamp White Oak</td>
<td>Quercus bicolor</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Jubilee Park at Allwood Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Green Ash</td>
<td>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>PSE&amp;G Right-of-Way, St. Andrews Boulevard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>White Oak</td>
<td>Quercus alba</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Clifton Municipal Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Red Oak</td>
<td>Quercus rubra</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Clifton Municipal Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tulip Tree</td>
<td>Liriodendron tulipifera</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Clifton Municipal Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ginkgo</td>
<td>Ginkgo biloba</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Clifton Municipal Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>London Plane</td>
<td>Platanus x acerifolia</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Clifton Main Library, Piaget Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Hackberry</td>
<td>Celtis occidentals</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Main Memorial Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dawn Redwood</td>
<td>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Nash Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>White Pine</td>
<td>Pinus strobus</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Chelsea Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Eastern Cottonwood</td>
<td>Populus deltoids</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Third River at Bridgwell Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>American Beech</td>
<td>Fagus grandifolia</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Slope between School No. 8 and Third River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>American Sycamore</td>
<td>Platanus occidentalis</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Third River Walkway, River Walk at River Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>River Birch</td>
<td>Betula nigra</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Passaic River at Route 21 bridge over Third River</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF TREES

Trees make the urban and suburban communities livable for people and wildlife. Trees and other plants create local ecosystems that provide habitat and food for birds and animals. Trees reduce noise and air pollution, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Trees increase property values, conserve water, reduce soil erosion, and save energy.
CONCLUSION

As stated in the introduction, this booklet has been provided to educate the citizens of Clifton in the value of shade trees and encourage more active support, love, and knowledge of the Shade Tree Program.

For further information on Clifton's program, residents may contact the:

Department of Public Works
307 East 7th Street
Clifton, New Jersey 07011
Tel. (973) 470-2237
Fax. (973) 340-7049
www.cliftononline.com

For state information on trees, citizens may contact the:

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
New Jersey Forest Service
Community Forestry Program
501 East State Street
PO Box 404
Trenton, NJ 08625
Tel. (609) 292-2532
Fax. (609) 984-0378
http://www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community/home.html

STATE TREES

New Jersey has two state trees. Can you name the tree and the year they were designated?

The White Dogwood, adopted in 1951 as the state memorial tree. The Red Oak, designated in 1990 as the official state tree.