

TREE PLANTING - WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP – REPORT

In 2021, the Woodbridge Township Dept. of Public Works, Parks Division in conjunction with the NJ Tree Foundation planted 126 trees at: South Roberts Park, Captain Carlson Park, Fords Library, Norrth Park Drive, Shaughnessy Park and Prospect Park. Since 2016, Woodbridge Township Dept. of Public Works, Parks Division, and Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) have planted over 4,000 native trees and shrubs in the Watson-Crampton neighborhood, an 100 acre area bounded on three sides by the Woodbridge River, Heards Brook, and Wedgewood Brook. This area is in the Open Space conservation and Resilience Zone of Woodbridge Township and the definition of floodplain restoration as a matter of mitigation and reduced vulnerability to flooding hazards.

Tree Planting - Project Costs: During 2021, the Dept. of Public Works removed 539 trees and trimmed 296 trees. The Tree Maintenance team work off of an annual budget as denoted below.

Operating 42,400.00

Payroll \$982,612.80

Equipment Repairs \$43,731.07

Disposal \$91,000.00

Total: \$1,159,743.87

3-Year Maintenance Plan:

As outlined in the Township's Community Forestry Management Plan, all newly planted trees are covered by a 3-year maintenance plan: mulching, pruning, planting, feeding, and watering are the required maintenance activities which will be carried out by a carefully planned schedule, in order to enhance our ability to keep the trees robust to lessen the liability of the Township.

The maintenance plan includes:

- Monitoring annual total of removed trees, and replacement trees planted.
- Creating a public list annually of trees removed from public property, and those replanted or replaced.
- Publicizing this information through our TV35 television station, post on our website, and our bi- monthly newsletter.

Care and maintenance of the tree population is handled by the Department of Public Works, Division of Streets and Sewers and the Divisions of Parks.

Included in the annual budget for tree maintenance services for the Township of Woodbridge are funds for removal of dead, diseased or hazardous trees, tree trimming, shaping, root pruning and tree inspections. Equipment for tree maintenance and replacement include a stump grinder, chipper, dump truck, and an aerial bucket truck.