

**New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act Annual
Accomplishment Report – 2013**

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT FORM

Municipality: Borough of Madison
County: Morris
Address: Hartley Dodge Memorial
50 Kings Road
Madison, New Jersey 07940

Contact Name
And Title: Alan Andreas, Chair - Shade Tree Management Board
Phone: 973.377.1313
FAX & E-mail: 973.377.1562, aandreas@asaarchitectural.com
Organization Name: Shade Tree Management Board

Mayor's Signature: 
Date Third Management
Plan Approval: September 12, 2013
Time Period Covered in
Management Plan: January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2017
Date of Annual
Accomplishment Report
Submission: February, 2014
Accomplishment Report
For Calendar Year: 2013

****PLEASE INCLUDE THIS FORM AS THE COVER PAGE TO YOUR
ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT***

Submit Report To:
**Community Forestry Program
Attn: Todd Wyckoff
Mail Code: 501-04
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625**

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REPORT NARRATIVE OUTLINE: BOROUGH OF MADISON

COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION:

The Madison Shade Tree Management Board was staffed at 6 of 7 regular (one absent for most of the year) and 2 alternate members for 12 of 12 months in 2013. The Board met each of the 12 months and minutes were placed on the Municipal web site. Michael Kopas, a Board member since 2008 and a Certified Tree Expert was chair for 2013. The Borough Council Liaison participated in 1 of 12 meetings. Representatives from the Department of Public Works and the Parks Advisory Committee attended most of the meetings.

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Course Participant	Course Title	Date	CEUs
Alice Wade	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Beverly Wand	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Christine Hammitt	Celebrate Arbor Day A	3/9/13	3
Gene Cracovia	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Judy Mullins	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Nancy Bruce	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Peg Codey	Propagation Workshop Madison	3/22/13	2
Penny Garman	Celebrate Arbor Day A	3/9/13	3
Christine Hammitt	Rutgers Tree Day	1/8/13	5

PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND OUTREACH:

Arbor Day Celebration

- Led the planning and implementation for Arbor Day, which is held in conjunction with Madison's May Day celebration (May Day involves over 1000 Madison residents. Members of the Shade Tree Management Board pruned and cleaned parks as part of the May Day volunteer activities).
- Received recognition on Arbor Day for our 28th year as a "Tree City USA".
- Received recognition on Arbor Day for our 6th Tree City USA "Growth Award".
- Submitted articles regarding Arbor Day and on-going press releases to local newspapers and online Patch to educate and raise awareness of the public.
- Established a tree nursery in the new community garden as part of Madison's celebration of Arbor Day with help from Madison Boy Scout Troop 7, the Garden Club of Madison and the Madison Community Garden Committee.
- Contacted the American Chestnut Foundation and was given three chestnut seedlings to plant in the tree nursery.

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Additional Community Events (where tree issues were presented):

- Madison Green Fair : May 16, 2013
- Madison Bottle Hill Day : October 5, 2013
- Green Forum: January 24, 2013
Sponsored a community-wide discussion of a “Sustainable Madison” held at Drew University with the Sustainable Madison Committee, Madison Environmental Commission, Open Space, Recreation & Historic Preservation Committee and the Parks Advisory Committee. The Green Forum topics were Natural Spaces, Getting around Madison, Greening the Home and Business, and Alternative Energy.
- Instituted a new program to give “free” trees to Madison residents. Trees are to be planted in Borough right-of-way sites that have been deemed acceptable by STMB members. Five species of trees were offered. The STMB “Bottle Hill Day” booth offered information about the specific trees, the value of trees and sign up sheets for residents.

STATEMENT OF TREE BUDGET:

The Borough of Madison continues to strongly support the Shade Tree Management Board with a 2013 budget of \$101,850 remaining the same as the 2012 funding. In the absence of the extreme weather events of the past 2 years we were able to focus our efforts on our usual planting, pruning and removal work. There continues to be thousands of hours of in-kind volunteer services from members of the Shade Tree Management Board, the Friends of Madison Shade Trees, Parks Advisory Committee and the May Day Committee.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Tree Inventory and Assessment

- Continued using a computerized tree inventory database to verify trees in the public right-of-way, available tree planting sites and species diversity.
- Conducted 2 windshield surveys - results were used to update the tree inventory and direct the tree maintenance program in terms of hazardous conditions and pruning needs.

Tree Planting

- Planted 137 new Borough trees of varying specie types.
- Gifted \$10,000 to pay for and plant 32 of the 137 trees by the Friends of the Madison Shade Tree.
- Continued to improve species diversity mix by the removal of older, dominant Norway Maples and replacing them with newer specie types (Pin Oak, Red Oak, Gingko, Red Sunset Maple, Japanese Lilac, Accolade Elm, Linden, Amelanchier, Black Gum, October Glory Maple, Yellowwood, Sweet Gum, Zelkova, Valley Forge Elm, and Redspire Pear).

Tree Maintenance

- Responded to all 140 resident’s requests to assess and maintain public trees.
- Removed 122 trees.
- Tree Pruning: Streets-1; continued developmental pruning program of trees planted in the last 5 years – 69.

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Special Projects

- Input towards the Borough of Madison Sustainable Jersey efforts to achieve a “Silver” level of certification.
- Concentrated on removals and tree replacement across Madison Borough in continuing to recover from Hurricane Sandy. Assessed wooded areas within parks and assisted Parks Advisory Committee on tree condition and clean up protocols.
- Reviewed and commented on 14 Planning and Zoning Board applications.
- Assisted landowner with recommendations for tree preservation prior to construction and variance application. Recommendations were submitted as part of the application to the Planning Board.
- Assisted and advised Borough Engineer on street tree conditions prior to and during road renovation work.
- Assisted Eagle Scout candidate in the creation of a natural walking trail and tree identification markers at the Madison Recreation Complex.
- Worked with Madison Health Department on three (3) occasions about private tree-related complaints.
- Contracted for a large Pin Oak to be professionally assessed for potential structural risk. Members of the Shade Tree Management Board witnessed the evaluation as a learning tool.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM:

- Implemented Green Communities Grant for \$2200 to develop and submit for approval Madison’s 3rd 5-year Community Forestry Plan.