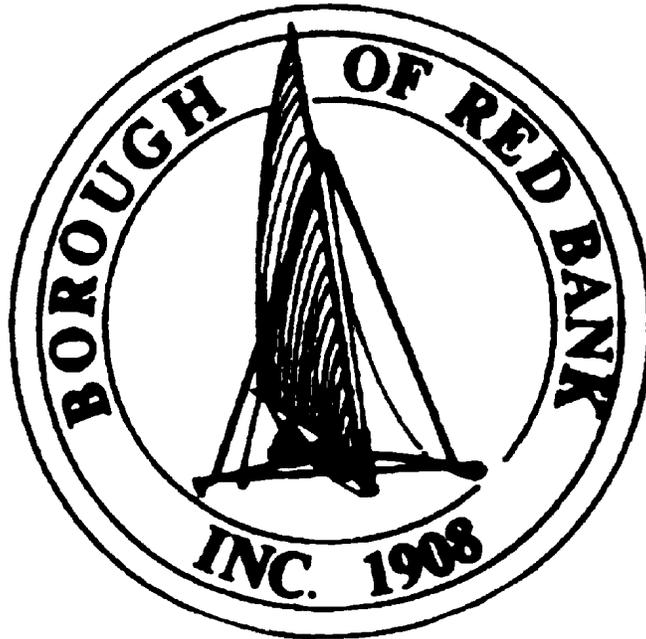


**Borough of Red Bank
Community Forestry Management Plan
2006-2010**



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In Cooperation with
Red Bank Shade Tree Committee

II Introduction

A. Scope

This plan has been designed to demonstrate the manner in which the Borough of Red Bank currently manages the community tree resources under its jurisdiction including trees in parks, rights-of-way, along streets, and around Borough buildings and other holdings. This plan will also outline how Red Bank intends to further improve this system over the next five years.

B. Mission Statement

To maintain and promote a healthy, safe and sustainable shade tree resource that will physically, economically and aesthetically benefit the community and its residents in the most cost effective manner possible.

C. Goals and Objectives

The following is a list of current short and long term goals of Red Bank's Shade Tree Management Plan.

1. Introduce species of trees and shrubbery that will provide for long term coverage of public lands, parks and recreation areas, while at the same time allowing for diversity of color in the three temperate seasons enjoyed by this community as a pedestrian based center.
 - a.) Develop an approved list of suitable street trees for use in the different environments in Red Bank.
 - b.) Develop a yearly planting program along local streets (municipal) and recreation lands following the guidelines of an established list of trees developed with consideration of the local climate and environment (residential, parks, and shopping districts).
 - c.) Develop a cooperative planting program along Monmouth County and State rights-of-way in conjunction with the municipal efforts.
 - d.) Coordinate shade tree efforts undertaken by the Red Bank Environmental Commission and the Department of Public Works.
 - e.) Continue to work with local utilities to remove inappropriate or hazardous trees under overhead conductors and replace them with more suitable species.
2. Establish an ongoing maintenance program for the trees along Borough rights-of-way to include county maintenance procedures on County streets to reduce liability to the borough and enhance the quality of life for residents.
 - a.) Inventory tree resources on all local and State and County streets, lands, and parks within the Borough to define the scope of work.
 - b.) List obvious tree defects and possible remedies and establish a priority list for the implementation of corrective procedures and removal of hazardous trees.
 - c.) Work to replace any removed trees and fill any vacant planting spaces.
3. Revise current ordinances and develop new tree ordinances that define

- responsibility for maintenance, removal and replacement.
 - a.) Amendments to existing ordinances and new ordinances would be considered based on the need to promote the safety and welfare of the community, and to include a possible Heritage Tree Ordinance.
 - b.) These ordinances should mirror Monmouth County's adopted care resolutions for shade trees.
 - c.) Continue to review any new development plans.
 - d.) Provide input into the road improvement program.
- 4. Educate the public about trees and their importance to the entire community.
 - a.) Publish at least two articles every year in local newspapers
 - b.) Distribute information brochures at one municipal event each year
 - c.) Publicly speak at two local events
 - d.) Participate in annual Arbor Day celebration
 - e.) Achieve Tree City U.S.A status in the next five years and strive for growth awards.
- 5. Expand the training opportunities available to Shade Tree Committee members and Borough employees.
 - a.) Hold a Hazard Tree training program for those involved in the care of the borough's trees.
 - b.) Send at least one borough employee or volunteer for CORE training each year until all persons involved with the shade tree program are CORE trained.

D. Liability Statement

Although Red Bank recognizes all of the benefits provided to the community by its tree resource, it also recognizes the liabilities. As trees are living entities, it is inevitable that as they mature they eventually require care, maintenance, removal and replacement. Red Bank must, however, work within a reasonable budget and may not be able to meet each and every demand placed on them. Therefore it is the intent of this plan to focus available resources to reduce obvious and predictable tree hazards to provide commensurate reduced risks to public safety.

Since it is impossible to predict or prevent all hazardous conditions that may arise, Red Bank is developing this plan to become more proactive in its tree maintenance. Proactive tree management should reduce the occurrence of unexpected events.

Following this plan will demonstrate Red Bank's commitment to proper tree management within the Borough's rights-of-way and public holdings with the aim of reducing the potential for future tree related accidents and thereby reducing its exposure to liabilities and increasing public safety.

III Community Overview

A. The History of Red Bank

(Excerpted from an article by former Red Bank Mayor Benedict R. Nicosia, Esquire)
 Red Bank, as a part of a larger area, became an entity on March 17, 1870. However, an English sailor as early as September 5, 1609 saw the steep banks of red clay and called it "The Red Banks". The first official use of the name in Monmouth County was when it was

described in a contract between Thomas and Hannah Morford of Shrewsbury and Joseph French, early Monmouth County settlers. The house built on the property stood at 98 West Front Street just opposite the Red Bank Public Library until it was torn down in 1998.

Located on the Navesink River it covers an area of 1.8 miles. It is 47 miles south of New York City. It has an ideal climate and an average temperate of 51.8 degrees.

In 1780 the noted American poet, William Cullen Bryant after a visit to Red Bank wrote, "Red Bank is in every sense, a pretty village and what perhaps is better - a thriving one. Rarely do we find in an American town, this union of thrift and beauty."

The ancient inhabitants of Red Bank were the Lenni Lenape tribe. Skeletons and Indian artifacts have been found near Hubbards' Bridge and the area known as Oyster Shell Point where the present Oyster Point Hotel now stands. In 1801 the last of the tribe moved to Onieda Lake in New York State.

In 1665 Red Bank and the surrounding area was sold to seven Englishmen and soon after the purchasers and families began to settle in the area. In 1832 there were 225 people living in Red Bank. Richard Stout, one of the original seven, later settled in Middletown. A descendent became a New Jersey State Senator.

Early settlers and developers of Red Bank had streets named after them. Some are Throckmorton Avenue, Reckless Place - named after Anthony Reckless, who became a New Jersey Senator and built his home in Red Bank which still stands on Broad Street and is now home to the Red Bank Woman's Club. Other streets are Morford Place, Chestnut Street and McLaren Street.

The earliest Court was in the Bank Tavern established by Joseph Price who also built sloops and large sailboats that sailed between New York and Red Bank carrying lumber, furniture and the food raised by local farmers. As time went on Red Bank developed residentially and commercially.

In 1816 a combination church and schoolhouse was built on Globe Court. It was used as a church for both Protestants and Catholics and also a school. The land was later purchased by the Boro Bus Company. The Mechanic Street School, now a professional building, was built nearby. The White Homestead, built by Robert White, an early settler, still stands at 20 South Street. In those days, the Union Hotel, now the present site of the Olde Union House and The Globe Hotel, were where visitors to Red Bank stayed.

The Navesink River developed early as a sailing and ice boat racing center and has remained popular to the present day.

Red Bank has churches of every denomination. The Presbyterian Church on Tower Hill, the highest point in Red Bank was originally the home of Abram Elkus, who became Ambassador to Turkey during the Roosevelt Administration. His daughter, Katherine, a popular Red Banker, served as Mayor of Red Bank and later as Ambassador to Denmark.

Red Bank was a popular shipping point for sailing boats and later, steamboats that traveled

between Red Bank and New York with stops at Perth Amboy and Brooklyn. Steamboats in the early 19th century carried passengers and supplies to New York. At one time as many as two dozen steamboats traveled the Navesink River.

In 1905 the first Police Department was established. It now has a department of 46 police officers.

In 1939 the King and Queen of England visited Red Bank and later that year President Franklin Roosevelt came to Red Bank for a visit.

Today Red Bank is a town of approximately 11,500 residents. Transportation by train and bus is available to all towns and cities in New Jersey and New York City.

Marine Park is a busy boat center that docks boats of all sizes. The Monmouth Boat Club built in the early 19th century is a favorite sailing center for persons of all ages.

The RiverCenter promotes retail events such as Cruising with the Oldies, Food Festivals and band concerts at Marine Park and Riverside Gardens Park.

In 2002 the Red Bank Visitors Center was established at the Red Bank Railroad Station which distributes information to visitors and residents of the surrounding areas regarding lodging, events, retailers, recreation and commercial organizations, as well as local history.

The newly renovated Molly Pitcher Inn and the Oyster Point Hotel serve gourmet food and drink as well as providing superior accommodations to travelers. The town also provides parochial as well as public education for grades from Kindergarten through High School and is fortunate enough to be the home of Riverview Medical Center with approximately 500 beds serving the medical needs of the community.

B. The History of Red Bank's Shade Tree Management Program

Since its creation, Red Bank has been a strategic riverside community with most of its original tree resources contained in native Oak and Beech forests. Today, the borough is over 90% developed, and the majority of the tree resources lie on private property. As for the public tree resource, it mainly consists of 12 different tree species along roadways between the curb and sidewalk in a traditional tree lawn.

The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee was formally established in April 2004. This advisory board will, with the adoption of this management plan, strive to help Red Bank become more proactive in its approach to tree care issues. Prior to this committee's establishment, tree related issues were handled by the Borough Arborist, the Department of Public Works and the Red Bank Environmental Commission. It is a goal of the Shade Tree Committee and this management plan to foster a cooperative environment between these agencies for the betterment of Red Bank's tree resource and therefore its residents and visitors. Tree maintenance in the past including small tree and brush removal, minor pruning of deadwood and crown raising over roadways have been handled by the Department of Public Works tree crews. Larger removals and emergencies have been handled by outside contractors. This will probably continue for the foreseeable future.

In 2003, 2004 and 2005 the Borough used part of a grant from the Department of Community Affairs to plant 40 trees. The Borough has also been working with their local utility Jersey Central Power and Light to replace trees that need to be removed underneath overhead conductors. The Shade Tree Committee would like to continue to build upon this relationship with JCP&L and expand the planting program throughout the borough. The Shade Tree Committee intends to locate any vacant planting pits available for street and park plantings and work towards replacements wherever possible, i.e., where the width of the planting strip and the absence of overhead wires permit.

Another major goal of this plan is to develop a hazardous tree inventory and a remediation plan to help beautify the community and reduce risks to Red Bank's residents. The relatively small size of the borough makes this a reasonable goal for this first five-year period provided funds for training become available. A complete survey should cover all municipal rights-of-way, plus all parks and public buildings in the borough. A preliminary windshield survey performed between January and April of 2005 covering 15.4 miles of roadways determined that approximately 12% of the trees in the sampled area, which covered approximately 75% of the road miles in the borough, posed a greater than average risk of structural failure due to defective or dead limbs, trunks or root flares. The species diversity in the surveyed area was comprised of 4 Acer, 2 Quercus, and 2 Platanus species along with 4 other notable species along the borough rights-of-way.

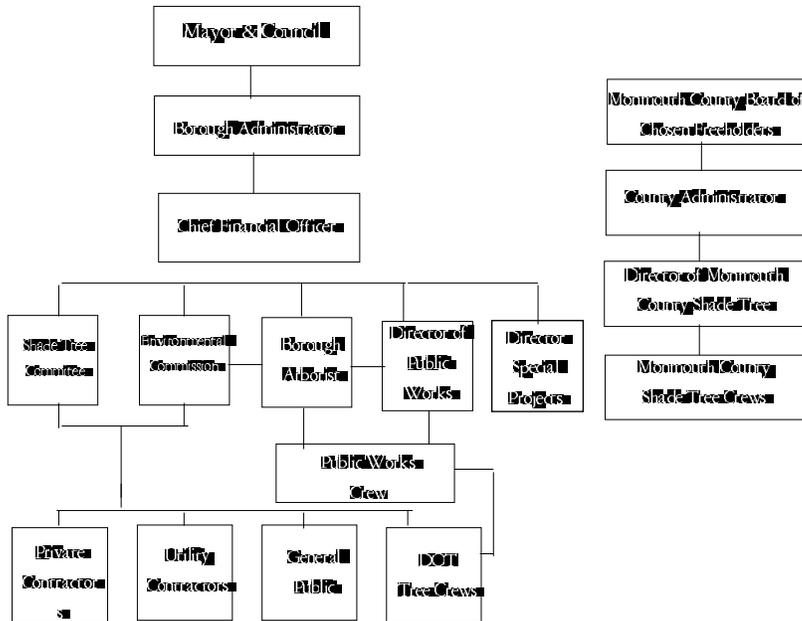
The largest notable tree problem aside from the aforementioned structural defects was the large number of trees that have been victimized by improper pruning by both homeowners and the utility companies. Some of this is the result of having the wrong tree in the wrong place. Working with JCP&L to continue a remove-and-replace program should alleviate part of the problem along the public right-of-way. Development of a public education program should help to reduce improper tree care on private property. Since this is such a large problem in the borough, public education about proper tree care and pruning will be a high priority of this plan. Tree/sidewalk conflicts, narrow planting strips, vehicle damage to low branches and trunks, excessive mulch and improper planting depth, girdling roots (mainly on the Maple species) and drought stress were also notable problems that need to be addressed in the future. There are most certainly other insect, disease and cultural problems present, but none of these are currently at an intolerable level or worthy of note at this time. Despite the long list of maladies listed above, 75-80% of the trees in the surveyed area are in fair to good condition.

The Shade Tree Committee intends to submit this Community Forestry Management Plan to the Mayor and Council for approval. It is the intent of this plan to establish goals and initiate objectives that will protect and enhance the tree resource of Red Bank through a program of planting and preservation that will benefit present and future generations of the community. Once this Community Forestry Management Plan is accepted by the state, it will be presented to the Planning Board for incorporation into the new Master Plan.

IV. Community Forestry Program Administration

The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee is an advisory board charged with making recommendations for the care of the Borough's tree resource. In reality, it is a cooperative

effort of the Mayor and Council, Department of Public Works and many other boards and agencies working with the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee to achieve this goal. The following chart depicts those involved in the Shade Tree Management process as they pertain to Borough or County roadways.



- A. The Mayor and Council
 - 1.) The Mayor is responsible for appointing the 5 members of the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee with the consent of the Council.
 - 2.) The Mayor and Council review the policies and plans of the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee.
 - 3.) The Mayor and Council approve annual budgets for the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee and the Department of Public Works.
 - 4.) Council Liaison to the Shade Tree Committee reports to the Mayor and Council on pertinent issues and recommends the annual budget.
- B. Borough Administrator
 - 1.) The Borough Administrator helps to review the plans and policies of the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee.
- C. Chief Financial Officer
 - 1.) Works with the Mayor and Council to establish the operating budgets of the Shade Tree Committee and Public Works Department.
- D. Red Bank Shade Tree Committee
 - The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee is a five member volunteer board

appointed by the Mayor and Council. They are the advisory agency for all community trees on municipal streets, rights-of-way, parks, or other properties. Their duties include:

- 1.) Advise regarding the planting, removal and general maintenance of Borough trees.
- 2.) Develop and recommend the policies and goals that will preserve and develop Red Bank's tree resource
- 3.) Perform public outreach to foster better understanding and care for Red Bank's trees on both public and private properties.
- 4.) Assisting in the handling of any complaints or requests received for work on Borough trees.
- 5.) Develop and review annual budgets with the Council Liaison and CFO and submit them to the Mayor and Council.

E. Borough Arborist

- 1.) Reviews any requests for tree planting, removal or maintenance, and makes the necessary inspections. The primary source of professional advice to the Shade Tree Committee
- 2.) Trains and assists the Department of Public Works in tree maintenance.
- 3.) Solicits bids from private contractors when tree maintenance cannot be performed by the Department of Public Works
- 4.) Supervises and inspects all work done by private contractors on Borough properties.

F. Environmental Commission

- 1.) The Environmental Commission cooperates with the Shade Tree Committee in tree related projects.

G. Director of Public Works

- 1.) Supervises and inspects all work done by the Public Works Crew, and private contractors on Borough properties.
- 2.) Develops annual plans and budget requests for tree maintenance costs.

H. Director of Special Projects

- 1.) Provide technology support for GIS mapping with tree inventory.
- 2.) Provide technology support and assist with waterfront access and open space plans.
- 3.) Act as liaison to borough website.

I. Public Works Crew

- 1.) Responsible for certain tree removal, pruning and brush clean-up along municipal roadways and on borough properties.
- 2.) Responsible for some planting and upkeep of young trees along municipal roadways and on Borough properties.
- 3.) Reporting of any tree hazards or other problems to the Director of Public Works immediately.

J. Private Tree Contractors

Private contractors are responsible for the following:

- 1.) Provide proof of appropriate insurance, certifications and licenses as necessary to the appropriate department heads.
- 2.) Report prior to and following all work performed to the appropriate department supervisor.
- 3.) Complete all work in a safe and timely manner according to all

applicable safety standards set by OSHA or ANSI, as they pertain to tree care operations.

- 4.) Follow all current arboricultural practices and recommendations.
- 5.) Report all hazards or problems directly to appropriate department head immediately.

K. Utility Line Clearance Contractors

- 1.) Must notify the Monmouth County Engineering Department or Monmouth County Shade Tree, Red Bank Director of Public Works, the Borough Arborist, and the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee prior to the start of any non-emergency work.
- 2.) Must follow all current arboricultural practices and recommendations.
- 3.) May assist Public Works Department Tree Crews in clearing trees to a safe distance from their facilities when necessary.

L. General Public

- 1.) Report all requests for planting, removal or maintenance to the Red Bank Borough Shade Tree Committee or the Department of Public Works.
- 2.) Assist in follow-up care to the newly planted trees on adjacent properties or in County or Borough rights-of-way .

M. NJ DOT Tree Crews

- 1.) Responsible for the maintenance and removal of trees along state roadways in the borough.

N. The Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Tree maintenance along county roadways will be referred back to Monmouth County. The care and maintenance of those trees will follow the plan outlined in Monmouth County's Shade Tree Management Plan.

- 1.) The Board of Chosen Freeholders is responsible for appointment of the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission.
- 2.) The Board of Chosen Freeholders authorizes new policies and plans and approves annual budgets.

O. County Administrator

- 1.) Helps review new plans and policies of the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission.
- 2.) Recommends the annual budget submitted to the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

P. Director of Monmouth County Shade Tree

- 1.) Reviews any requests for tree planting, removal or maintenance and makes the necessary inspections.
- 2.) Supervises and inspects all work done by Monmouth County Shade Tree Crews, and private contractors on County properties.
- 3.) Develops annual plans and budget requests for tree maintenance costs.

Q. Monmouth County Shade Tree Crews

- 1.) Responsible for tree removal and pruning in County rights-of-way and other County facilities.
- 2.) Report any tree hazards or other problems to the appropriate department supervisor immediately.

Tree Service Request Process

Planting, removal, or pruning requests can be made by any department or individual residing in Red Bank so long as the tree in question is on property owned and maintained by the Borough of Red Bank . All requests must follow this procedure.

- A. All requests must be mailed or called in to the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee, the Department of Public Works, or the Borough Arborist.
- B. All information pertinent to the request should be sent to the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee or Department of Public Works prior to action, except in the case of emergencies, which will be sent directly to the Director of Public Works or Borough Arborist to be handled in an expeditious manner.
- C. Non-emergency work requests will be surveyed by the Borough Arborist and reported to the Shade Tree Committee. The Shade Tree Committee will prioritize and refer the requests to the appropriate department, County or Borough.
- D. Work requests will be completed in the order in which they were received (excluding emergency or priority work) and will be completed in a reasonable time period.
- E. All property owners adjacent to the requested work and/or those making the request will be notified of any action to be taken, even if no action is deemed necessary at that time.

V. MAP

VI. Training Plan

Since arboriculture is constantly changing with fast-paced technological and scientific innovations, Red Bank recognizes the need for a broad based and ongoing training program for individuals at all levels of the Shade Tree Management Program. From Public Works Employees to Committee Members and Administrators, all need continued technical and managerial information to benefit Red Bank's tree resource.

A. Current Training

1. The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee and the Department of Public Works have a portion of their budgets dedicated to ongoing training of its Committee members and Public Works Crews.
2. The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee encourages and provides for its members to participate in continuing education classes and CORE training as included in the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act. At the time of this writing, 1 Municipal Employee, the Borough Arborist, and 3 Shade Tree Committee members are CORE trained.
3. Several members of the Shade Tree Committee have attended continuing education courses at the Shade Tree Federation's annual meeting
4. Four members of the Shade Tree Committee and several employees of the Department of Public Works have had in house hazardous tree identification training.
5. Several members of the Department of Public Works attended a chain saw safety course provided by the Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture in 2004.
6. The above mentioned courses and others are available to all individuals in the Shade Tree Management Program upon request, if funds are available.

B. Goals and Objectives

1. To have all individuals involved in the Shade Tree Management Program CORE trained by sending at least one member to CORE training and shade tree meetings each year until all individuals involved in the Tree Management

Program meet those requirements, starting with one Shade Tree Committee Member and one Public Works employee the first year.

2. Increasing the quality of care given to Red Bank's trees by providing Public Works Crews and Shade Tree Committee Members with the most current technical arboricultural information.
3. Ensuring the safety of Public Works Crews and residents by providing current and advanced training in hazard tree identification, equipment operation/safety, and electrical hazard awareness.
4. Satisfying the requirements of the Community Forestry Assistance Act, making Red Bank eligible for immunity from liability under the Tort Claims Act by:

Gaining acceptance of this Management Plan and working toward the goals outlined herein.

VII Public Education, Awareness and Outreach

Having just been established, the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee is in its infancy and has no past history of outreach. Hoping to follow in the footsteps of other more established and successful Boards, the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee would like to raise the awareness of the public with regards to tree care and the benefits of trees. This will provide a valuable service to the community while encouraging public support for the Committee and its efforts on the community's behalf. The Committee is seeking to implement the following public outreach measures:

- A. Send a notification newsletter to residents introducing the new Shade Tree Committee. This newsletter was sent in the Spring of 2005.
- B. Publish at least two articles every year in local newspapers.
- C. Distribute information brochures at one municipal event each year.
- D. Publicly speak at two local events.
- E. Publishing Shade Tree Committee meeting dates in compliance with the "Sunshine Law".
- F. Hold an annual Arbor Day Program to include:
 - 1.) Having the mayor proclaim the last Friday in April as Arbor Day on an annual basis.
 - 2.) Sponsoring tree planting programs in cooperation with the local schools.
 - 3.) Seeking the involvement of local civic organizations to participate in Arbor Day programs.
 - 4.) Developing a school bumper sticker or poster contest to be recognized on Arbor Day.
 - 5.) Strive to achieve Tree City USA status over the next five years and beyond, striving for growth award achievements.
- G. Publish tree information and post an approved copy of this Community Forestry Management Plan on the borough website.

VIII. Statement of Tree Budget

The year 2005 budget for the Tree Management Program by the Department of Public Works Tree Crew is listed below.

Shade Tree Budget for Red Bank

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Tree planting | \$ 17,540.00 |
| Watering equipment | \$ 670.00 |
| Door hang tags | \$ 210.00 |
| Tree maintenance (watering trees) | \$ 8000.00 |
| Safety equipment purchase | \$ 1544.89 |
| Leaf removal by DPW | \$140,000.00 |
| (1400 man hours x \$100.00 per hour) | |
| Brush and branch removal | \$150,000.00 |
| (1500 man hours x \$100.00 per hour) | |
| Conferences and volunteer training | \$ 490.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$318,454.89 |

Shade Tree Committee Meetings
(4 members x 2 hour mtg. x 12 mtgs.) 96 hours
Site inspections throughout borough
and extra meetings 38 hours

Total volunteer hours 134 hours

Sub Total: 134 hours x \$15.39 per hour \$2,062.26

Sub Contractor emergency tree work \$ 550.00

In 2005, the Shade Tree Committee budget is \$7,500.00

Part Time Borough Arborist Salary \$17,049.28

TOTAL BUDGET \$345,616.43

IX Shade Tree Management Plan Implementation

A. Tree Assessment and Inventory

Red Bank has a large tree resource comparable to like sized communities. Currently there is no formal street tree plan or inventory in existence. A limited computerized inventory was done by two volunteers in the spring of 2005. The data collected during that inventory should be used as a starting point for a more comprehensive inventory to be conducted sometime in the future which could hopefully begin in the next five years provided funding is available. Red Bank is currently working on GIS mapping in the borough. When this system is up and running the Shade Tree Committee would like to start the inventory.

1. Goals

The current goals of the tree inventory are to:

- a.) Determine the overall health of Red Bank's tree resource.
- b.) Catalogue all planted trees along roadways in the borough.
- c.) Catalogue all trees in borough parks and on borough owned properties.
- d.) Identify open planting spaces in the community.
- e.) Identify possible tree and sidewalk conflicts.
- f.) Help track maintenance cycles for systematic rotation pruning.
- g.) Locate any historical or heritage trees.
- h.) Input data into a tree inventory computer program.

2006-2010 Objectives

1. Seek volunteers to perform an inventory and hire a consultant to train the volunteers and over see the effort.
2. Train volunteers in tree and hazard tree identification.
3. Train volunteers and employees to input information gathered into computer database.
4. Perform a walking survey to gather information i.e. tree identification obvious defects, tree/sidewalk and utility conflicts.
5. Catalogue all pertinent information gathered in survey.

B. Tree Hazard Identification and Management

Red Bank is dedicated to providing a healthy and productive tree resource for its residents in the safest and most cost effective manner possible. Public safety is of the highest concern throughout every aspect of the tree management program from planting to removal. Prior to the undertaking of this Community Forestry Plan, a preliminary Hazard Tree Assessment has already been completed through a cursory windshield survey covering 15.4 miles of roadway. Information gathered in that survey has been forwarded to the appropriate departments for hazard abatement work.

1. Goals

- a.) To ensure public safety in relation to trees on all Red Bank Borough properties and thoroughfares.
- b.) To establish an ongoing comprehensive plan for Hazard Tree Assessment on all borough properties and thoroughfares.

2006-2010 Objectives

1. Establish an annual Hazard Tree Assessment by windshield study.
2. Hazard tree evaluation training should be provided for Shade Tree Committee members and Public Works employees. Hazard tree courses such as those held at Rutgers University as well as other training programs will be available for all individuals involved in the tree care program.
3. Encourage all members involved in the Tree Management Program to report all potential tree hazards to appropriate department heads.
4. Have all obviously recognizable tree hazards discovered in the assessment remediated by pruning, removal or appropriate arboricultural actions, beginning with hazard tree removal.
5. Divide the Borough into five Zones and begin remediation pruning with one zone annually starting with the worst zone as determined by the preliminary Hazard Tree Survey performed at the start of this plan.

.C. Tree Planting

The tree planting program as it exists now is designed to replace dead trees and trees removed under overhead utilities, provide new street trees for any open planting sites available and add species diversity to parks, and other facilities. Arbor Day and memorial plantings are also planned to be an integral part of Red Bank's tree planting program. Red Bank recognizes the need for diversity and stability in its aging tree population and intends to develop a formal plan to integrate young trees into areas with aging and declining tree populations. Implementation of this program will not only beautify the town, but also by diversifying the species and age of the trees in Red Bank, it will benefit the Community.

1. Goals

- a.) Improve species diversity throughout the borough.
- b.) Increase the number of ornamental tree species to increase the aesthetic appeal to residents and visitors alike.
- c.) Increase the number of smaller ornamental tree species in close proximity to overhead utilities, reducing future tree and utility conflicts.
- d.) Seek better ways to maintain and help establish newly planted trees and reduce future tree / sidewalk conflicts, i.e. water, mulch and root barriers.
- e.) Expand current cooperation with the Environmental Commission and the Red Bank School District for future Arbor Day plantings.

2006-2010 Objectives

1. Find suitable tree species not currently existing on borough properties, and incorporate them into new plantings.
2. With the cooperation of Monmouth County tree crews and utility companies, continue removing declining and poorly pruned or over-pruned trees and replace them with smaller species around overhead utilities.
3. Solicit help of The Department of Public Works and residents in aftercare of new tree plantings.
4. Send out contact letters to Monmouth County Shade Tree and JCP&L about cooperative tree maintenance programs.
5. Work with the Red Bank Environmental Commission and local schools on a cooperative Arbor Day Program.
6. Officially document an approved tree list for planting along borough properties and rights-of-way.
7. Apply for Tree City USA.
8. Seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Borough parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs.

D. Tree Maintenance and Care

Red Bank recognizes that trees need general wellness care and not just emergency care. A proactive plan of routine scheduled maintenance will ensure a healthy, aesthetically pleasing and cost effective urban forest with a reduced hazard potential.

This management plan aims to provide a framework that will benefit and raise the level of care for all Borough owned trees and trees along Borough thoroughfares. . Structural pruning schedules will be established to train young trees to reduce future potential liabilities and maintenance costs. Continued maintenance on established and mature trees should reduce the risk of hazardous situations and increase tree life spans, generating benefits to the community.

1. Goals:

- a.) To install healthy, viable trees into the existing landscape and help them to reestablish themselves as quickly as possible to insure their longevity.
- b.) Prune to train and develop young trees with good structure.
- c.) Maintain the health and extend the useful life span of existing trees.
- d.) Promote public safety on Borough properties and rights-of-way.
- e.) Maintain the maximum benefit of trees in the most cost effective manner.
- f.) Develop new and stronger tree ordinances.

2006-2010 Objectives

1. Seek cooperation from Monmouth County Shade Tree and NJ D.O.T. tree crews to begin a routine pruning cycle in Red Bank.
2. Expand training for Department of Public Works tree crews to provide the best possible care to Red Banks trees and safety for it's employees and residents.
3. Develop a rigorous training program for structural pruning of 20% of young trees on an annual basis.
4. Continue to work with utility companies to develop a removal and replacement program to eliminate future hazards and tree / utility line conflicts.
5. Investigate needs for purchasing new tree care equipment.
6. Seek additional funds for hiring of private contractors for general tree care needs beyond the scope of Monmouth County and utility cooperation to help meet the borough's goals of pruning 20% of their tree resource annually.
7. Review Monmouth County's tree care resolutions and ordinances and develop stronger tree protection ordinances that would follow county guide lines.
8. Investigate the possibility of special ordinances dealing with tree care on private property and Heritage or Historic tree preservation.
9. Establish an annual education document and report of Shade Tree activities for the community at large to be distributed at a public event annually.

Shade Tree Management Plan Implementation

Timeline for the years 2006 - 2010

Year 1, 2006

- ⇒ Divide the township into five management zones and initiate a 5 year cycle of hazard pruning and maintenance. Begin this year by completing a simple windshield survey hazard tree assessment to identify existing hazards in all five zones. This hazard assessment will be carried out by the Public Works Department, Shade Tree Committee, the borough arborist and a hired consultant.
- ⇒ Continue already established tree planting projects. The Shade Tree Committee traditionally hires outside contractors to plant trees usually in the spring and fall, plus incidental planting and special projects such as Arbor Day utilizing volunteers. Planting is also done by bonding requirements from developers.
- ⇒ Apply for Tree Planting Grant or tree planting money from CSIP.
- ⇒ Establish a comprehensive street tree inventory. Initiate a plan of action and determine what information should be included in the inventory.
- ⇒ Work with the Special Projects Director to begin including trees on GIS mapping.
- ⇒ Get the approved Community Forestry Management Plan on the Borough web site and a copy will be on reserve at Borough Hall.
 - Achieve Tree City USA status.
 - Begin an official borough Arbor Day celebration with local schools.
 - Have at least 2 articles published on tree related issues in the local paper
 - Distribute tree related information at one municipal event annually.
 - Continue to adhere to the sunshine law by publishing monthly meeting notices.
 - Publicly speak at 2 local events annually.
- ⇒ Initiate discussions with the planning board to gain recognition of the Community Forestry Management Plan in the new Master Plan and Open Space Plan for the next revision.
- ⇒ Work with the necessary departments to revise and strengthen current tree care and tree preservation ordinances.
- ⇒ Send 1 or 2 people from the Shade Tree Committee and possible Public Works representatives as well to the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Meeting for CORE training and CEU's. Continue a program of in-house training for the Public Works Department with the use of outside consultants and safety trainers. This year should focus on proper pruning, chain saw and equipment safety.
- ⇒ Reach out to the local utility company to continue the current proactive removal and replacement plan for inappropriate trees under conductors.
- ⇒ Contact Monmouth County Shade Tree to begin a routine pruning cycle on county roads in Red Bank annually.
- ⇒ Continue the monthly meetings with site plan reviews.
- ⇒ Submit an Annual Accomplishment Report to NJ Forest Service.

Year 2, 2007

- ⇒ Using the assessment done in 2006, begin in the zone that was found to have the most hazardous situations and hire a contractor to prune or remove the hazardous trees in this first zone. (apply for CSIP Grant to fund this project).
- ⇒ Continue with regular tree planting. Consider applying for tree planting grant or some tree planting money from CSIP depending on the severity of the hazard problem identified above.
- ⇒ Begin comprehensive street tree inventory. The goal for this year is to complete the first zone and install information on GIS map.
- ⇒ Meet with the Planning Board and Mayor and Council to review relevant ordinances for compliance with the Municipal Master Plan and to discuss what's working and what isn't. Ordinance review should include an update of the Approved Species Planting List and a review of the existing permitting process and developing a fine structure for failure to comply with the ordinance.
- ⇒ Continue working with local utilities to remove hazardous or troublesome and high maintenance trees under overhead conductors and replace with suitable species.
- ⇒ Continue yearly Public Relations activities, such as Tree City USA recertification, Arbor Day celebrations, 2 newspaper articles and Sunshine Law notifications.
- ⇒ Continue attendance at the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Meeting (Shade Tree Committee and Department of Public Works). Continue in-house training of Public Works employees. The goal for this year is to hold tree identification and hazard tree identification courses.
- ⇒ Continue working with Planning Board to incorporate Community Forestry Management Plan into Master Plan.
- ⇒ Continue cooperative effort with Monmouth County Shade Tree to establish an annual pruning cycle on county roads in Red Bank.
- ⇒ Submit Annual Accomplishment Report to the New Jersey Forestry Service.
- ⇒ Continue monthly meetings with site plan reviews.

Year 3, 2008

- ⇒ Hazard tree removals / pruning should move on to the next priority zone as established in the windshield assessment.
- ⇒ Tree Planting goals remain the same as last year.
- ⇒ Continue the comprehensive street tree inventory. The goal for this year is to complete zone two or expand and update any necessary information if the inventory is completed.
- ⇒ Continue yearly Public Relations activities: Tree City USA recertification, Arbor Day celebration, 2 articles in the local newspaper, and Sunshine Law notifications.
- ⇒ Continue training program with attendance at the NJ Shade Tree Federation Meeting (keep up with CORE and CEU requirements). Continue in-house training with public works, address any training needs that may present themselves as we work through the plan or as other things happen. Perhaps training on how to recognize and deal with Bacterial Leaf Scorch and Asian Long Horned Beetle will be necessary.

- ⇒ Seek funds to develop a significant tree list, and perhaps develop a map and walking trail for citizens to locate the trees.
- ⇒ Continue working with utility companies to remove hazardous or high maintenance trees under the overhead conductors and begin replacing them with smaller ornamental varieties.
- ⇒ Continue cooperative effort with Monmouth County Shade Tree to establish an annual pruning cycle on county roads in Red Bank.
- ⇒ Submit Annual Accomplishment Report to NJ Forest Service.
- ⇒ Continue monthly Shade Tree Committee meetings with site plan reviews.

Year 4, 2009

- ⇒ Hazard tree removals/pruning should move into the third priority zone.
- ⇒ Tree Planting goals should remain the same as in previous years, with possible adjustments considering the number of removals necessary as part of the hazard removal program and availability of grant money.
- ⇒ Comprehensive street tree inventory should move to the third zone or continue to be updated if already completed.
- ⇒ Continue the trend of the “annual meeting” with the Planning Board, to keep them informed of our progress and to address any concerns. Push for the incorporation of the Community Forestry Management Plan into the Master Plan.
- ⇒ Continue Public Relations activities: Tree City USA recertification, Arbor Day celebrations, 2 articles in local newspaper, and Sunshine Law notifications..
- ⇒ Training program will continue as usual, with the addition of inviting members of the Planning Board to join us (Shade Tree Committee and Department of Public Works) at the Shade Tree Federation Meeting.
- ⇒ Continue working with the utilities on the proactive removal and replacement project under the overhead utilities.
- ⇒ Continue cooperative effort with Monmouth County Shade Tree to establish an annual pruning cycle on county roads in Red Bank.
- ⇒ Review the part time forester position and duties, apply for a CSIP grant again to fund this position.
- ⇒ Submit annual accomplishment report to New Jersey Forest Service.
- ⇒ Continue working on gathering information for a significant tree list.
- ⇒ Continue monthly Shade Tree Committee meetings with site plan reviews.

Year 5, 2010

- ⇒ Hazard tree pruning and removals should move into the last two zones and be completed for the first rotation of the entire township this year.
- ⇒ Tree planting goals should remain the same.
- ⇒ The tree inventory (comprehensive street tree inventory) should be completed. All data entry should be finished this year, and a system will be developed for working with the Department of Public Works to update the inventory and for use when tree service requests are received from residents.
- ⇒ Meet with the Planning Board to involve them in the formation of the next 5 year Com-

munity Forestry Management Plan. Representatives of other committees and boards in Red Bank will be invited to this meeting as well.

- ⇒ Public Relations activities will remain the same: Tree City USA recertification, Arbor Day celebration, and Sunshine Law notification and 2 articles in local newspaper (one of these should be a review of accomplishments in following the Management Plan over the past 5 years).
- ⇒ Training goals will also remain the same as last year, with a focus on any specific topics/problems that may have come up as a result of working through this management plan, or topics that may be seen as necessary to move forward through the next 5 year plan.
- ⇒ Continue to work with local utilities in the removal and replacement project.
- ⇒ Continue cooperative effort with Monmouth County Shade Tree to establish an annual pruning cycle on county roads in Red Bank.
- ⇒ Seek help from the public to locate other significant trees and develop the walking trail for trees already on the list.
- ⇒ Submit the Annual Accomplishment Report to the state.
- ⇒ Continue monthly meetings with site plan review.
- ⇒ Create and submit the next 5 year Community Forestry Management Plan. Apply for a CSIP grant to fund this project.

Some ideas for goals for the next 5 year plan

- ⇒ Continue to use the five zones established in this plan. Begin this cycle again as a preventive maintenance pruning cycle, and consider also using the zones for planting plans.
 - Update the comprehensive street tree inventory as maintenance is done and as new trees are planted.
 - Continue to build on the Shade Tree Committee's relationship with the Department of Public Works and with the Planning Board

X Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP)

The thirteen items listed below as a part of the Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) have been identified throughout this plan with current procedures or a recommended course of action.

The following is a brief synopsis of the suggested practices.

CSIP #1 Plan Preparation

This Community Forestry Management Plan for Red Bank, has been funded by a New Jersey Green Communities Challenge Grant and completed with the cooperation of the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee . Upon approval by the Community Forestry Council, implementation of the plan will begin and this plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary in the year 2010.

CSIP #2 Training

Currently three members of the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee and one borough employee are CORE trained, and it is expected that one or two members involved in the Shade Tree Program will be trained each year until all persons on the Board and someone on the Public Works Department Crews are trained as such. Further training in tree care practices for Public Works Crews will also be expanded; especially with regard to hazard tree identification, equipment safety and electrical hazards awareness.

CSIP #3 Public Education and Awareness

Since the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee has just been established in April of 2004, all public education and outreach will be a new endeavor. The Board recognizes that public education and support is vital to its success and intends to implement an aggressive outreach plan, which can be found in section VII of this plan on page 14.

CSIP #4 Arbor Day Activities

Arbor Day has been celebrated by the local schools with the help of the Environmental Commission, in the past. The Shade Tree Committee is interested in starting a cooperative program with the school system where they could reach out to the youth of Red Bank. Information on this program can be found in section VII of this plan on page 14.

CSIP #5 Assessment and Inventory

Red Bank does not currently have a tree assessment or inventory. The information contained within an inventory would be beneficial to the Shade Tree Committee and Department of Public Works, this project is expected to be of a high priority nature. Red Bank is actively pursuing GIS mapping at this time. When funds become available to hire a consultant

through the CSIP Program to help with training volunteers in tree I.D., insect and disease problems, and structural defects, the Shade Tree Committee would like to pursue this project following the goals outlined in Section IX on page 16.

CSIP #6 Tree Hazard Identification Plan

This is a major area of concern for Red Bank and has already been initiated with the preliminary windshield survey taken during the writing of this plan and by another arborist prior to this writing. This CSIP practice is of the highest priority to Red Bank and will be the first section of the plan implemented in an effort to ensure public safety regarding Borough owned or maintained trees. A windshield survey should be completed and reviewed annually to aid in the quick discovery and remediation of potential hazards to the public.

CSIP #7 Tree Planting

40 trees were planted from 2003-2005 with a grant from the Department of Community Affairs through the Neighborhood Preservation Program. All future tree planting projects undertaken or overseen by the Red Bank Shade Tree Committee will be guided by the goals and objectives outlined in section IX C on page 19 of this plan.

CSIP #8 Tree Maintenance

Red Bank is currently evaluating the Borough's future needs for general tree care and future equipment purchases. Red Bank would like to establish a cost effective plan to care for its tree resource whether through conventional or innovative means to keep newly planted materials, and preserve established trees. Information about Red Bank's Tree Maintenance program can be found in sections III and IX D..

CSIP #9 Tree Recycling

Red Bank does not generate enough green waste to warrant a local recycling plant. The recycling program as it exists now consists of leaf and brush clean-ups in the fall and spring and Christmas trees are chipped roadside. Woodchips are stored at the Department of Public Utilities for use by residents or in local parks. Any bulk wood from trees removed in Red Bank is left for firewood use by residents or taken to a local recycling facility. No further changes are expected at this time.

CSIP #10 Ordinance Establishment

The Red Bank Shade Tree Committee was founded by ordinance in April of 2004. The Shade Tree Committee would like to amend the current Shade Tree ordinance to gain better protection of the Borough's trees, and update the document to meet current arboricultural practices. This CSIP practice will be addressed in the year 2006 to meet current obligations, and to be able to seek additional funding to revise all ordinances and to facilitate the Committees' goals outlined in this plan.

CSIP #11 Tree Care Disaster Plan

Red Bank does not currently have a Tree Care Disaster Plan. At present, tree emergencies are handled by Monmouth County tree crews, utility tree crews or public works tree crews for downed trees. In case of any large-scale tree emergencies, Red Bank would follow plans developed by Monmouth County or the Office of Emergency Management. No future plans are being considered at this time.

CSIP #12 Insect and Disease Management

No formal management plan exists for trees along roads or on other properties. Any insect or disease outbreaks are handled on a case-by-case basis. Diagnosis and consultation would be sought from NJ State Department of Agriculture, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service, or a Certified Tree Expert and treatment would follow their recommendations. In the event of outbreak, State or Federal assistance would be requested.

CSIP #13 Other - None

No other management practices have been identified at the time of this writing.