



Pennsylvania TreeVitalize Program Survey

An Assessment of the Status of Community Shade Tree Programs in 2016

The following survey is being sent from the DCNR TreeVitalize Program to all Pennsylvania communities and pertains to the care and management of municipal shade trees completed during calendar year 2016 (only.) Kindly have the staff person or Shade Tree Commission member most knowledgeable about the community's shade tree program complete the survey by January 31, 2017.

The purpose of the survey is to assess the staffing level, funding, and operations of community shade tree programs across the state. The TreeVitalize Program provides technical assistance, educational opportunities, and grant funds to community shade tree programs. To ensure continued state and federal support for the program, and to enable the TreeVitalize Program to better serve the needs of Pennsylvania communities, your assistance is requested.

Location Information

What county are you in?

What is your Municipality or Township?



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Section 1

Professional Staffing

Does the community have a city arborist or urban forester on staff, or retained through a written agreement?

- The community has a professional arborist or urban forester ON STAFF.
- The community hires a professional arborist or urban forester ON RETAINER AS NEEDED.
- No, the community has no arborist or urban forester on staff or on retainer by written agreement

Ordinance

Does the municipality have a local shade tree ordinance aimed at the protection and sound management of urban trees and forests?

- Yes, the community has a shade tree ordinance in place.
- No, there is no shade tree ordinance currently in place.

If yes, provide a weblink to the ordinance

Management Plan

Does the municipality have a written urban forest management plan, developed from a scientifically based resource assessment or inventory?

- Yes, management of the community's urban forest is guided by a written management plan developed from a science based assessment of the resource.
- Yes, A written management plan guides the management of the urban forest, but it was not developed from a science based resource assessment of any kind.
- No, no written management plan guides the management of the community's urban forest.

Advocacy/ Advisory Organization

Does the municipality have an active Shade Tree Commission , Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), or non-profit organization established to support local urban forestry activities?

- Yes, there is an active Shade Tree Commission
- Yes, there is an active EAC
- Yes, there is an active non-profit organization specifically to support local urban forestry activities
- No, there is no Shade Tree Commission, EAC or non-profit organization established specifically to support local urban forestry activities.

Awareness of Available Assistance

A. Is the community aware that there are Bureau of Forestry and Penn State Extension staff members available to help in managing your community trees?

Yes

No

B. If yes in question A above, has the community accessed assistance available through the Bureau of Forestry or Penn State Extension?

Yes

No

C. If no in question A above, would you like to be contacted by someone from the Bureau of Forestry or Penn State Extension?

Yes

No

D. Are you familiar with Tree Tenders training for volunteers that are interested in planting and tending trees in their communities?

Yes

No

E. Has the community ever been awarded grant funds from the TreeVitalize Program?

Yes

No



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Section 2

The following questions seek to ascertain:

- (1) what kind of work has been done in the municipality in 2016 related to the establishment, care, and management of municipal trees
- (2) how resources were distributed between planting, tending, pruning, and removing trees
- (2) by whom the work was completed-- whether by paid staff, contractors, volunteers or homeowners.

Please read the questions carefully to provide the most accurate information possible for your municipality. It may be helpful to print the survey out and gather the information before entering it.

Volunteer time and labor is valued at \$23.56 per hour, according to "Independent Sector" from data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. See https://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time for more information.

Tree Planting and Initial Care

Street or park trees planted by municipal staff (ONLY) (*trees planted by municipally managed contract, volunteers or homeowners will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were planted? (*number*)

What was the total amount paid for the trees and materials needed for planting and establishing young trees? (including trees, tree staking material, watering bags or watering costs, topsoil or mulch applied at time of planting; exclude labor) *(whole dollars)*

How many municipal staff labor hours were utilized for planting? *(whole hours)*

What was the total cost of municipal staff labor used for planting?*(whole dollars)*

Was municipal heavy equipment used for planting? (such as truck, backhoe, loader, etc.)

Yes

No

How many equipment hours were recorded for planting? *(whole hours)*

What was the total cost of municipal equipment hours used for planting?*(whole dollars)*

Street or park trees planted through municipally managed contract (ONLY) *(trees planted by municipal employees, volunteers or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were planted? *(number)*

What was the total cost of the tree planting contract?*(whole dollars)*

Street or park trees planted by shade tree commission or other volunteers (ONLY) *(trees planted by municipal employees, on contract, or by homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were planted? *(number)*

What was the total amount paid for the trees and materials needed for planting? (including trees, tree staking materials, watering bags, topsoil or mulch applied; exclude labor) *(whole dollars)*

How many volunteer hours were contributed to planting? *(whole hours)*

What was the total value of volunteer time contributed to planting? *(hours x \$23.56 in whole dollars)*

Street trees planted by homeowners or someone they hired (ONLY) *- as indicated by municipal permits issued (trees planted by the municipality or by volunteers will be captured in other questions)*

How many street trees were planted by homeowners or someone they hired (as indicated via municipal permits)? *(number)*



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Tending Established Trees: Watering, Stake Removal, Weeding, Mulching

Street or park trees watered, stakes removed, weeded or mulched by municipal staff (ONLY) *(trees tended by municipally managed contract or volunteers will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were tended? *(number)*

How many municipal staff labor hours were utilized in tending? *(whole hours)*

What was the total cost of municipal staff labor used in tending? *(whole dollars)*

Was municipal heavy equipment used for tending? (such as dump truck, water buffalo, trailer, etc.)

Yes

No

How many equipment hours were recorded for tending? (*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal equipment hours used for tending?(*whole dollars*)

Street or park trees watered, stakes removed, weeded or mulched through municipally managed contract (ONLY) (*trees tended by municipal employees or by volunteers will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were tended? (*number*)

What was the total cost for the tree tending contract?(*whole dollars*)

Street or park trees watered, stakes removed, weeded or mulched by shade tree commission or other volunteers (ONLY) (*trees tended by municipal employees or municipally managed contract will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were tended? (*number*)

How many volunteer hours were contributed to tending?(*whole hours*)

What was the total value of volunteer time contributed to tending?(*hours x \$23.56 in whole dollars*)

Tree Pruning

Street or park trees pruned by municipal staff (ONLY) (*trees pruned by municipally managed contract, volunteers, or homeowners will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were pruned? (*number*)

How many municipal staff labor hours were utilized in pruning? (*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal staff labor used in pruning? (*whole dollars*)

Was municipal heavy equipment used for pruning? (such as bucket truck, dump truck, loader, chipper)

Yes

No

How many equipment hours were recorded for pruning? (*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal equipment hours used for pruning? (*whole dollars*)

Street or park trees pruned through municipally managed contract (ONLY) *(trees pruned by municipal employees, volunteers, or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were pruned? *(number)*

What was the total cost for the tree pruning contract?*(whole dollars)*

Street or park trees pruned by shade tree commission or other volunteers (ONLY) *(trees pruned by municipal employees, contract, or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were pruned? *(number)*

How many volunteer hours were contributed to pruning?*(whole hours)*

What was the total value of volunteer time contributed to pruning?*(hours x \$23.56 in whole dollars)*

Street trees pruned by homeowners or someone they hired (ONLY) - as indicated by municipal permits issued *(trees pruned by the municipality or volunteers will be captured in other questions)*

How many street trees were pruned by homeowners or by someone they hired (as indicated by municipal permits issued)? *(number)*

Fertilizing Established Trees or Treating for Pests

Street or park trees fertilized or treated for pests by municipal staff (ONLY) (*trees fertilized or treated for pests by municipally managed contract will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were fertilized or treated for pests? (*number*)

How many municipal staff hours were utilized for fertilizing trees or treating for pests? (*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal staff labor used for fertilizing trees or treating for pests? (*whole dollars*)

Was municipal heavy equipment used for fertilizing trees or treating for pests? (such as spray truck or tanker truck)

Yes

No

How many equipment hours were recorded for fertilizing trees or treating for pests? (*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal equipment hours used for fertilizing trees or treating for pests? (*whole dollars*)

Street or park trees fertilized or treated for pests through municipally managed contract (ONLY) (*trees treated by municipal employees will be captured in other questions*)

How many trees were fertilized or treated for pests? (*number*)

What was the total cost for the tree fertilization and/or pest treatment contract? (*whole dollars*)

Tree Removals

Street or park trees removed by municipal staff (ONLY) *(trees removed by municipally managed contract, volunteers, or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were removed? *(number)*

How many municipal staff labor hours were utilized removing trees? *(whole hours)*

What was the total cost of municipal staff labor used in removing trees? *(whole dollars)*

Was municipal heavy equipment used for tree removal? (such as bucket truck, dump truck, loader)

Yes

No

How many equipment hours were recorded for removing trees? *(whole hours)*

What was the total cost of municipal equipment hours used for removing trees? *(whole dollars)*

Street or park trees removed through municipally managed contract (ONLY) *(trees removed by municipal employees, volunteers, or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were removed? *(number)*

What was the total cost for the tree removal contract? *(whole dollars)*

Street or park trees removed by shade tree commission or other volunteers (ONLY) *(trees removed by municipal employees, municipally managed contract, or homeowners will be captured in other questions)*

How many trees were removed? *(number)*

How many volunteer hours were contributed to removing trees? *(whole hours)*

What was the total value of volunteer time contributed to removing trees? *(hours x \$23.56 in whole dollars)*

Street trees removed by homeowners or someone they hired (ONLY) - as indicated via municipal permits issued) *(trees removed by the municipality or by volunteers will be captured in other questions)*

How many street trees were removed by homeowners or by someone they hired (as indicated by municipal permits issued)? *(number)*

Management

How many municipal staff hours were used in managing the shade tree program?(*whole hours*)

What was the total cost of municipal staff hours contributed to managing the shade tree program?(*whole dollars*)

How many volunteer hours were contributed to managing the municipal shade tree program?(*whole hours*)

What was the total value of volunteer hours contributed to managing the municipal shade tree program?
(*hours x \$23.56 in whole dollars*)

Was equipment purchased (this year) specifically for planting, pruning, watering, mulching, or removing municipal shade trees? (hand tools, power tools, or large equipment purchases necessary for the shade tree program) If yes, list equipment purchased:

What was the total cost of equipment purchased (this year) for the shade tree program?(*whole dollars*)

What is the name and title of the person completing the survey?

What is the email address of the person completing the survey? (This information is requested only for use by DCNR's TreeVitalize Program and will not be shared for any other purpose.)

Thank You For Participating!

Your responses will help build better shade tree programs in PA
communities.