

# TREASURE OUR TREES

For Commercial and Passenger Vehicles



Support shade tree planting and care on New Jersey Streets.

Purchase the “Treasure Our Trees” plates for your PASSENGER and COMMERCIAL vehicles. These plates show you care about trees in New Jersey.

Contact the Motor Vehicle Commission  
[www.TreasureOurTrees.com](http://www.TreasureOurTrees.com)  
1-888-486-3339

A **Community Forestry Management Plan** (CFMP) is an essential guide to successfully achieving a healthy, economically efficient, and safe community forest. A CFMP may lead to increased community safety, lower tree hazard problems, decreased tree maintenance and removal costs, less emergency tree calls, increased tree benefits, reduced municipal cost (not just tree related), and develop a proactive, not reactive approach to tree/forest management. It also helps communities prioritize limited financial resources to optimize goals, objectives, and results.

Every community in the State is unique in its tree needs from our urban towns and centers to our rural farm communities; from the mountains, to New Jersey’s coastal shores. The CFMP guidelines (based on the Act), take into account the diversity of our State so every municipality or county will have an effective CFMP that is specifically tailored to their needs.

Communities that need assistance in creating a CFMP are eligible for the Green Communities grant. The grant is offered every year for municipalities and counties. Currently the grants are up to \$3,000 with a 50% match, than can be made of in-kind and volunteer hours at the federal volunteer rate.

For additional information, contact us:  
**Division of Parks and Forestry  
Community Forestry Program**  
Mail Code 501-04  
PO Box 420  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420  
Telephone 609-292-2532  
Fax 609-984-0378

[www.CommunityForestry.NJ.gov](http://www.CommunityForestry.NJ.gov)



Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Parks and Forestry  
NJ Forest Service  
Community Forestry Program



## Community Forestry

# MANAGEMENT PLANS

Your community needs a State approved Community Forestry Management Plan for:

- ✓ **Liability Protection** under the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act
- ✓ **Grant Opportunities** from the Community Stewardship Incentive Program
- ✓ **Environmental & Economic Benefits** that trees give your community

## Grant Opportunities

from the  
Community Stewardship  
Incentive Program (CSIP)



Municipalities with an approved Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP), and Approved Status under the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act are eligible for CSIP grant funding. These grants aid municipalities and counties in implementing forestry goals and objectives directly from their 5 year CFMP, and can be up to \$25,000 each.

### 15 management categories of the CSIP Grant:

1. Training
2. Community Forestry Ordinance Establishment
3. Public Education & Awareness
4. Arbor Day
5. Tree Inventory
6. Hazard Tree Assessment
7. Storm Damage Assessment
8. Tree Maintenance and Removals
9. Insect and Disease Management
10. Wildfire Protection
11. Tree Planting
12. Tree Recycling
13. Sidewalk Maintenance Program
14. Storm Water Management
15. Other

## Environmental & Economic Benefits that trees give your community

The Community Forest Management Plan shows that community trees are a valuable resource and worthy of investment.

### Studies have shown that trees:

- **Improve neighborhood appeal**  
Trees attract businesses, shoppers, and homeowners.
- **Increase property value**  
Homes with trees sell 4-6 weeks faster, and for 20% more.
- **Increase sales**  
People shop longer, and will pay 20% more for an item in a treed shopping center.
- **Cool our cities and towns in summer**  
Trees reduce heat generated by hard surfaces by about 12°F.
- **Save on utility costs**  
Three properly placed shade trees save an average household up to \$250 annually in energy costs.
- **Purify the air**  
Trees convert and absorb pollutants.
- **Reduce pollutants in sewer systems**  
Trees absorb water which prevents sewer overflow and saves communities millions of dollars in water treatment costs.
- **Protect roads**  
Trees reduce road maintenance costs by 50% and can help roads last 20-30 years longer.
- **Improve the quality of education**  
In schools with trees outside, students score 1-2 grades higher on report cards, and are more attentive in class.
- **Keep our neighborhood safe**  
Treed communities have a reduced level of domestic violence and foster safer, more sociable neighborhood environments.

## Liability Protection under the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act (the Act)

Street trees in many of New Jersey's communities have declined due to budget cuts, lawsuits, disease, improper tree selection and maintenance methods, and lack of awareness. Under the Act, municipalities and counties with a State approved Community Forestry Management Plan, and Approved Status under the Act will reduce or eliminate liability associated with hazardous tree situations.

The 1996 Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act can be found on the website, with other relevant information.

[www.CommunityForestry.nj.gov](http://www.CommunityForestry.nj.gov)