

CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR RECERTIFICATION 2012



PREPARED BY:

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN PLANNING OFFICE
AND TREE WATERTOWN



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Tree City USA

2012 Application for Certification



The Tree City USA award is in recognition of work completed by the community during the 2012 calendar year.

As Mayor or Equivalent of the Community of Watertown

I herewith make application for this community to be officially certified/recertified as a Tree City USA for 2012, having achieved the standards set forth by the Arbor Day Foundation as noted below.

Standard 1: A Tree Board or Department

William Christopherson Tree Board Chairperson 315-785-6850 wchrist796@aol.com

Standard 2: A Community Tree Ordinance

✓ Our community ordinance is on record

Standard 3: A Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita

Total Community Forestry Expenditures	\$221,635.52
Community Population	27,023
Per Capita Spending	\$8.20

Standard 4: An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

✓ Official Arbor Day proclamation is on record

MAYOR
Title

12/19/12
Date

Mayor or Equivalent Signature Title Date

Application Certification

To Be Completed By The State Forester:

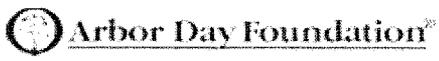
Watertown

The above named community has made formal application to this office. I am pleased to advise you that we reviewed the application and have concluded that, based on the information contained herein, said community is eligible to be certified as a Tree City USA community, for the 2012 calendar year, having in my opinion met the four standards required for recognition.

State Forester Signature

Title

Date



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**CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY
TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR
RECERTIFICATION - 2012
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM NARRATIVE**



PREPARED BY:

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN PLANNING OFFICE
AND TREE WATERTOWN



City of Watertown, NY

Tree City USA Application for Recertification - 2012

Community Forestry Program Narrative

Program Overview. The City of Watertown's Community Forestry Program involves annual planting, maintenance and removal of City street and park trees. The Community Forestry Program is administered from the City Planning Office, where Mr. Michael A. Lumbis, Planner, serves as the urban forestry coordinator. Mr. Lumbis develops the annual tree planting program, applies for and administers grants, oversees tree maintenance and removal, integrates tree planting and other landscaping into **proposed City projects and serves as the City's representative** on Tree Watertown, the street tree advisory board. For the year 2012, approximately thirty percent of this position was dedicated to urban forestry related projects.

The City also has a tree trimmer on staff who, along with the City Department of Public Works Buildings and Grounds Crew, performs the planting, maintenance and removal of trees. The attached work order reports provide the job cost breakdown for several tree related projects including pruning, planting and removal.

A program budget is included with the application and details the costs associated with each of the items described in this report. For the year 2012, the City of Watertown's Community Forestry Program had a budget of \$221,635.52.

Community Forestry Projects. In 2012, the City continued its *Small Tree Pruning Program*, which is aimed at training recently planted trees for proper growth. During late January, February, March and early April, DPW Buildings and Grounds employees pruned 1000 trees in a targeted area of **the City's north side, a section of Thompson Park and within the City's Fairgrounds complex.**

Since 1997, the City DPW Buildings and Grounds crew has completed the *Annual DPW Tree Planting Project*. This year the DPW tree planting project focused on a north side neighborhood, the 500 Block of Morrison Street. This neighborhood tree planting initiative resulted in the planting of 24 trees of various species. Planting also occurred in a small park like area located in the 400 Block of West Main Street, in Lansingdorp Park and other various sites located throughout the City. In 2012, our **DPW's tree planting efforts resulted in 84 trees** being planted.



Photo # 1. Annual DPW bare root tree planting project.

Additionally, the DPW crew prepared planting holes for the Watertown Noon Rotary Club Annual Tree Planting Project. Rotary members planted **50 trees** this spring including 24 in Factory Square Park, 24 on Salina Street and 2 in North Watertown Cemetery. Costs for the trees are paid for by a grant from the Rotary Club and with City funding. Prior to the planting, DPW crews pre-dig the holes and place topsoil for the volunteers. The City DPW and Rotary tree planting projects resulted in 134 trees being planted.



Photo # 2. Rotary tree planting project on Salina Street.

In April, the City submitted a Grant Application to the Northern New York Community Foundation through the Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Grant Program for \$3,700 in funding for trees. While the grant application was not successful, the City and Tree Watertown were still able to partner with the eventual grant recipient, the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways. Additional information about this grant and tree planting project is detailed below in the fall tree planting section of the report.

It is unfortunate, but occasionally trees in the City are damaged due to careless driving or vandalism. Whenever possible, the City seeks restitution through insurance companies to pay for the replacement costs of damaged trees. During the spring and summer, **3 trees** that were damaged by vehicles or vandals were replaced including two trees on State Street and one on Parker Street.

During 2012, the City of Watertown continued its Summer Tree Watering and Maintenance Program by hiring a college student to water and care for recently planted trees. The summer watering position was a sixteen weeklong position lasting from mid May through early September. The employee was responsible for the weekly watering of all trees planted in 2012 and the watering of other recently planted City trees on a rotational basis. Overall, the City tree watering truck stopped to water trees approximately 3,300 times during the course of the summer. As part of the program, the employee also mulches trees two days per week. Over the course of the summer, 1,024 trees were re-mulched throughout the City.



Photo # 3. Summer employee Matthew Brown watering a tree at City Hall.

In September, Staff submitted a grant application to local utility company National Grid, through their 10,000 Trees and Growing Grant Program. The program reimburses the City \$50 for every properly selected underwire tree that is planted. Forty-four underwire trees planted as part of the Spring 2012 Tree Planting Project were submitted and approved for a \$2,200 reimbursement under this program.

Over the course of the year, City Staff has continued to work with Tree Watertown on the development of an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Plan. The draft plan is nearly complete and the next step is to present it to the City Council in early 2013 for their consideration.

The City also conducts Hazard Tree Inspections throughout the year. Inspections are conducted for both City owned street trees and privately owned trees that have the potential to affect the City's right-of-way. Inspections occur after the City receives complaints regarding the condition of particular trees either from the general public or from City staff. Inspections are also conducted on recently planted trees that show signs of decline, disease or insect problems.

As a result of the inspections, the City performs necessary Tree Removals and Pruning throughout the year. Costs for the various operations are detailed in the budget narrative section of this report. For 2012, the City removed 47 trees and pruned an additional 22.

Tree Watertown. Tree Watertown, a volunteer group of community citizens, serves as the Street Tree Advisory Board to the City of Watertown. Tree Watertown advises the City on policy issues, makes recommendations regarding grant applications and works with the City **Planner in the development of the City's annual tree planting program.** In addition, Tree Watertown serves the community through the development and presentation of educational initiatives and tree planting projects throughout the year. The membership roster and meeting dates for 2012 are listed under Standard 1 in the **City's application for recertification.**



Tree Watertown held its 15th annual Arbor Day Observance with the planting of **5 trees** at Jefferson Community College on April 27, 2012. Please see the attached Arbor Day Narrative for additional information regarding the ceremony and program.

On May 12, 2012, Tree Watertown held a work day to improve the Washington Street Arboretum. The Washington Street Arboretum was developed in 2003 as a way to show residents and visitors the unique variety of tree species that are located within the 200 Block of Washington Street in Watertown. A map was created and many of the trees were identified in the field with a small post and sign. Some of the signs had disappeared; others were dirty or in need of repair, and the work day was an opportunity to clean up and refresh the display.

On May 30, 2012, Tree Watertown member Mike Lumbis gave a presentation to four 4th grade classes at Knickerbocker Elementary. The How to Select a Tree

Presentation focused on the need for proper site and species selection prior to planting a tree. The presentation was followed by the planting of **1 tree**, a Swamp White Oak, on June 18th on the school grounds. The tree was purchased by the Knickerbocker PTO as a gift to the school from the 4th grade classes.

On June 17, 2012, Tree Watertown member Samuel Thomas conducted a Tree Planting Program with children from Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church on Franklin Street. The children participated in a discussion about the importance of trees and planted **1 tree**, a Norway spruce, on the church grounds.

During July, Tree Watertown members focused on training and educational opportunities. On July 12, 2012, Tree Watertown members held their monthly meeting at the NYS DEC offices in Dadville, NY and toured the DEC Arboretum located there. The tour was an opportunity to learn about a number of unique varieties of tree species and their ability to withstand colder, zone 3 temperatures. On July 19-21, 2012, three Tree Watertown members participated in the NYS Urban & Community Forestry **Council's annual NY ReLeaf Conference** held at Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. The conference provided workshops on variety of different topics including EAB Management, tree health assessment, sustainable development and tours of local parks and nursery operations.

In August, Tree Watertown members met with Watertown's New City Manager, Sharon Addison. Member Samuel Thomas began the meeting with a presentation about the history of Tree Watertown that included facts about **Tree Watertown's** formation in 1995 and various projects and initiatives that we have developed through the years. A discussion followed regarding several major issues that Tree Watertown will be facing in the coming year including **the Emerald Ash Borer, the City's Sidewalk Replacement Program and Funding**.

On October 27, 2012, Tree Watertown **participated in Watertown's 11th Annual Fall Tree Planting Project**. This project involved the planting of **100 trees** at three City park locations, Thompson Park, Factory Square Park and the Fairgrounds Trail. The Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc. utilized a \$3,700 grant from the Northern New York **Community Foundation's Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Fund** to complete the project. Mrs. Whitney bequeathed \$100,000 to the foundation in 2007 to set up a permanent endowment for tree planting in the City. Although the City and Tree Watertown were not the recipients of the grant this year, the Girl Scouts still partnered with both groups to rely on our expertise and experience. On the day of the planting, approximately 287 girl scouts, parents, Tree Watertown members and other volunteers came together to complete the annual fall tree planting project. At Thompson Park, 47 trees were



Photo # 4. 11th Annual Fall Tree Planting Project.

planted at four locations including an area across from the overlook on West Entrance Drive, near the golf course, in the zoo near the elk exhibit and across from the main picnic pavilion. At the Fairgrounds, 41 trees were planted along the Fairgrounds Trail, a riverfront trail that starts near the Ice Arena and travels along the Black River to Jefferson Community College. At Factory Square Park, 12 trees were planted along the trail and within the park area.

Tree Watertown members also provide to area residents educational information concerning tree identification, site selection requirements and other urban forestry information over the course of each year.

The City's Tree City USA application includes a copy of Tree Watertown's Annual Report detailing all of the activities of Tree Watertown from December 2011 through November 2012.



Photo # 5. 11th Annual Fall Tree Planting Project.

In summary, 2012 was an extremely successful year for the urban forestry program in Watertown as 244 new trees were planted in the City of Watertown from the combined efforts of Tree Watertown, the Rotary Club, the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc., the Northern New York Community Foundation, the Knickerbocker School Parent Teacher Organization and the City of Watertown. We look for 2013 to be even better as we continue our efforts to reforest the City.

**CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY
TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR
RECERTIFICATION - 2012
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM
BUDGET NARRATIVE**



PREPARED BY:

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN PLANNING OFFICE
AND TREE WATERTOWN



City of Watertown, NY

Tree City USA Application for Recertification - 2012

Community Forestry Program Budget Narrative

The City of Watertown's Community Forestry Program for 2012 had a budget of \$221,635.52. Watertown's population, based on the 2010 census is 27,023. The program is funded from several sources within the City budget, various grants and other sources as detailed below:

Tree Planting and Initial Care

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
1. Job Cost - DPW workers labor and equipment costs for the 2012 Annual Spring Tree Planting Program. 50 planting holes prepared for Rotary Club on Salina Street and in Factory Square Park and 85 trees planted, staked, mulched, watered, etc.	A5010-762	\$15,744.08	See attached work order report	1
2. Bare root tree purchases for spring tree planting projects. (130 Trees) Schichtel's Nursery	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$8,147.00	See attached invoice	2
3. B&B tree purchases for spring tree planting projects. (4 Trees) Schichtel's Nursery	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$438.00	See attached invoice	3
4. B&B tree purchase and tree planting. (1 Tree) All Seasons Landscaping and Garden Center, LLC.	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$275.00	See attached invoice	4
5. Bagged mulch purchase for spring tree planting. Palawood Services Co., Inc.	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$369.00	See attached invoice	5
6. Topsoil purchase for spring tree planting. Steve Converse Development, Inc.	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$425.00	See attached invoice	6
7. Topsoil purchase for spring tree planting. Steve Converse Development, Inc.	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$200.00	See attached invoice	7
8. Tree tie purchase for spring tree planting. A.M. Leonard, Inc.	A-5010-460 and NYS Grant Funding	\$76.96	See attached invoice	8

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
9. Summer employee salary for the 2012 summer urban forest watering and maintenance program.	A-5010-140	\$6,135.00	See attached report	9
10. Mulch and miscellaneous supplies for the 2012 summer urban forest watering and maintenance program.	A-5010-460	\$1,000.97	See attached report	10
11. B&B tree purchase and tree planting for replacement tree at 1150 State Street (1 Tree) All Seasons Landscaping and Garden Center, LLC.	A-5010-460	\$375.00	See attached invoice	11
12. Job Cost - DPW workers labor and equipment costs for the 2012 Annual Fall Tree Planting Program. DPW crews prepared 25 planting holes for the Girl Scout volunteers in Thompson Park.	A5010-855	\$1,975.32	See attached work order report	12
13. Container grown tree purchases for the fall tree planting project. (100 trees) Vans Pines Nursery, Inc.	Grant Funding	\$1,248.95	See attached invoice	13
14. Bagged mulch purchase for the fall tree planting project. Lowe's Home Centers, Inc.	Grant Funding	\$426.40	See attached invoice	14
15. Site preparation for fall tree planting project. (pre-digging holes) All Seasons Landscaping and Garden Center, LLC.	Grant Funding	\$560.00	See attached invoice	15
16. Stakes and wire fencing for fall tree planting project. Tractor Supply Co.	Grant Funding	\$1,053.90	See attached invoice	16
Tree Planting and Initial Care - SUBTOTAL		\$38,450.58		

Tree Maintenance

1. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for the 2012 Annual Small Tree Pruning Program.	A5010-737	\$24,421.10	See attached work order report	17
2. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree pruning at 260 Washington Street following a 1/17/12 high wind event.	A-5010-741	\$965.02	See attached work order report	18

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
3. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for miscellaneous tree pruning at a City owned property located at 522 Mohawk Street.	A-5010-752	\$2,349.55	See attached work order report	19
4. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for miscellaneous tree pruning at a City owned property located at 111 South Orchard Street.	A-5010-761	\$1,757.06	See attached work order report	20
5. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for miscellaneous tree pruning and removal following a 6/2/12 storm event.	A-5010-794	\$1,470.12	See attached work order report	21
6. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for miscellaneous tree pruning at 831 Academy Street following a 9/22/12 high wind event.	A-5010-845	\$182.68	See attached work order report	22
Tree Maintenance - SUBTOTAL		\$31,145.53		

Tree Removals

1. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material cost for various large tree removals and pruning throughout the City for 2012.	A5010-740	\$81,906.09	See attached work order report	23
2. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material cost for various large tree removals and pruning within the Thompson Park Zoo for 2012.	A5010-831	\$18,268.63	See attached work order report	24
3. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at the dead end of Waltham Street.	A-5010-745	\$1,279.85	See attached work order report	25
4. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at State Street Fire Station.	A-5010-748	\$1,757.58	See attached work order report	26

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
5. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at 203 William Street.	A-5010-749	\$2,899.23	See attached work order report	27
6. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal along Olmsted Drive in Thompson Park.	A-5010-754	\$1,921.90	See attached work order report	28
7. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at VL-4 Barben Avenue on 3/19/12.	A-5010-757	\$288.69	See attached work order report	29
8. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal in the 100 Block of Parker Street following a motor vehicle accident.	A-5010-764	\$506.56	See attached work order report	30
9. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for stump removal at 750 Pearl Street as part of National Grid Electric's distribution system upgrade for Creekwood Apartments.	A-5010-772	\$733.15	See attached work order report	31
10. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at 297 North Indiana Avenue following a 6/2/12 storm event.	A-5010-793	\$725.91	See attached work order report	32
11. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal in the Children's Zoo at Thompson Park on 7/25/12.	A-5010-821	\$2,620.14	See attached work order report	33
12. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal in Thompson Park and in the Zoo tree following a 9/8/12 storm event.	A-5010-835	\$2,207.83	See attached work order report	34
13. Job Cost - DPW workers labor, equipment and material costs for tree removal at the Wastewater Treatment Plant & in Thompson Park following a 9/22/12 high wind event.	A-5010-844	\$3,369.02	See attached work order report	35

Tree Removals - SUBTOTAL \$118,484.60

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
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Management

1. Thirty percent of Salary of City Planner (Urban Forestry Program Manager) for the period covering January through June (2011-2012 budget)	A1230.110	\$8,060.25	2011-2012 Budget	N/A
2. Thirty percent of Salary of City Planner (Urban Forestry Program Manager) for the period covering July through December (2012-2013 budget)	A1230.110	\$8,140.80	2012-2013 Budget	N/A
3. Attendance at New York State Urban and Community Forestry Council's NY ReLeaf Conference in Buffalo, NY by Michael Lumbis	A8020	\$340.16	Conference Registration, Mileage and Tolls	36
Management - SUBTOTAL		\$16,541.21		

Volunteer Time

1. Annual Rotary Club tree planting. April 21, 2012. 50 trees planted by 20 volunteers. 73.5 total volunteer hours. Adult Hours - 62 @ \$20.85 per hour Youth Hours - 12 @ \$20.85 per hour	None None	\$1,292.70 \$250.20	See Attached Volunteer Listing	37
2. Tree Watertown Arbor Day Tree Planting. April 27, 2012. 20 people in attendance for 1 hour each. 5 trees planted. 20 total volunteer hours. Adult Hours - 20 @ \$20.85 per hour	None	\$417.00	No attachment	N/A
3. Tree Watertown Washington Street Arboretum Clean Up day. May 12, 2012. 9 people in attendance for 1.5 hours each. 14 total volunteer hours. Adult Hours - 9 @ \$20.85 per hour Youth Hours - 5 @ \$20.85 per hour	None None	\$187.65 \$104.25	No attachment	N/A
4. Annual fall tree planting. October 27, 2012 at Thompson Park & the Fairgrounds. 100 trees planted by 287 volunteers. 593 total volunteer hours. Adult Hours - 150 @ \$20.85 per hour Youth Hours - 443 @ \$20.85 per hour	None None	\$3,127.50 \$9,236.55	See Attached Volunteer Listing	38

Description	Account or Work Order #	Amount	Notes	Attachment #
5. Tree Watertown monthly meetings. 11 meetings for a total of 115 volunteer hours. Adult Hours - 115 @ \$20.85 per hour	None	\$2,397.75	No attachment	N/A

Volunteer Time - SUBTOTAL \$17,013.60

Total Community Forestry Budget for 2012 \$221,635.52

CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR RECERTIFICATION - 2012 COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM BUDGET DOCUMENTATION



Note: For the purposes of minimizing the file size of this document and for saving paper with any hard copies, the budget documentation backup is not attached as part of this copy of the City's 2012 Tree City USA Application. The backup documentation is kept on file in the City Planning Office.



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report



December 2011 - November 2012



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Chairman's Letter

December 13, 2012

Dear Tree Watertown Members:

Herein, you will find our annual report for 2012. It's been quite a year, and once again, we are proud that Watertown will be designated a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day foundation. This year will be the 13th consecutive year that we have attained this prestigious recognition, which we could not have accomplished without the help and support of you, our volunteer members of Tree Watertown, and our many partners as well.

Some of our important partners who have worked with Tree Watertown this year to accomplish new shade tree plantings in the City include the Master Gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Watertown Noon Rotary Club, Jefferson Community College, and the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.

We are thankful for the continued support of the City of Watertown, and their commitment to working with Tree Watertown to assure the continued growth and viability of our urban forest for future generations. The Department of Public Works once again provided much needed assistance in planting new trees, and digging tree pits for our planting projects during the year.

Our annual report, prepared by Michael A. Lumbis, City Planner, and contained herein, describes the many programs, events, and meetings that were conducted by Tree Watertown in 2012. Our accomplishments this year are framed by two wonderful events that demonstrate how volunteers have worked with Tree Watertown to make our City of Watertown a more beautiful place.

On April 27, Arbor Day 2012, was celebrated with a tree planting ceremony at Jefferson Community College. JCC student volunteers, local residents, public officials, and many of our Tree Watertown members assisted in planting new shade trees in the JCC campus court yard.



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

On October 29, Tree Watertown was pleased to advise and assist the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc. in planting 100 new shade trees to commemorate the Girl Scouts 100th anniversary. The Girl Scouts received this year's Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation, and Tree Watertown was pleased to be able to work with the Girl Scouts to make their project a success.

The following pages detail all of our different projects for 2012. Again, I especially thank the volunteer board members of our Tree Watertown committee for taking time out of their busy schedules to help plan and organize each of our events throughout the year. I look forward to working with you on new and exciting projects in the coming year.

Sincerely,

William W. Christopherson,
2012 Chairman, Tree Watertown

cc: City Council Members
Sharon Addison, City Manager



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012

- December 8, 2011: The 2011 Tree Watertown Annual Meeting was held. The meeting agenda included election of officers for 2012 and a review of activities and the annual financial report for 2011.
- December 16, 2011: The 2011 Tree City USA Application was submitted to the National Arbor Day Foundation. Tree Watertown assisted with the completion of the City's application.
- January 12, 2012: Plans for the 2012 Spring Tree Planting Projects were discussed. It was noted that City Staff had been in contact with the Rotary Club and Salina Street and Factory Square Park would be the likely location of the City-Rotary tree planting to be held in April. Planting location ideas for the Department of Public Works tree planting were then discussed. Suggested sites for the project included the Taylor Playground, Phelps Street, Lansingdorp Park, Morrison Street, Leray Street and others.
- January 12, 2012: Jefferson Community College (JCC) was discussed as a possible location for an Arbor Day planting. It was noted that there was interest from JCC about plantings at the campus along Interstate 81. It was also suggested that a future project might be to work with JCC to have it designated as a Tree Campus USA.
- January 12, 2012: Members discussed project ideas for the Carolyn Whitney Fund Grant application that will be submitted to the Northern New York Community Foundation. Project ideas included tree plantings at JCC or planting bare root trees near existing ash trees, similar to last year's project.
- January 12, 2012: Bill Christopherson provided a brief overview of the various steps that were taken in the summer of 2011 to address the tree damage caused by the City's sidewalk replacement program. It was noted that the various construction practices currently being employed are having detrimental impacts on the trees. It was decided to have Bill contact the City Manager to discuss the status of the various requests made at the meeting with her last summer.
- January 12, 2012: Mike Lumbis noted that the inventory of the existing ash trees is now complete, and he has resumed writing a draft of the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan. (EAB)





Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012 Continued

- January 12, 2012: Jason White suggested that Tree Watertown spruce up the signs within the Washington Street Arboretum by replacing missing signs and cleaning existing ones. He also suggested that we redistribute the brochures to area buildings and look into installing a small kiosk to hold the brochures.
- January 24, 2012: The EAB Management Plan subcommittee met to review and discuss the latest draft of the EAB Plan for the City of Watertown.
- February 9, 2012: Tree Watertown continued discussion on the various spring tree planting projects being planned, including Arbor Day.
- February 9, 2012: Members discussed the EAB Plan with the EAB Plan subcommittee, specifically the costs and benefits of using tree injections to manage the EAB and to prolong the life of ash trees within the City.
- March 8, 2012: Members continued to discuss project ideas for the Carolyn Whitney Fund Grant application including a partnership with the Watertown City School District. The proposed project would be completed in the fall and would include the planting of fruit trees.

Purpose and Plan History

By drafting and implementing the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan, the City of Watertown hopes to outline policies and procedures for dealing with the destructive effects of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) on our urban forest. The loss of hundreds of trees City wide will have a profound impact on home values, quality of life and the environment. By adopting this plan, the City will take a proactive approach and attempt to spread costs associated with the EAB over time while minimizing the impact of the tree loss. Tree Watertown, the City's Street Tree Advisory Board, in conjunction with the City Planning Office has prepared this plan over the course of the last 12 months. The impetus for writing a plan was based on the impending EAB threat and discussion at both Tree Watertown meetings during the last few years and at the City Council level, during meetings in early 2011. It is hoped that the plan will serve as a blueprint for future action in dealing with the EAB over the course of the next several years. The EAB will soon affect our City's numerous ash trees and by addressing the issue proactively, it is hoped that the inevitable costs of infestation can be spread across several years rather than waiting and dealing with a sudden, disastrous loss of foliage.

Scope and Applicability

This plan deals primarily with ash trees located within city street rights-of-way and parks however a plan to inform, and support citizens who have ash trees on their private property will also be included.

Administration

The plan will be administered by the Planning Office in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and Tree Watertown.

What is EAB?

Emerald Ash Borer, *Agrius planipennis* (Fairmaire), or EAB, is a non-native wood-boring pest of North American ash trees. This devastating pest was first found in 2002 in North America where it was discovered in southeastern Michigan and adjacent areas in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. It is thought to have been introduced in the 1990's on solid wood packing material originating from Asia. This extremely destructive beetle poses an enormous threat to all of North America's rural and urban ash resources.

Unlike many other wood boring beetles, EAB aggressively kills stressed and healthy ash trees; most dying within two to three years of becoming infested. Currently, EAB has no known



- March 8, 2012: A draft copy of the EAB Management Plan was distributed and discussed. The draft plan recommends additional annual tree plantings above our normal planting levels to account for anticipated ash tree losses. It also proposes removal of existing ash trees over a 3-4 year period once the trees become infested and the treatment of 60 high-value ash trees.
- March 13, 2012: Tom Walker, Bill Christopherson and Mike Lumbis met with Matt Lambert at JCC to discuss plans for Arbor Day 2012. JCC has committed to partnering with Tree Watertown. A total of 5 trees will be planted including one paid for by Tree Watertown. The ceremony will take place on Friday, April 27 on the JCC campus near the clock tower at 12:20 p.m.



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012

Continued

- March 15, 2012: The City of Watertown is named a Tree City USA for 2011 by the National Arbor Day Foundation. The year 2011 marks the twelfth consecutive year Watertown has received the designation.
- March 29, 2012: Mike Lumbis and Bill Christopherson attended the 2011 Tree City/Tree Campus/Tree Line U.S.A. Awards Ceremony in Albany, NY to accept the 2011 Tree City USA award on behalf of the City of Watertown.
- April 12, 2012: Final plans for organizing a work day to clean up the Washington Street Arboretum were made. The cleanup will be Saturday, May 12 at 8:30 a.m., which coincides with the Downtown Business Association's cleanup day.
- April 12, 2012: Final plans for Arbor Day and the spring tree planting projects were discussed. The Rotary and DPW tree plantings will be held earlier this year do to the warmer than average spring temperatures.
- April 18 – 24 2012: The City of Watertown Department of Public Works completed the City's Annual Tree Planting Project by planting a total of 84 trees throughout the City. Tree Watertown members assisted with the sorting and numbering of the trees prior to planting. Notable planting locations included 24 trees on Morrison Street, 4 in a small park on Leray Street and 6 within Lansingdorp Park.
- April 21, 2012: Tree Watertown assisted the Watertown Noon Rotary Club with its annual tree planting project. The Rotary planted 50 trees including 24 in Factory Square Park, 24 on Salina Street and 2 in North Watertown Cemetery.
- April 26, 2012: An application to the NNY Community Foundation through the Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Fund was submitted. If awarded, the funding would provide for the planting of 35 bare root trees. The planting locations would be 25 sites throughout the City and 10 at Ohio Elementary.
- April 27, 2012: Tree Watertown held its 15th annual Arbor Day Observance at Jefferson Community College. The celebration featured the planting of a Northern Catalpa tree and 4 Norway spruce trees on the college's campus. City Council Member Roxanne M. Burns, on behalf of Mayor Jeffrey E. Graham, read the Arbor Day Proclamation and declared April 27, 2012, as Arbor Day in the City of Watertown.



TREE CITY USA®





Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012 Continued

- May 10, 2012: Tree Watertown members discussed the various spring tree planting projects and programs that were held in April, noting another successful year.
- May 10, 2012: Glen noted that planning was underway for the 2012 NY ReLeaf Conference that was being held on July 19-21 at Canisius College in Buffalo. The workshop will bring urban forestry professionals together from all over the state to share ideas and learn about the latest advances in the field of urban forestry.
- May 12, 2012: Tree Watertown held a work day to improve the Washington Street Arboretum. The Washington Street Arboretum was developed in 2003 as a way to show residents and visitors the unique variety of tree species that are located within the 200 Block of Washington Street in Watertown. A map was created and many of the trees were identified in the field with a small post and sign. Some of the signs had disappeared; others were dirty or in need of repair, and the work day was an opportunity to clean up and refresh the display.
- May 15, 2012: The summer tree watering and maintenance program began with the hiring of local college student Matthew Brown. Matt will be following a watering and mulching schedule throughout the summer season. Matt is a recent graduate of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry and is pursuing a career in forestry.
- May 30, 2012: Tree Watertown member Mike Lumbis gave a presentation to four 4th grade classes at Knickerbocker Elementary. The presentation, entitled "How to Select a Tree" focused on the need for proper site and species selection prior to planting a tree. The presentation was followed by the planting of a Swamp White Oak on June 18 on the school grounds. The tree was purchased by the Knickerbocker PTO as a gift to the school from the 4th grade classes.
- June 17, 2012: Tree Watertown member Samuel Thomas conducted a Tree Planting Program with children from Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church on Franklin Street. The children participated in a discussion about the importance of trees and planted a Norway spruce on the church grounds.
- July 12, 2012: The July Tree Watertown meeting was held at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's offices in Dadville, NY, just outside of the Village of Lowville. A tour of the DEC Arboretum followed the meeting. The arboretum has been developed over the last 20 years by Glen Roberts, Fred Munk and other DEC foresters.





Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012 Continued

- July 12, 2012: An update on the summer tree watering, mulching and maintenance program was provided. Watering has been underway since mid May and the mulching started in early June.
- July 12, 2012: Members discussed the recent drought conditions and concerns about tree mortality if trees are not kept watered. Glen suggested we send out a press release about the importance of watering recently planted trees to ensure their survival.
- July 12, 2012: It was reported that the City of Watertown will not be receiving the Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Grant this year. The \$3,700 grant was awarded to the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc., who plan to have 100 girls plant 100 trees in honor of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts. Although the City was not the recipient, the grant criteria calls for the trees to be planted in the City on public property. Tree Watertown has been asked by the Northern New York Community Foundation to help coordinate the planting. Members agreed to provide assistance with the project such as tree species and site selection as well as planting supervision and assistance.
- July 16, 2012: Tree Watertown issued a press release urging residents to water recently planted trees on or near their property. The lack of rainfall and hot, dry conditions during late June and July prompted the release, which generated a great deal of positive newspaper and television coverage.
- July 19-21, 2012: Glen Roberts, Mike Lumbis and Mike DeMarco attended the New York State Urban and Community Forestry Council's NY ReLeaf Conference in Buffalo, NY. Mike DeMarco discussed an EAB presentation that he attended while Mike Lumbis presented a slide show of pictures taken on a tour of Schichtel's Nursery.
- August 9, 2012: Tree Watertown welcomed new City Manager Sharon Addison to our monthly meeting. Sam Thomas presented a brief history of Tree Watertown to Ms. Addison. A brief discussion followed regarding several issues facing Tree Watertown including the Emerald Ash Borer, the City's Sidewalk Replacement Program and Funding.
- August 9, 2012: Matt Brown provided a report to members on the summer watering and mulching program. He reported that in addition to watering approximately 150 spring planted trees each week and watering 330 two and three year old trees on a rotational basis, he has also mulched trees throughout the City. This summer, 513 trees have been mulched in locations on streets and in parks to date. It should be noted that Matt continued to mulch trees through the first week in September and during that time was responsible for mulching an additional 511 trees. In total, he mulched 1,024 trees during his tenure.





Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Activities - December 2011 through November 2012 Continued

- August 9, 2012: Mike and Glen reported that they had met with Karen Strife from the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc. to discuss the fall tree planting project. Several sites are being investigated for planting including Thompson Park, the Fairgrounds and Factory Square Park.
- September 13, 2012: Mike Lumbis noted that plans were being finalized for the Girl Scout fall tree planting. Smaller trees, grown in 3 gallon containers and measuring approximately 2' tall, will be planted in Thompson Park and at the Fairgrounds. The plan is to have Tree Watertown members train and supervise the volunteers and help where needed. The planting is scheduled for October 27, 2012.
- October 11, 2012: The Clinton Street Reconstruction Project was discussed. It was noted that as part of the street reconstruction project, 36 trees would be planted. While it was originally thought that the trees would be planted this fall, the planting has been delayed until the spring of 2013.
- October 27, 2012: Tom Walker attended the New York State Chestnut Foundation meeting held in East Syracuse. At the meeting, he provided an update regarding the American Chestnut orchard that has been developed over the last few years on the grounds of Belleville Henderson School.
- October 27, 2012: Tree Watertown members worked with approximately 287 girl scout volunteers to complete the annual fall tree planting project. The project featured that planting of 100 trees within three parks in the City. At Thompson Park, 47 trees were planted at four locations. The sites were located near the overlook on West Entrance Drive, near the golf course, in the zoo by the Elk exhibit and across from the main picnic pavilion. At the Fairgrounds, 41 trees were planted along the Fairgrounds Trail, a the riverfront trail that starts near the Ice Arena and travels along the Black River to JCC. At Factory Square Park, 12 trees were planted along the trail and within the park area.
- November 8, 2012: A follow up discussion occurred regarding the fall tree planting project. A suggestion was made to work with the Girl Scouts to plan a follow up work day in the spring to water, weed and re-mulch the trees.
- Throughout the year, Tree Watertown members provided to area residents educational information concerning tree identification, site selection requirements and other urban forestry information.



Tree Watertown Annual Activity Report
Prepared December 13, 2012 by:
Michael A. Lumbis, Planner



Tree Watertown 2012 Annual Report

Tree Watertown Members

- Bill Christopherson, Chairman
- Dr. Jason White, Vice-Chairman
- Joshua Carlsson, Secretary
- Michael Lumbis, Treasurer
- David Buszak
- Mike DeMarco
- Sue Gwise
- Jack Parsell
- Kelly Reinhardt
- Glen Roberts
- Samuel Thomas
- Jennifer Voss
- T. Urling Walker

2012 Meeting Dates

- January 12, 2012
- February 9, 2012
- March 8, 2012
- April 12, 2012
- April 21, 2012 (Tree Planting)
- April 27, 2012 (Arbor Day Ceremony)
- May 10, 2012
- July 12, 2012
- August 9, 2012
- September 13, 2012
- October 11, 2012
- October 27, 2012 (Tree Planting)
- November 8, 2012
- December 13, 2012 (Annual Meeting)

**CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY
TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR
RECERTIFICATION - 2012
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM
ARBOR DAY NARRATIVE**



PREPARED BY:

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN PLANNING OFFICE AND TREE WATERTOWN



City of Watertown, NY Tree City USA Application for Recertification - 2012 Community Forestry Program Arbor Day Narrative

On April 27, 2012, Tree Watertown held its 15th annual *Arbor Day Observance* on the Campus Quad at Jefferson Community College. The celebration featured the planting of five trees including a Northern Catalpa tree and four Norway spruce trees on the campus.

Tree Watertown partnered with Jefferson Community College's EverGREEN Committee and the Students for a Sustainable Campus Club. Tree Watertown purchased the Catalpa tree while the Students for a Sustainable Campus Club sold seedlings to help finance the purchase of the four Norway spruce trees. Approximately 20 people participated in the ceremony and tree planting. City Council Member Roxanne M. Burns, on behalf of Mayor Jeffrey E. Graham, read the Arbor Day Proclamation and declared April 27, 2012, as Arbor Day in the City of Watertown.



Photo # 1. City Council Member Roxanne M. Burns helps to plant the Arbor Day tree after reading the Mayoral proclamation designating April 27, 2012 as Arbor Day in the City of Watertown.



Photo # 2. Tree Watertown members, City officials and representatives from Jefferson Community College plant a tree on Arbor Day.



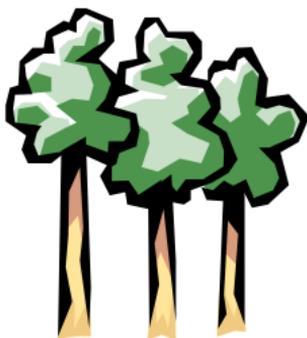
Photo # 3. City Council Member Roxanne M. Burns proclaims April 27, 2012 as Arbor Day in Watertown.



Photo # 4. Tree Watertown Chairman Bill Christopherson addresses attendees on Arbor Day.

You are cordially invited
to attend Watertown's 15th Annual

Arbor Day Celebration



**on Friday, April 27, 2012
on the Campus Quad at
Jefferson Community College
at 12:20 p.m.**

Hosted by Tree Watertown,
Jefferson Community College's EverGREEN Committee
and Students for a Sustainable Campus Club



CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

ROOM 302, WATERTOWN CITY HALL
245 WASHINGTON STREET
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601-3380
(315) 785-7730
FAX (315) 782-9014

JOHN C. KROL
CITY MANAGER

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
April 24, 2012

Michael A. Lumbis, Planner
City of Watertown, (315) 785-7730 or
Karen J. Freeman, Marketing & Public
Relations Officer, Jefferson Community
College, (315) 786-2234

TREE WATERTOWN AND JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY

On **Friday, April 27, 2012, at 12:20 p.m.**, members of the Watertown City Council along with Jefferson Community College officials, students and staff will join volunteers from **Tree Watertown, the City's Street Tree Advisory Board**, on the Campus Quad at Jefferson Community College, 1220 Coffeen Street, to celebrate Arbor Day.

This year's Arbor Day ceremony at Jefferson Community College culminates a week long observance of Earth Day that included various lectures and Eco-Action programs on the **campus sponsored by the college's** EverGREEN Committee.

A total of five trees will be planted on Arbor Day. One tree will be planted on the Campus Quad while four trees will be planted in a planting bed along the Interstate 81 boundary. City Council Member Roxanne M. Burns will be in attendance and will read a proclamation by **Watertown's Mayor, Jeffrey E. Graham**, declaring April 27, 2012 as Arbor Day in the City.

2012 marks the 15th straight year that Tree Watertown has observed Arbor Day in the City and **is being organized and funded by Tree Watertown, Jefferson Community College's** EverGREEN Committee and the Students for a Sustainable Campus Club.

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CITY OF WATERTOWN
NEW YORK



1869

JEFFREY E. GRAHAM
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS on April 27, 2012 communities across the nation, including the City of Watertown, will be planting trees in observance of Arbor Day, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown's Street Tree Advisory Board, Tree Watertown, conducts an annual Arbor Day observance and will mark this year's celebration with the planting of 5 trees on the grounds of Jefferson Community College, and

WHEREAS Tree Watertown has partnered with Jefferson Community College's EverGREEN Committee and the Students for a Sustainable Campus Club to purchase and plant the trees, and

WHEREAS the Arbor Day tree planting culminates Jefferson Community College's Earth Week & Green Campus Challenge Conference and activities that have been held during the last two weeks, and

WHEREAS these new trees will beautify the campus, clean the air, and help reduce the carbon footprint of Jefferson Community College,

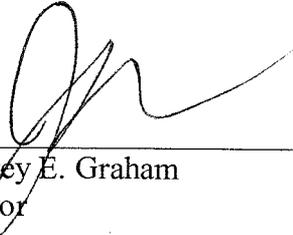
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeffrey E. Graham, Mayor of the City of Watertown, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2012 as



Arbor Day

In the City of Watertown and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees and supporting efforts to improve the urban forest in the City and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Dated this 27th day of April, 2012



Jeffrey E. Graham
Mayor

**CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY
TREE CITY USA APPLICATION FOR
RECERTIFICATION - 2012
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM
MEDIA COVERAGE**



PREPARED BY:

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN PLANNING OFFICE
AND TREE WATERTOWN



BRIEFLY

JCC, Tree Watertown set Friday Arbor Day event

Jefferson Community College and city officials will come together to commemorate Arbor Day by planting five trees on campus on Friday.

They will be joined by JCC students and staff and members of the city's street advisory board, Tree Watertown, to plant a tree on the campus quad and four more in a planting bed along the college's boundary with Interstate 81.

The celebration marks the 15th consecutive year that Tree Watertown has observed Arbor Day in the city. In addition to Tree Watertown and the EverGREEN committee, Students for a Sustainable Campus Club also helped plan Friday's event.

4/26/12

Arbor Day celebrations planned ^{4/27/12}

By **GORDON BLOCK**
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Several communities in Jefferson County are putting the final touches on Arbor Day celebrations this weekend as the nation celebrates the event's 140th anniversary.

In Adams, the South Jefferson Chamber of Commerce will hold its celebration from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at South Jefferson High School.

"We're kind of going back to basics on this one," said Connie A. Elliott, chamber president. Several community groups and craft workshops will be featured.

The community will be forever linked to the holiday. Julius S. Morton, who launched the event in Nebraska in 1872 with the planting of more than one million trees, was born

in Adams 180 years ago this week.

"It gives us a bit of notoriety that he was born here," Ms. Elliott said. "Adams is the Arbor Day village."

Mary C. Demianenko will be recognized at 11 a.m. Saturday as the chamber's 2012 Citizen of the Year.

Admission to the Arbor Day event will be \$1, and free for children younger than 5. It is first time the chamber has charged admission; Ms. Elliott said the charge is to offset the cost of renting space.

Other communities also will hold Arbor Day events in the next few days.

■ Sackets Harbor will have a tree-planting ceremony at 6 p.m. today at the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State His-

toric Site. The ceremony will be held as a part of the War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration and will feature speeches by Mayor F. Eric Constance; Constance B. Barone, site manager of the battlefield, and Kelly E. Reinhardt, chairwoman of the Sackets Harbor Tree Committee.

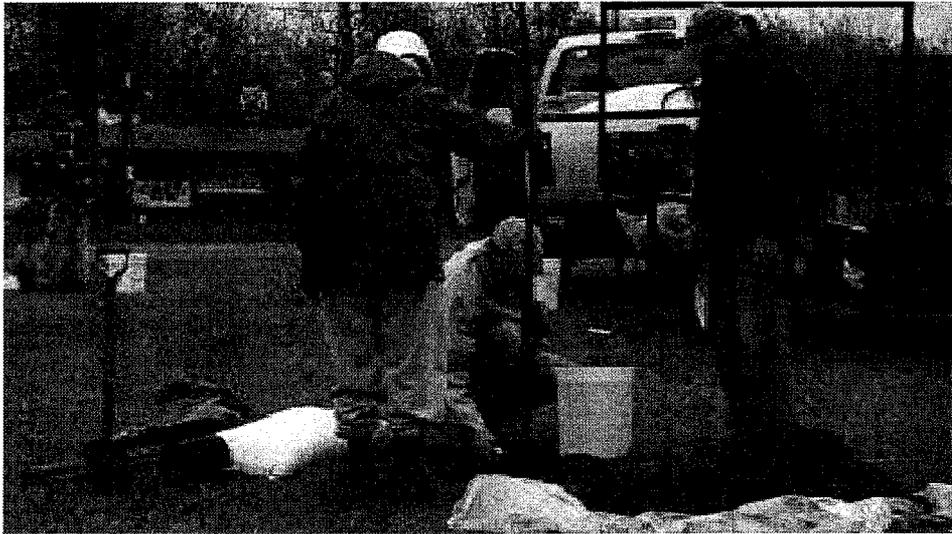
■ The city of Watertown will plant five trees at 12:20 p.m. today on the Jefferson Community College quad. The event, hosted by Tree Watertown, the college's EverGREEN Committee and the Students for a Sustainable Campus Club, will be the 15th consecutive year that the city has marked the holiday.

Watertown / Fort Drum**YNN.COM**
YOUR NEWS NOW.

04/21/2012 03:10 PM

Annual tree planting brightens local park

By: Amanda Kelley



WATERTOWN, N.Y. -- Volunteers and city staff joined members of the Watertown Noon Rotary in braving the wet weather to help make their community a bit more beautiful Saturday.

About 50 trees were planted in the Factory Square Park along the Black River in Watertown. It's been an annual event for the Rotary since the mid 1970s. Since the project began, more than 2,000 trees have been planted.

Some young volunteers said they're happy to be helping and celebrating Earth Day.

Volunteer, Susan Carambot said, "We all live here, and we might as well make it beautiful and we're already cutting down a lot of trees, so we might as well plant some."

The trees were purchased with the help of grants and donations from the city, New York State DEC, the Watertown Rotary, along with money from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund.

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ROTARY PLANTING

4/29/12



JUSTIN SORENSEN ■ WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

Michael J. DeMarco, Watertown, center, and his nephew Kaleb J. Pierce, 13, plant one of 50 trees Saturday morning on Factory Street in Watertown as part of the Noon Rotary's annual tree-planting

project, begun in the 1970s. Rotary contributed \$2,000 toward the \$12,000 cost of city tree planting that will take place using city workers and volunteers from various organizations.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FORT DRUM

Col. Noel T. Nicolle speaks to children about the importance of protecting the environment during an Arbor Day ceremony.



Tree Watertown

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 16, 2012

Contact: William Christopherson,
Chairman, Tree Watertown, (315) 785-6850

WATERTOWN'S STREET TREE ADVISORY BOARD, TREE WATERTOWN, ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO WATER THEIR TREES DURING DRY SPELL

The City's Street Tree Advisory Board, Tree Watertown, is reminding residents and businesses in the City of Watertown and throughout the region to water their trees, especially newly planted younger trees, to help keep them healthy this summer.

The lack of rainfall, coupled with hot and sunny weather conditions over the past few weeks is starting to stress trees throughout the community. Trees in front of our homes and in our back yards provide us with many economic, environmental, and aesthetic benefits and it is important to keep them healthy. Adequate water is the most important thing to keep your trees growing strong.

Listed below are a few tips to guide your watering:

- Place a garden hose underneath the tree near the trunk. Set the hose to a slow trickle and water for 20 minutes. Move the hose several times during watering to distribute the water evenly.
- Place a sprinkler underneath the tree near the trunk and water for 15-20 minutes.
- Use a five-gallon bucket and dump 4-5 buckets around the trunk of the tree.
- Water every 7 to 10 days until there is adequate rain (at least 1 inch of rain).
- Watering larger established trees is important as well. Simply let your hose or sprinkler run a little longer to make sure your tree is adequately watered.
- Using shredded bark or woodchip mulch around your tree is important as it helps reduce evaporation and improves water absorption.
- Water is inexpensive. The price per gallon of water in the City is less than a penny per gallon. So, for less than 25 cents a week you can do a lot of good for your tree and keep it growing strong and healthy.



The City of Watertown – A "Tree City USA" since 2000

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WWNY TV 7 - News, Weather and Sports for Watertown, NY

[Print this article](#)

Advisory Group Says Trees Need Watering

Originally printed at <http://www.wwnytv.com/news/local/Advisory-Group-Says-Trees-Need-Watering-162583856.html>

July 16, 2012

Watering trees can be important during prolonged hot, dry weather.

That's according to the city of Watertown's street tree advisory board, Tree Watertown.

The group is reminding north country residents and businesses to water their trees, especially ones that are newly planted.

The lack of rainfall, coupled with hot and sunny weather over the past few weeks, is starting to stress trees and it's important to keep them healthy, the group says.

"If a tree is in a drought situation where it starts to shut down, it's vulnerable to attack from insects, diseases, that kind of thing," explained Tree Watertown's Michael Lumbis.

Tree Watertown offers these watering tips:

- Place a garden hose underneath the tree near the trunk. Set the hose to a slow trickle and water for 20 minutes. Move the hose several times during watering to distribute the water evenly.
- Place a sprinkler underneath the tree near the trunk and water for 15-20 minutes.
- Use a five-gallon bucket and dump 4-5 buckets around the trunk of the tree.
- Water every seven to 10 days until there is at least one inch of rain.
- Watering larger established trees is important as well. Simply let your hose or sprinkler run a little longer to make sure your tree is adequately watered.

- Using shredded bark or wood chip mulch around your tree is important as it helps reduce evaporation and improves water absorption.

The group points out that Water is inexpensive. The price per gallon of water in the city is less than a penny, so it would cost less than 25 cents a week to keep a tree strong and healthy.

7/17/12

Residents urged to water trees

Tree Watertown is reminding area property owners to water their trees.

The lack of rainfall, coupled with hot and sunny weather, is starting to stress trees throughout the community, the group said. Water is the most important thing to keep trees growing strong and healthy — especially younger and newly planted ones.

Here are some watering tips:

- Place a garden hose underneath the tree near the trunk. Set the hose to a slow trickle and let run for 20 min-

utes, moving it several times to distribute the water evenly. You also can use a sprinkler for 15 to 20 minutes, or a 5-gallon bucket to dump four or five buckets of water around the trunk.

- Using shredded bark or wood chip mulch around trees is important, as it helps reduce evaporation and improves water absorption.

Water is inexpensive; the price per gallon is less than a penny. For less than a quarter a week, you can do a lot of good for your trees, the group said.

Watertown Daily Times

Lawn service uses low-tech method to water hospital's trees

By CRAIG FOX
TIMES STAFF WRITER
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2012



AMANDA MORRISON / WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

Joshua A.J. Minnick fills buckets used as a drip irrigation system for the trees in front of Samaritan Medical Center on Monday.

Dina L. Jareo's method of watering young trees during this summer's drought is turning a lot of heads at Samaritan Medical Center these days.

"Everybody is saying 'What are those orange buckets?'" she said while her son was filling the 5-gallon containers with water earlier this week.

Jareo, who owns Creek Bend Lawn Care Service, LaFargeville, and has the contract to take care of the hospital's landscaping, is using the bright orange 5-gallon buckets as an inexpensive method to water the young American elm, maple and flower crab trees on the hospital grounds.

The low-tech method employs the simple idea of drilling small holes in the bottom of the buckets and then filling the containers with water. The gradual release of water keeps the year-old trees' roots moist and has helped them survive through the worst drought in decades, she said.

Before she placed the buckets around the hospital campus last month, the leaves were wilting and the trees were in danger of dying, Mrs. Jareo said. Her son, Joshua A.J. Minnick, used landscaping twine to tie the buckets to wooden stakes so the buckets cannot fly away.

In recent weeks, he has gone out three days a week to fill the buckets to the top with water, first in the morning and then again during the afternoon. And the inexpensive irrigation system — costing a little more than \$200 — seems to have helped.

The trees have bounced back. The leaves look healthier, she said.

“It might not be pretty, but it works,” she said.

However, the buckets are just a temporary measure, said Samaritan spokeswoman Krista A. Kittle. The company that planted the trees last year will soon replace them with other, more expensive apparatuses called gator bags. The \$20 plastic bags with tiny holes at the bottom hold up to 20 gallons of water and take as long as 12 hours to empty out.

Veteran John E. Moody, owner of Land Pro Landscaping, Watertown, said it may be the driest summer in his 27 years in business. Four employees head out in two trucks with a 1,000-gallon tank to water about 3,000 trees each week at Fort Drum.

During the past four weeks, the crew has only focused on watering trees and has not done any other landscaping.

“It’s the worst summer that I can remember,” he said.

The 2 inches of rain that hit the region last weekend will help but probably won’t save any newly planted trees that have not been watered this summer, said Susan J. Gwise, horticulture educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County.

Trees up to 3 years old may be in jeopardy, she said.

“The rule of thumb is they need an inch of water each week,” she said.

For the past 12 years, the city has hired a summer intern to specifically take care of city-owned trees. This year has been so dry that intern Matthew B. Brown, a recent graduate of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, has gone out daily to water between 70 and 80 young trees from a 210-gallon tank on the back of a city pickup truck.

“They definitely need a lot more help this summer,” he said.

How to save your thirsty trees

Here are some tips to watering trees during this summer’s drought:

n Place a garden hose underneath the tree near the trunk. Set the hose to a slow trickle and let it run for 20 minutes, moving it several times to distribute the water evenly. You also can use a sprinkler for 15 to 20 minutes or a 5-gallon bucket to dump four or five buckets of water around the trunk.

n Use either gator bags or drill tiny holes in the bottom of 5-gallon buckets and fill them up with water.

n Using shredded bark or wood chip mulch around trees is important, as it helps reduce evaporation and improves water absorption. Don’t place around the tree’s trunk. The method is known as “volcanoing.”

8/11/12

Watering the trees

Resourceful methods in a dry season

The dry conditions this season have called for inventive ways to keep gardens, lawns and trees watered.

Recently planted trees require plenty of water on a normal year. This season, it is crucial.

A story in Thursday's Times described how one landscaper is supplying needed water to young trees at Samaritan Medical Center.

Creek Bend Lawn Care Service of LaFargeville is employing 5-gallon buckets to water young American elm, maple and flower crab trees on the hospital grounds.

By drilling small holes in the bottom of the buckets and filling the containers with water, the service is able to keep the trees healthy during one of the worst droughts in Northern New York's history.

The year-old trees were beginning to wilt when Creek Bend owner Dina L. Jareo initiated the low-tech means of irrigating the plants. The slow release of water keeps the tree roots moist for longer periods of time than would conventional methods.

Other landscapers have gone to great lengths to keep trees watered this summer.

John. E. Moody, owner of Land Pro Landscaping, Watertown, has his employees going to Fort Drum every week with a 1,000 gallon water tank to refresh 3,000 trees on the post. The business has focused solely on watering trees during the dry spell.

When it comes to plant care, farmers, landscapers, gardeners and homeowners all have to be resourceful this summer.

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES EDITORIAL

Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.

Building girls of courage, confidence, and character who
make the world a better place

Girl Scouts Planting 100 Trees for 100th Anniversary

October 22, 2012

By: *Kim Dunne, Media Manager*



(<http://gsnypenn.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/tree.jpg>)

Girl Scout troops from the Watertown area will mark Girl Scouts' 100th Anniversary in a unique way – by planting 100 trees at a program called 100 Girls/100 Trees.

The program is being held thanks to a grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation's Carolyn Whitney Tree Planting Fund and will take place on October 27. Girls will be planting several different varieties of trees at Thompson Park, the Watertown Fairgrounds and at Factory Square.

To make this happen, the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways is working with Michael Lumbis, a planner with the City of Watertown; Glen Roberts, Senior Forester with the Department of Environmental

Conservation; and Tree Watertown, a volunteer group of community citizens that serves as the Street Tree Advisory Board to the City of Watertown. Tree Watertown advises the city on policy issues, makes recommendations regarding grant applications and works with the city planning office in the development of the city's annual tree planting program.

Category:

Uncategorized

Leave a comment

Tagged with:



Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.
Watertown Service Center
253 State Street
Watertown, NY 13601

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: **October 19, 2012**

Headline: **Girl Scouts to Plant 100 Trees for Our 100th Anniversary!**

Contact:

Judy Gallagher, Director of Marketing and Communications at (315) 782-1890, ext. 2315
Kim Dunne, Media Manager at (315) 782-1890, ext. 2114

Watertown, N.Y. – Girl Scout Troops from the Watertown area will mark Girl Scouts' 100th Anniversary in a unique way – by planting 100 trees at a program called 100 Girls/100 Trees.

The program is being held thanks to a grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation and will take place on October 27. Girls will be planting trees at Thompson Park, the Watertown Fairgrounds and at Factory Square.

To make this happen, the Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways is working with Michael Lumbis, a planner with the City of Watertown; Glen Roberts with the Department of Environmental Conservation; and Tree Watertown, a volunteer group of community citizens that serves as the Street Tree Advisory Board to the City of Watertown. Tree Watertown advises the city on policy issues, makes recommendations regarding grant applications and works with the city planning office in the development of the city's annual tree planting program.

Join the fun and friendship of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Contact the Girl Scouts' Watertown Service Center at (315) 782-1290, visit www.gsnypenn.org, become a fan at [facebook.com/GSNYPENN](https://www.facebook.com/GSNYPENN), follow twitter.com/GSNYPENN and [pinterest.com/gsnypenn](https://www.pinterest.com/gsnypenn), or read the blog at www.gsnypenn.wordpress.com for more information.

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*Girl Scouts is the premiere leadership development program for girls. Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc. serves nearly 18,000 girls in 26 counties of New York and Pennsylvania. Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts is the leading authority on girls' healthy development, and builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Visit [www.gsnypenn.org](http://www.gsnypenn.org) or call the Watertown Service Center at (315) 782-1890.*

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