



# Susquehanna Township Shade Tree Planting Application

SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
1900 LINGLESTOWN ROAD  
HARRISBURG, PA 17110  
(717) 909-9226  
[jvajda@susquehannatwp.com](mailto:jvajda@susquehannatwp.com)



***\*Deadline for submission: July 1, 2020***

***Free*** trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis. However, priority will be given to areas that will benefit by the addition of a shade tree. Trees will be planted in October, free of charge, by the Township Shade Tree Commission and Highway Department.

Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Description and location of planting request:

I, the undersigned, agree to maintain and water tree(s) planted in the tree lawn as requested by this application and have read and understand the Township's Shade Tree Commission Ordinance.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Request # \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed by  
Township Staff

# The Benefits of Trees



## Economic

**Increase Property Values.** Houses surrounded by trees and neighborhoods with street trees can raise property values by as much as 25% of those non-landscaped homes.

**Increased Business Activity.** Trees attract businesses and customers to communities. Consumers spend up to 13% more at shops near green landscapes.

**Reduced Utilities.** Households with shade trees can spend 12% less on cooling costs in the summer. The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day.



## Health

**Clean Air.** Urban trees and forests are saving an average of one life every year per city because of the particulates that they remove from the air. A study in the *Journal of Preventative Medicine* found that people experienced more deaths from heart disease and respiratory disease when they lived in areas where trees had disappeared.

**Mental Health.** Several studies have found that access to nature yields better cognitive functioning, more self-discipline, and greater mental health overall. Green environments tend to boost physical activity and social connection and dampen depression. One study even found that hospital patients who can see trees out their windows are hospitalized 8% fewer days than their counterparts.

**Healthy Children.** In areas with higher-tree rates, young kids were estimated to have avoided missing more than 7,000 school days annually because of asthma attacks. Emergency room visits due to asthma were reduced yearly by an estimated 54 visits among all people.



## Environmental

**Clean Water.** Trees provide natural filtration and storage systems that process nearly two-thirds of the water supply in the United States.

**Carbon Sequestration.** A tree can absorb as much as 48 pounds of carbon dioxide per year, and can sequester one ton of carbon dioxide by the time it reaches 40 years old.

**Flood Control.** Trees can hold vast amounts of water that would otherwise stream down hills and surge along rivers into towns. That's why trees are such an important part of storm-water management for many cities.

**Wildlife Habitat.** Wildlife use trees for food, shelter, nesting, and mating. These habitats support the incredible variety of living things on the planet, known as biodiversity. By protecting trees, we also save all the other plants and animals they shelter.



## Social

**Reduced Crime.** Neighborhoods with abundant trees have significantly fewer crimes than those without. Researchers think that this is because green spaces have a calming effect.

**Neighbor Interaction.** Neighborhoods with green spaces with trees contribute to healthier, more supportive patterns of interaction among residents, including greater sharing of resources and bolstering community trust.

**Calming Effect.** The calming effect of nearby trees and urban greening can significantly reduce workplace stress levels, fa-

**Susquehanna Township Shade Tree Commission**

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