PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS.

Why Care About Trees?

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Trees: Worth Our Time Worth Our Resources

- **Part of community infrastructure**

- **Vital to community health**

- **Positive impact on business and tax base**

- **A community legacy**

- **Wise investment of community dollars**

Trees: Strengthen Neighborhoods

- **Tree-filled neighborhoods:**
  - **Lower levels of domestic violence**
  - **Safer and more sociable**

- **Trees decrease need for medication and speed recovery times**

Trees: Feeling Good

- **Tree-filled landscapes reduce stress**

- **"Shinrin-yoku" or forest bathing**

- **Boosts our immune system**

Trees: Vital to Community Health

- **100 trees annually remove 32 tons of CO_2**

- **100 trees remove 430 lbs of pollutants per year, including 100 lbs of ozone & 83 lbs of particulates**

- **Treed streets have lower asthma rates among children living there**

Trees: Good for Children

- **Trees relieve AD/HD symptoms**

- **Trees help female teens succeed**

- **Trees help with homework**
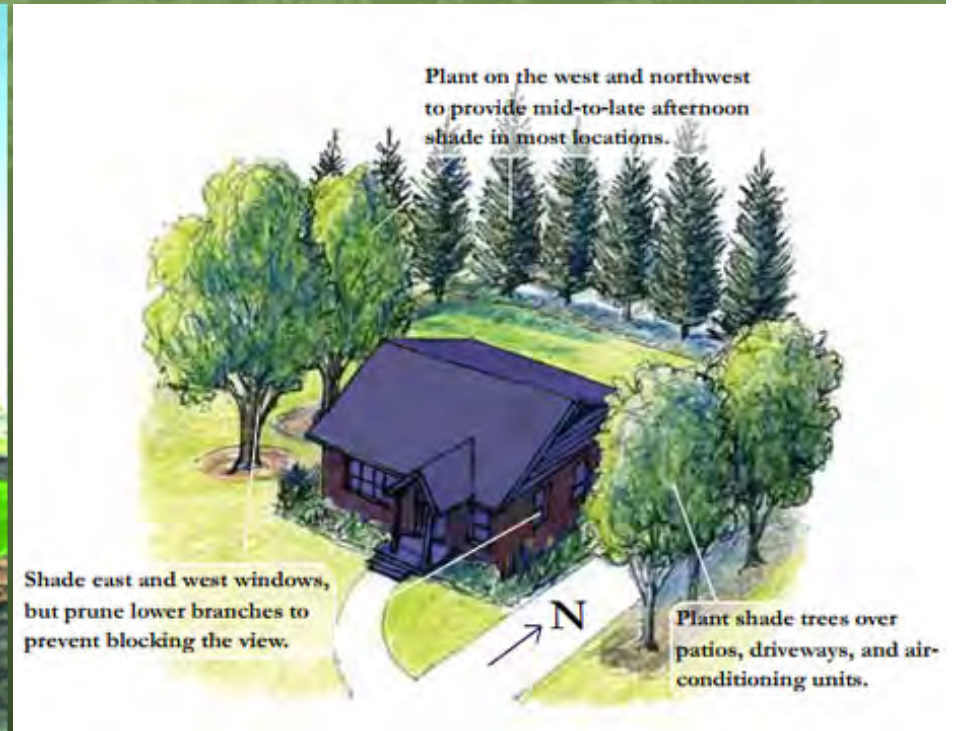
Trees: Save our Environment

- **100 mature trees intercept**
  > 538,700 gallons of rainwater
  per year
- **Less $ for storm water control**
- **Cleaner water**

Trees: Reduce Stormwater

- **Canopy interception**
  - **4000 gal/yr for a mature evergreen**
  - **800 + gal/yr for a mature deciduous**
- **Infiltrates & stabilizes soil**
- **Removes pollutants**
- **Streamside buffers**

Trees: Energy Savings for Homeowners

Plant on the west and northwest to provide mid-to-late afternoon shade in most locations.

Shade east and west windows, but prune lower branches to prevent blocking the view.

Plant shade trees over patios, driveways, and air-conditioning units.

- **Save 10% of annual air cooling costs**

- **Save up to 10% of winter heating costs**

Trees: Increase Property Value

- **Large specimen trees can add 10%, or more, to property values**
- **A newly planted tree within 50 ft of your home can increase property value by 9%**

Trees: Better for Business

In tree-lined commercial districts
- **More frequent shopping**
- **Longer shopping trips**
- **Shoppers spend more for parking**
- **Shoppers spend 12% more for goods**

Trees: Enhance Roads

- **Buffer noise and glare**
- **Less "road rage"**
- **Reduce vehicle speeds**
- **Extends life of asphalt roads**

Trees: Create a Legacy

Penn State University Avenue of Elms

Trees: Pay Us Back

100 Trees Over 40 Years

Benefits = $411,000

Energy

Air Quality

Stormwater runoff

Real Estate

Costs = $115,000

Planting - Pruning

Removal / Disposal

Irrigation

Sidewalk Repair

Litter

Legal - Administration

Pay Off: $296,000!

Trees: Pennsylvania Communities

- **Population growth and development**
- **Aging trees and resources**
- **Lack of partnerships and cooperation**

Trees: Municipal Dollars

"Police Power"

- ✓ **Public Safety**
- ✓ **Health**
- ✓ **Traffic and Transportation**

Trees: Community Programs

- **Shade Tree Commission**
- **Ordinance**
- **Tree Inventory**
- **Management Plan**

Trees: The Bottom Line

➢ **Quality of life depends on tree benefits**

➢ **Benefits depend on healthy trees**

➢ **Healthy trees require quality care**

➢ **Quality care depends on investment and YOU!**

Trees: Benefit Resources

- Pennsylvania Community Forests
  www.pacommunityforests.org

- PA Trees www.patrees.org

- Landscape and Human Health Laboratory
  www.lhhl.uiuc.edu

- Human Dimensions of Urban Forestry and
  Urban Greening www.naturewithin.info

- USDA Forest Service
  http://na.fs.fed.us/urban/treespayusback/index.shtm