

2013 ANNUAL REPORT
Cazenovia Tree Commission

1.0 SUMMARY

The year's planting activity focused on Nelson Street, where 18 trees ultimately were planted, along with ten others for a total of 28. A nearly equal number of take-downs were required, the bulk of which were undertaken with National Grid. The Village again received the "Tree City USA" designation, and a successful Arbor Day and spring seminar were conducted. Since the Tree Commission was established, 103 trees have been installed and 92 removals have occurred.

2.0 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1.0 Organization & Governance

The previously established teams continued in their roles and proved effective in carrying out the Commission's responsibilities: Site Selection & Species; Tree Inventory Database; Communications/ Press Releases; Education & Community Outreach; Annual Reports & Documentation.

Three working meetings, in addition to public events, were conducted along with one major installation for Nelson Street.

2.2.0 Tree Installations

As used below, "Replacements" are defined as trees planted to replace a dead/declining or recently removed tree. "New" is a tree planted where none had previously existed. A "Memorial" or "Gift" tree is a tree purchased by a community resident for the Village's general use or to commemorate a person or event, and may be a replacement or new tree. "Replanting" occurs when an installed tree fails within the first two years; these are not counted in either Trees Planted or Trees Removed.

2.2.1 Trees Planted

The Arbor Day tree was donated by the Garden Club. It was a Sugar Maple and complements the earlier planting at the cannon in Memorial Park. One memorial tree was planted in Lakeland Park. Based on the stringent deadline by the New York State Department of Transportation, an expedited decision was required on quantity and species for Nelson Street or forego the project until 2014. The Commission selected the location of trees in a working session. Fourteen of the eighteen trees ultimately planted there were done on one morning with members actively participating. The balance of trees was installed by the Village Arborist.

Trees planted throughout the Village include: Crabapple (2), Japanese Tree Lilac (2), Honey Locust (5), Stewartia (3) Persian Ironwood (2), Swamp White Oak (1), Katsura (2), Hardy Rubber Tree (1), Gingko (2), Swamp White Oak (1), Black Gum (2), Sugar Maple (3), Columnar Oak (1), and Red Oak (1).

Total Trees Planted: 28

Replacements: 1 (19 Albany St.) New: 1 Memorial Trees

2.2.2 Trees Removed

Because of safety and other resident concerns, 26 trees were required to be removed. Eleven of these were Norway Maples along Forman Street. National Grid removed these and four others, saving Village expense. 14 Norway Maples, 6 Sugar Maples, 1 Spruce, 1 Elm, 1 Black Walnut, 1 Basswood, and 1 Ash comprised the removals.

Total Trees Removed: 25

2.2.3 Year-to-Date Summary

Since the start of the Tree Commission, **61** New trees have been planted plus **42** Replacements for a total of **103** plantings. **92** trees have been removed, for a net increase of **11**.

Details on specific plantings can be found in the Tree Inventory.

2.3.0 Other Initiatives

The Commission completed requirements to maintain its Tree City designation.

A fourth public seminar was held in March consisting of a presentation by Dave Ryan on bare-root planting, followed by a question-and-answer period. It was attended by 35-40 residents and members from other communities' Tree Commissions. Press releases and press coverage of the event were well done.

A successful Arbor Day event was held in April. The Cazenovia Garden Club donated funds to purchase a Sugar Maple. This year, arrangements were made to have children from the Burton school participate. This resulted in an audience of over 50 people.

No progress was made on establishing an on-going process to ensure maintenance and follow-up on trees installed; however, this will be considered in 2014 including the potential for assigned, "adoption" and periodic inspection of newly planted trees by Commission members, use of students, etc.

2.4.0 Community Outreach & Press

Press releases and photos were prepared and published highlighting the seminar, Arbor Day, and Tree City USA designation, with stories and/or photos carried in the *Republican* and the *Madison Courier*.

3.0.0 OTHER COMMENTS/ISSUES/CONCERNS

There are no open issues. Village budget constraints have required flexibility in allocating the funds available, while still meeting residents' needs. The Tree Commission continues to work in alignment with its mission for the benefit of the community.

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Tree Commission
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