

Neighborhood Tree Program — Phase II

When VPIS started the Neighborhood Tree Program (NTP) in 2000, there were many streets in our City that needed shade trees. Mature street trees were being lost due to old age, disease, and development faster than they were being replaced.

Today, the NTP is a great success: over 450 trees have been planted since 2000. Some of the most viable locations along the streets and curbs, in public right-of-ways, have been planted. Healthy trees grow along our streets where room permits. But overall, the City is losing trees as growth and development continue.

Phase II addresses the goal of increasing the City tree canopy from the current 25% to the nationally recognized target of 40%. VPIS recognized the need to find more space to plant trees. To this end **VPIS is expanding the NTP to plant trees within 15 feet of the street curb, including sites on private property**, outside the City right-of-way.

If you own property in the City of Falls Church and would like to have a tree planted on your property, along the street, within 15 feet of the City street curb, you may submit the application found on the VPIS website.

NTP's volunteer labor coupled with the City's logistical support multiplies our ability to plant and maintain trees. Be a part of this successful program. Check **www.vpis.org** today for an application, to join a tree planting party, or find out how to donate to the NTP.



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Street trees in the City of Falls Church, planted by the Neighborhood Tree Program since 2000

Consider

- One mature street tree reduces stormwater runoff by 290 gallons – reducing flooding and soil erosion, and protecting streams.
- The City's tree canopy declined from 360 acres in 1992 to 322 acres in 2001.
- Trees soak up gases that contribute to global warming.
- Areas with more street trees are perceived to be more “walkable” and pedestrian friendly.
- Trees have an economic value: Studies find that people are willing to pay to to 12% more for products if a business district has large trees.

You can help

Check www.vpis.org today for an application for a tree to be planted on your property; to join a tree planting party; or find out how to donate to the Neighborhood Tree Program.



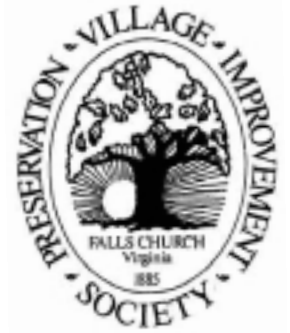
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APPLICATION FOR TREE PLANTING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Falls Church Village Preservation and Improvement Society (VPIS) is working in cooperation with the City of Falls Church to increase the tree canopy coverage and expand the number of shade trees along streets throughout the community. If you own property in the City of Falls Church and would like to have a tree planted on your property, along the street within 15 feet of the City street curb, you may submit the following application to the:

Neighborhood Tree Program Steering Committee
 C/O VPIS
 P.O. Box 6824
 Falls Church, VA 22040

More information concerning the Neighborhood Tree Program: Phase II is available on the VPIS website www.vpis.org



1) Are you a property owner in the City of Falls Church? **Yes** **No**

Name: _____ E-mail _____

Address: _____ Phone _____

2) Where would you like a tree to be planted? (Note: location must be along a street within 15 feet of a City street curb; requests for trees to be planted within a City right-of-way do not require this application and may be sent in the form of a request to the City arborist at the address above.)

Describe location or provide a sketch or map: _____

3) What type or species of tree would you like to have planted? (Note: tree type must be included on the list of native trees provided on the VPIS website under the Neighborhood Tree Program — Phase II; www.vpis.org/NTPII/treelist.)

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____ No Preference

4) By signing this application, you are indicating that you agree with the following conditions:

- to meet with the NTP volunteers to review the proposed planting site and discuss the program if requested to do so;
- to follow maintenance guidelines available on the Neighborhood Tree Program Phase II website (vpis.org/NTPII/plantingguidelines);
- to allow for one follow-up inspection of the planted tree by the NTP Program Steering Committee at a mutually convenient time;
- to notify the NTP Steering Committee if the tree is cut down, diseased, or in significant decline;
- that you, and not the City of Falls Church or VPIS, are responsible for the care and maintenance of the tree (i.e. watering, pruning, eventual removal);
- that you agree not to hold the City or VPIS liable for any damages or injury that may be associated with the tree or its planting; and
- that the tree is not being planted to fulfill any planting requirements due to a development project (grading plan, RPA restoration, etc.).

5) Has the Neighborhood Tree Program planted a tree on a City street right-of-way by your property or on your property in the past? **Yes** **No**

If yes: Number of Trees _____ Dates of Planting _____

6) What is the best time to meet with a NTP Steering Committee member or program volunteer to review the tree planting site and discuss the program? Best time to meet: _____

7) For Business and Non-Profit Organizations ONLY: VPIS is making a major investment in your tree. We ask that you provide a cash or in-kind (e.g. planting labor) contribution for your tree of an amount you consider appropriate, subject to Steering Committee approval.

Cash Amount _____ In-Kind Contribution: _____

Do you have any questions about the NTP Phase II? _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____