



2016–2020

Community Forestry Management Plan

Borough of Mendham

Morris County, NJ

2016 – 2020 COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Borough of Mendham Morris County New Jersey

Mayor

Neil J. Henry, Jr.

Borough Council

John M. Andrus
Brad Badal
Dr. Veronica Daly, *Council President*
Stanley Witczak III
John Andrews
David Sharkey

Borough Administrator

Richard A. Merkt

Superintendent of Public Works

Kenneth L. O'Brien *CPWM, CRP*

Shade Tree Advisory Committee

Dave Sharkey, *NJCTE #549*
Kenneth L. O'Brien, *Superintendent of Public Works*
Chris Nicholson
Nicholas Witczak, *Office of Emergency Management*

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Municipal Information

Municipal / County Information Form

MUNICIPALITY	Borough of Mendham																																																												
COUNTY	Morris																																																												
ADDRESS	2 West Main Street Mendham, NJ 07945																																																												
CONTACT	Kenneth O'Brien, Superintendent of Public Works																																																												
PHONE	973-543-6535																																																												
FAX & EMAIL	973-543-1822 dpw@mendhamnj.org																																																												
ORGANIZATION	Mendham Borough Department of Public Works																																																												
MAYOR'S SIGNATURE	<i>Original Copy Signed</i>																																																												
DATE SUBMITTED	June, 2016																																																												
TIME PERIOD	January, 2016 – December, 2020																																																												
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Official Use Only Certification

The above named municipality has made formal application to the New Jersey Forest Service. I am pleased to advise you that after our review, the NJ Forest Service has concluded that this plan meets the standards set forth by the State and the NJ Community Forestry Council and is approved for the period covered.

Signed

Original Copy Signed & Dated

State Forester

Approved Date

SCOPE

The following sections outline programs and procedures for managing public shade tree resources within the Borough of Mendham during the period January 2016 – December 2020.

Recognizing that trees help improve the quality of urban and suburban life, the Borough has developed this Community Forestry Management Plan in accordance with statewide efforts to preserve and promote sustainable community forest resources and the goals and objectives of its Master Plan.

This third five-year Plan builds upon past successes by solidifying and maintaining existing programs for managing Borough-owned street trees, as well as trees on other public properties. It is also expected that elements of this Plan will help stimulate the planting and proper care of trees on private property.

MISSION STATEMENT

To cost-effectively develop, perpetuate and promote a sustainable, safe and productive shade tree resource that beautifies the Borough and benefits the aesthetic, environmental, economic, and social vitality of the community.

OVERALL PROGRAM GOALS

The New Jersey Community Forestry Council has identified fifteen Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) practices that together comprise a complete and comprehensive shade tree program.

Within each of the plan elements that follow, existing Borough programs, policies and procedures are described, intermediate and element-specific goals are established, and CSIP-based objectives for the 2016 – 2020 management period are set.

Systematic fulfillment of these CSIP-specific goals and objectives will gradually move Mendham Borough's Shade Tree Program toward its overall program goals, which were established and remain as follows:

1. Develop and perpetuate a beneficial shade tree resource.
2. Maximize the benefits of trees to the community.
3. Maximize long-term stability and sustainability in the shade tree resource.
4. Optimize the balance between tree health, maintenance costs and budgetary constraints.
5. Minimize the risk of trees to public safety.
6. Minimize conflicts between trees and infrastructure.
7. Encourage volunteer participation to improve and maintain public interest, appreciation and support for public shade tree programs.
8. Encourage the planting, preservation and proper care of shade trees on private property.
9. Meet all requirements of the NJ Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act.

TREE HAZARDS & LIABILITY

As is the case with all municipal assets, trees require maintenance and it is inevitable that potentially hazardous conditions will emerge.

It is recognized, however, that comprehensive and proactive community forestry programs designed to prevent, anticipate and correct such problems can significantly reduce the threat to public safety and

exposure to liability while maximizing the benefits of trees to the community. Accordingly, this Plan is designed to optimize the balance between tree benefits and tree risks.

The Borough of Mendham acknowledges that not all hazardous conditions can or will be predicted. It must work within a limited budget and may not be able to meet every need immediately. The intent of this Plan is to direct available resources toward the greatest needs and systematically develop and maintain a healthy shade tree resource with a commensurate reduction in any threats to public safety.

Public safety will continue to be a primary consideration in the development and implementation of all shade tree plans and programs. This Plan provides a means of identifying and abating existing tree hazards on a prioritized basis. Further, it provides a means of reducing the potential for future hazards and liability through responsible planting and preventive maintenance.



2011 – 2015 SHADE TREE PROGRAM REVIEW

Through the implementation of its 2011 – 2015 Community Forestry Management Plan, the Borough of Mendham was successful in improving several aspects of its Shade Tree Program and maintaining the effectiveness of all others.

The 2011 – 2015 Community Forestry Management Plan identified three key issues facing Mendham's Shade Tree Program:

1. *The need to develop proactive systems for identifying potential tree hazards and providing tree maintenance:* Strong efforts by the Department of Public Works with the full support of the Borough resulted in a shift to a more proactive, versus reactionary, stance in the Borough's management of its public trees. Existing declining and potentially hazardous trees were largely addressed, newly emerging problems are addressed promptly, and proactive programs have been effective in minimizing the emergence of new problems.
2. *The need to increase volunteer involvement in the Shade Tree Program:* At this time, the Borough enjoys a small, but very qualified, knowledgeable, and capable group of volunteers on its Shade Tree Advisory Committee. The involvement of community groups, such as Boy and Girl Scouts on community projects is strong and the Department of Public Works is able to handle day-to-day maintenance needs effectively.
3. *The need to accentuate the historic nature of the downtown area:* The importance of preserving Mendham Borough's historic character is strongly supported at all levels and a key objective in the planning and implementation of all programs and projects.

Although the Borough was unable to complete all of the objectives contained in the 2011 – 2015 Community Forestry Management Plan due to insufficient time, budget and/or manpower, as well as several large storms, it maintained steady forward progress by addressing and satisfying emerging new needs while continuing to successfully implement all of its existing programs.

The following is a summary of the Shade Tree Program's activities and accomplishments during the 2011 – 2015 management period.

1. **Program Administration**

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its previously existing administrative programs, policies and procedures during the 2011 – 2015 management period. (*Program Administration, Objective #1*)

2. **Training & Professional Development**

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its previously existing training and professional development programs during the 2011 – 2015 period and met its New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act, Training Skills & Accreditation Program continuing education requirements each year. (*Training & Professional Development, Objective #1 and #2*)
- b) The Borough provided ongoing training for its Department of Public Works employees through both specialized trainings and multi-topic conferences. (*Training & Professional Development, Objective #3 – 6*)

3. Public Education, Awareness & Outreach

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its previously existing public education, awareness and outreach programs during the 2011 – 2015 period. *(Public Education, Awareness & Outreach, Objective #1)*
- b) Arbor Day and/or Earth Day celebrations were held each year during the 2011 – 2015 period. *(Public Education, Awareness & Outreach, Objective #2)*
- c) In 2012, the Borough applied for and received designation as a Tree City USA through the National Arbor Day Foundation and has maintained this designation. *(Public Education, Awareness & Outreach, Objective #3)*
- d) The Borough expanded and developed its Shade Tree webpage on its official Borough website to reach a wider audience and include more useful information to Borough residents. *(Public Education, Awareness & Outreach, Objective #4)*
- e) The Borough produced several press releases and educational articles during the 2011 – 2015 period which were released on the Borough website. *(Public Education, Awareness & Outreach, Objective #5)*

4. Tree Inventory & Assessment

- a) In 2014, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee conducted an inventory update of public street trees in its central business district to reflect recent plantings, removals, and storm-related losses. Objectives for the 2016 – 2020 management period include expanding the inventory and assessment to include other portions of the Borough. *(Tree Inventory, Objective #1 & 2)*

5. Tree Hazard Management

- a) The Borough continued and improved upon all of its existing tree hazard management programs and procedures and continued to address hazard abatement needs as they were identified during the 2011 – 2015 period. *(Tree Hazard Management, Objective #1)*

6. Tree Planting

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its existing tree planting program, policies and procedures during the 2011 – 2015 period. *(Tree Planting, Objective #1)*
- b) The India Brook Park tree planting was started in 2011, and is ongoing. *(Tree Planting, Objective #2)*
- c) The Borough planned and completed tree planting and landscaping in the Tranquility Garden in October 2013, thanks to a local Boy Scout group, a donation from the Open Space Committee, and volunteer efforts. *(Tree Planting, Objective #3)*
- d) Though budget restrictions as well as disaster response efforts (removals, pruning, etc.) following major storms—including superstorm Sandy—necessitated smaller planting projects than desired, the Borough did complete quality public tree plantings in 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2015, and provided those new trees with proper follow-up care. *(Tree Planting, Objective #4)*

7. Tree Maintenance

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its previously existing tree maintenance programs, policies and procedures during the 2011 – 2015 period. *(Tree Maintenance, Objective #1)*
- b) The Borough completed developmental pruning of young trees from recent plantings on various streets to improve their structure and development. *(Tree Maintenance, Objective #2)*

8. Tree Waste Recycling

- a) The Borough continued to implement all of its previously existing tree waste recycling programs, policies and procedures. *(Waste Recycling, Objective #1)*

9. Tree Care Disaster Plan

- a) During the 2011 – 2015 management period, the Borough responded to several large-scale storms including superstorm Sandy, as well as continued to improve diversity in its public tree population. *(Tree Care Disaster Plan, Objective #1)*

CURRENT PUBLIC
TREE
ASSESSMENT

10. *Plan Preparation & Evaluation*

- a) During the 2011 – 2015 management period, the Shade Tree Commission continually reviewed the Borough’s Community Forestry Management Plan, monitored progress toward its goals and objectives, and made the necessary adjustments in the Shade Tree Program’s activities to address current needs. (*Plan Preparation & Evaluation, Objective #1*)
- b) The Borough has prepared this third five-year Community Forestry Management Plan based on a thorough review of its goals, objectives and current needs. (*Plan Preparation & Evaluation, Objective #2 and #3*)

1. *Existing Tree Inventory*

- a) In 2014, members of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee completed an inventory update of trees along Main Street.
- b) The last complete inventory of the Borough’s public tree population is believed to have been completed in the 1960’s.

2. *Current Tree Assessment*

- a) Based on the recent Main Street Inventory and information from the 1960’s inventory, together with planting and maintenance records, observations by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee and the Superintendent of Public Works, and a simple windshield survey completed in conjunction with the preparation of this Plan, it is believed that the public tree population:
 - i) Is comprised of a relatively wide variety of species and cultivars due to a conscious effort to increase diversity through past planting programs.
 - ii) Contains a significant number of crabapples, tree lilacs and other small species as a result of efforts to reduce tree and utility conflicts over many years.
 - iii) Contains a significant number of mature oaks, mature to over-mature maples, and other native species.
 - iv) Contains a number of ‘Bradford’ Callery pears, which have been subject to structural failure in recent years.
- b) No information is currently available regarding the extent, composition and condition of shade trees and forest trees on private lands in the Borough.

RELATION TO
THE BOROUGH’S
MASTER PLAN

All aspects of this Community Forestry Management Plan are consistent and compatible with the vision, goals and objectives of the Borough of Mendham Master Plan (2006) and its reassessment (2011).

Protective of its character, its streetscape, its development, and its residents, Mendham Borough is a semi-rural residential community, which serves as the State designated regional center and business district for the Mendhams.

Mendham has a vision of maintaining its bucolic nature and character, while evolving to better serve the needs of its current and future residents. The Borough’s role in the 2006 Master Plan’s Vision Statement is defined as:

- *A **multi-generational community**, with a broad spectrum of housing options that enable residents to raise their families and to remain in the community once their children have grown;*
- *A **protector** of the character of its streetscape and buildings, requiring a commitment to continual renovation, restoration, preservation, and maintenance to protect the current and future landmarks of the community;*
- *An **advocate** for the protection of open space and natural resources;*
- *A **supporter** of entities of all types that can contribute to the ambiance of a Village Center;*
- *A **host** to the growth of home offices and home professions, enabling residents to live, work, and play*

in their home community, with a commitment to the modifications necessary to achieve this without impacting the infrastructure, services, or privacy of neighbors;

- *A **catalyst** to promote volunteerism and to identify new and better ways of working with the community;*
- *An **ally** of retail and service oriented businesses in line with the demographics and socioeconomic characteristics of the Borough.*

Generally, programs outlined in this Community Forestry Management Plan will help preserve the historic character and aesthetic appeal of the existing streetscapes, the residential neighborhoods and the Borough's environment. They will contribute to a healthier environment, enhance and maintain property values, and contribute to the ambiance of the Village Center, all while promoting volunteerism and supporting a greater sense of community.

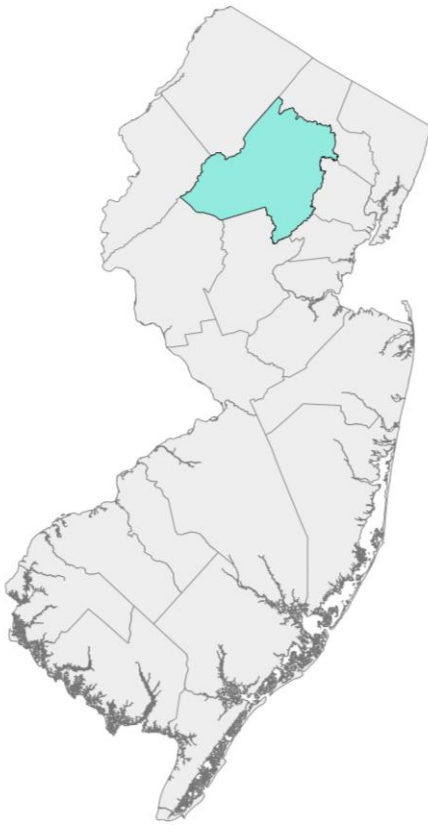
Additionally, implementation of this Community Forestry Management Plan will directly address or indirectly support several Goals and Objectives of the Master Plan, which are established as follows:

- *To retain the small town character of the community by implementing the Village Planning Criteria as adopted for Village Center Clusters to plan for new development within the Village boundary;*
- *To preserve the rural quality of the Borough and its historic heritage beyond the Village environs;*
- *To protect and preserve the Borough's open space and natural resources of soils, vegetation, air, and water through the wise use of planning techniques and careful control of land development;*
- *To maintain a reasonable balance and variety of housing options within an approved housing element;*
- *To maintain healthy business districts with a diversity of local businesses to serve the residents of Mendham Borough;*
- *To improve traffic flow and provide for the safe movement of people and vehicles through the Borough while minimizing adverse impact on residential streets;*
- *To provide adequate local community services and recreational facilities;*
- *To recognize and encourage preservation and designation of those historic properties and buildings that contribute to the unique atmosphere of Mendham, particularly those in the Historic District and which are on the State and National Registers of Historic Places;*
- *To integrate new development and redevelopment into the historic fabric of the Village Center area;*
- *To maintain the quality and historic character of existing buildings, including all structures which contribute to the Borough's history;*
- *To continue to participate in area-wide programs for proper watershed management.*



Mendham is located within the County of Morris, in the State of New Jersey.

Morris County's Location Within the State of New Jersey:

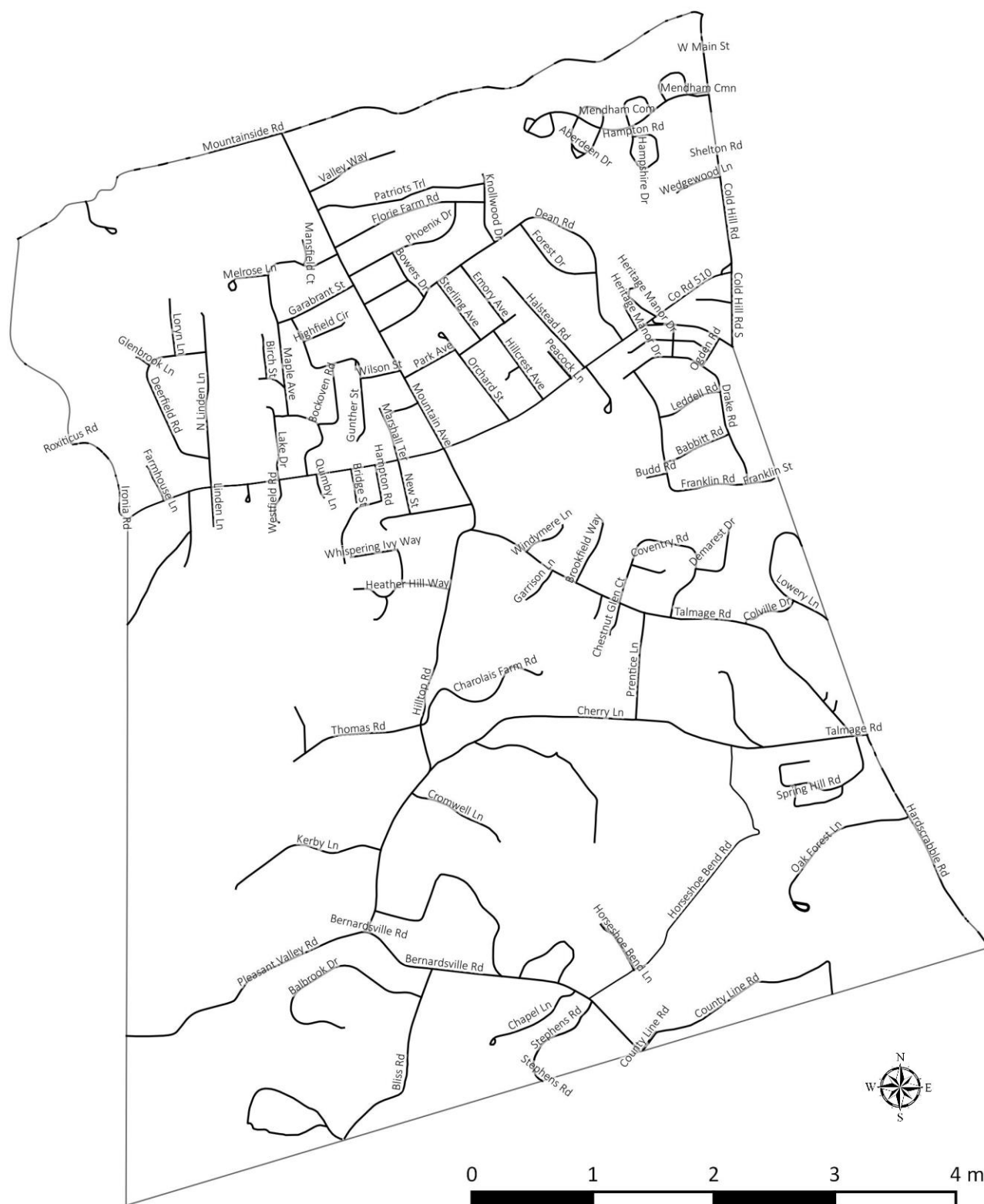


Mendham's Location within Morris County:



*Counties and municipalities maps generated from the NJ Office of Information Technology (NJGIT), Office of Geographic Information Systems (OGIS)
"Municipalities of New Jersey (Clipped to Coast) Edition 20121228" data.*

Street Map of the Borough of Mendham:



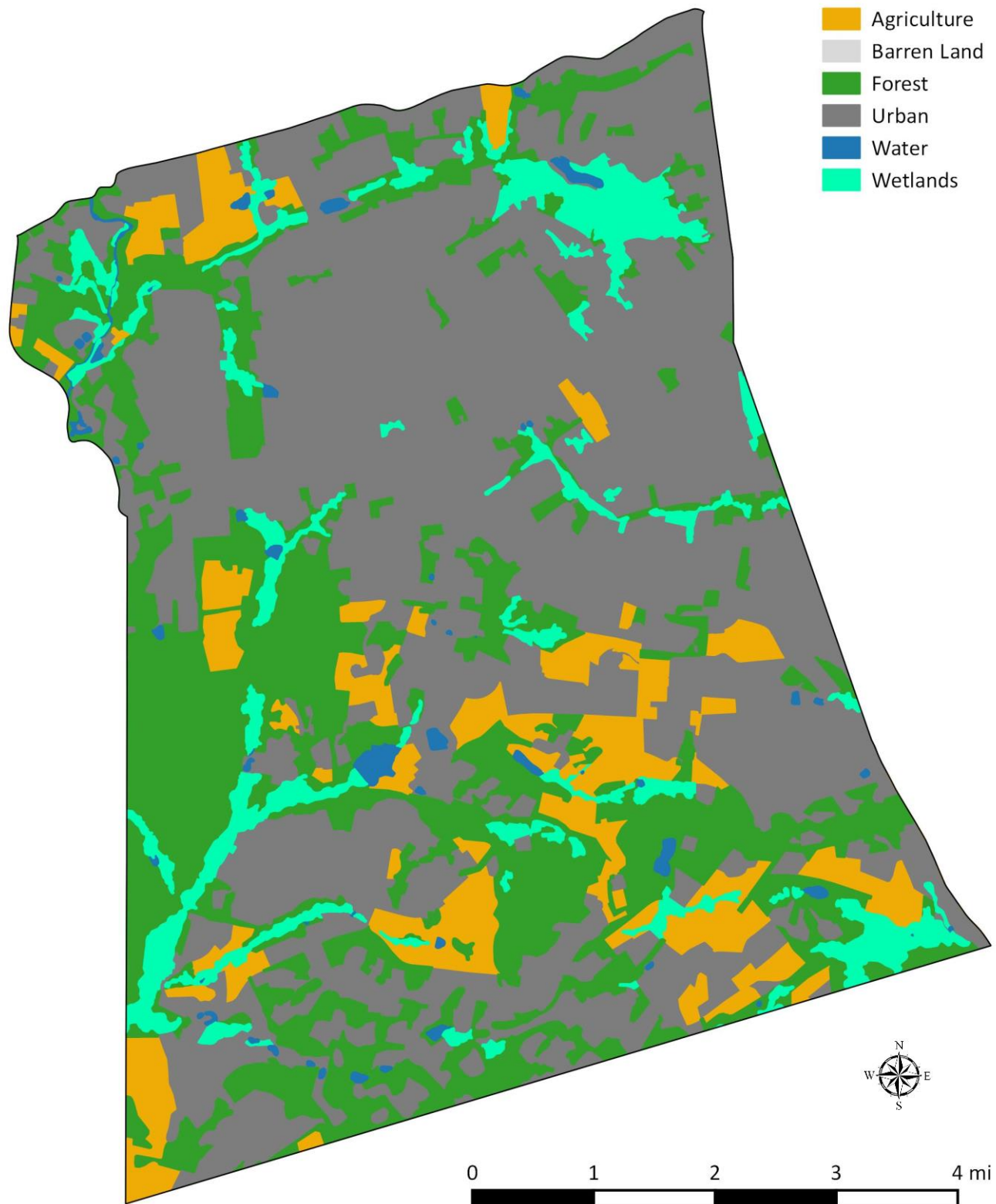
Roads map generated from the US Census Bureau "TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, state, New Jersey, Primary and Secondary Roads State-based Shapefile".

Satellite Imagery of the Borough of Mendham:



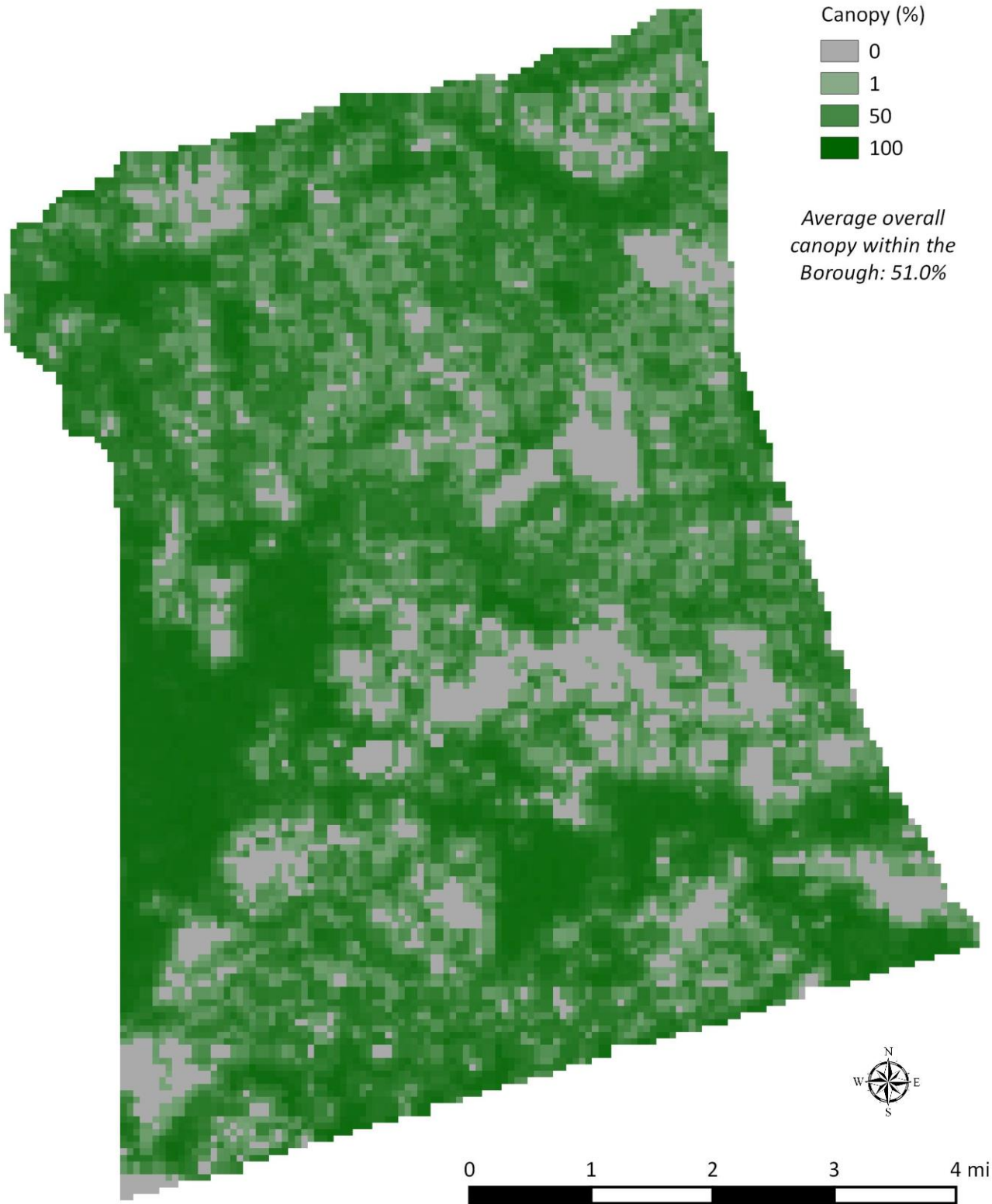
Satellite orthophotography courtesy of the NJOIT, OGIS (2012-2013).

Land Use / Land Cover within the Borough of Mendham:



Land use/land cover map generated from the NJOIT, OGIS "Land Use/Land Cover 2012 Update" data.

Canopy Cover within the Borough of Mendham:

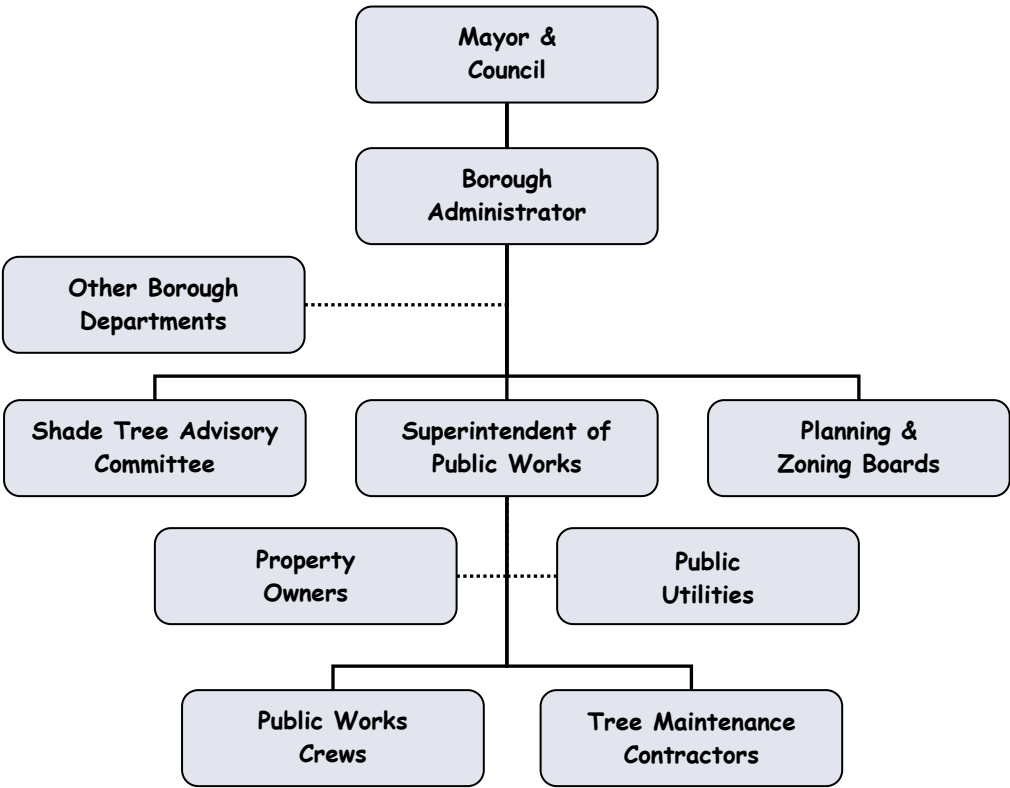


Percent canopy cover map generated from the National Land Cover Database (NLCD) Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium data (2011). Standard deviation of this canopy cover analysis was determined to be 15.0% according to the MRLC analytical canopy data.

SHADE TREE PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The Mendham Borough Council is primarily responsible, by ordinance, for the management of the Borough’s tree resources. The Superintendent of Public Works is charged with the duty of implementing day-to-day tree planting, maintenance and protection programs on the Council’s behalf.

Several other Borough departments and external groups cooperate with the Borough Council and the Superintendent of Public Works to comprise Mendham Borough’s Shade Tree Program, as follows:



SHADE TREE PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

1. *Mayor & Council*
 - a) The Borough Council is responsible for appointing members to the various Borough boards and commissions.
 - b) The Borough Council has ultimate authority over the policies, procedures, and programs of the Shade Tree Program and is responsible for approving its budget.
 - c) The Borough Council is responsible, by ordinance, for:
 - i) Regulating and controlling the use of the grounds surrounding shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery, so far as may be necessary for their proper growth, care, and protection.
 - ii) Removing or requiring the removal of any tree or part thereof dangerous to public safety.

- iii) Administering the treatment or removal of any trees on private property which harbor a disease or insects that may threaten the health of trees throughout the Borough.
- iv) Appropriating funds, as necessary, for the purchase of trees and shrubbery, equipment and materials, and services.

2. Borough Administrator

- a) The Borough Administrator serves as the chief administrative official of the Borough.
- b) The Borough Administrator ensures that the Borough follows all applicable laws, policies and procedures in the procurement of personnel, resources and contractors.
- c) In accordance with Chapter 202 of the Borough Code, *Tree Conservation and Protection*, the Borough Administrator is responsible for issuing permits for tree removal.

3. Superintendent of Public Works

- a) The Superintendent of Public Works is charged, by ordinance, with the duty of overseeing the daily operations of the Shade Tree Program on the Borough Council's behalf.
- b) By ordinance and in practice, the Superintendent of Public Works is responsible for:
 - i) Assisting in administering applicable ordinances, rules and regulations relating to public trees.
 - ii) Overseeing the pruning, removal and planting of public trees, as necessary.
 - iii) Supervising tree maintenance and planting contractors employed by the Borough.
 - iv) Providing emergency response service, when appropriate.

4. Shade Tree Advisory Committee

- a) The Shade Tree Advisory Committee is a group of five resident volunteers appointed by the Mayor.
- b) By ordinance and in practice, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is responsible for:
 - i) Preparing programs and plans for consideration by the governing body and the Superintendent of Public Works with respect to the purchase, planting, care, rearing, trimming, preserving and control of the shade and ornamental trees of the Borough.
 - ii) Meeting with the Borough Council and the Superintendent of Public Works upon their request for discussion of programs and recommendations.
 - iii) Consulting regularly with the Borough Council and the Superintendent of Public Works concerning the shade tree program of the Borough.
 - iv) Assisting the Superintendent of Public Works in identifying tree maintenance needs and available planting sites within the Borough.
 - v) Encouraging arboriculture in the Borough.
 - vi) Reviewing and commenting on subdivision applications before the Planning Board, inspecting the property in question, and characterizing its existing tree resources.
 - vii) Assisting in tracking and evaluating progress toward the long-term goals of this Community Forestry Management Plan and adjusting short-term goals and annual tasks, as necessary.

5. Planning Board & Zoning Board of Adjustment

- a) The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment are responsible for administering various elements of the Borough Code and Borough Master Plan that relate to the preservation of trees and other natural resources and landscaping and buffer requirements during site development.
- b) The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment are responsible for reviewing, approving and enforcing plans for tree removal and replacement in conjunction with subdivision and site plan applications in accordance with Chapter 202 of the Borough Code, *Tree Conservation and Protection*.

6. Tree Planting & Maintenance Contractors

- a) Private contractors are periodically hired to complete public tree maintenance work. Currently, work completed by contractors is limited to emergency and crane work.
- b) Contractors are, within the terms of their agreement, responsible for:
 - i) Completing all work to the specifications of the Borough in an efficient and safe manner.
 - ii) Following all current and accepted arboricultural standards and practices and abiding by all current and applicable safety standards relating to tree care operations.
 - iii) Reporting any tree-related hazards or other problems immediately to the Borough.

7. Community Volunteers

- a) Residents of Mendham Borough periodically assist the Shade Tree Program by serving on the Shade Tree Advisory Committee and participating in various special projects.

8. Other Borough Departments, Boards & Commissions

- a) Other departments and boards assist the Shade Tree Program to the extent that they administer and implement Borough ordinances, policies and procedures that directly or indirectly relate to the Shade Tree Program. For example:
 - i) The Borough Engineer is responsible for making site inspections to ensure that plans approved by the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment are properly implemented, in accordance with Chapter 202 of the Borough Code, *Tree Conservation and Protection*.
 - ii) All departments notify the Department of Public Works of tree-related damage and hazards for emergency response.

9. Property Owners

- a) Private property owners assist in the Shade Tree Program to the extent that they:
 - i) Notify the Borough of problems and service requests for public trees (*see procedures below*).
 - ii) Are asked to monitor the condition of newly planted street trees and notify the Borough of any problems noted.
 - iii) Are required to comply with the Borough's *Tree Conservation and Protection* ordinance.
 - iv) Are encouraged to plant and properly care for trees on private property.

10. Public Utilities

- a) Public utilities are responsible for minimizing conflicts between trees and their facilities.
- b) While doing so, public utilities and their contractors are responsible for:
 - i) Abiding by all applicable ordinances.
 - ii) Keeping the Borough informed of their work plans and schedules.
 - iii) Exercising reasonable diligence in the installation and maintenance of their facilities so as to avoid damage to public and private trees.
 - iv) Not removing any tree without prior approval of the Borough or its owner.
 - v) Following all current and accepted arboricultural standards and practices.
 - vi) Assisting Borough personnel and contractors in completing tree removal and maintenance work around their facilities, where necessary.

**RELATED
ORDINANCES**

The following portions of the Mendham Code govern, authorize or relate to Mendham's Shade Tree Program:

- 1. Chapter 54 of the Code of the Borough of Mendham, *Shade Tree Advisory Committee* (adopted November 4, 1974), which establishes the Shade Tree Advisory Committee (*see Appendix*).

**TREE SERVICE
REQUEST
PROCEDURES**

2. Chapter 202 of the Code of the Borough of Mendham, *Tree Care, Conservation and Protection* (Ordinance # 5-00, adopted April 17, 2000, and Ordinance # 14-10, adopted December 6, 2010), which regulates the removal, protection, and care of trees on private lands (*see Appendix*).

Requests for the pruning, removal, planting or other treatment of public trees are normally initiated by adjoining property owners, but may also be generated internally by Borough personnel and other sources.

All requests are processed in the following manner:

1. Requests are received by, or forwarded to, the Superintendent of Public Works.
2. The requester is provided information regarding Borough procedures and the anticipated response time.
3. Requests are prioritized according to the nature of the request and the information provided by the requester.
4. All trees are inspected by the Superintendent of Public Works or a member of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee to determine the validity of the complaint or request, the nature of the work necessary, and the urgency with which corrective work must be completed.
5. The requester is informed of the inspection findings, the action to be taken and the anticipated response time in person or via telephone or letter.
6. Any pruning, removal or other work necessary is prioritized and scheduled for completion by the Department of Public Works, a Borough contractor, or County crews, as appropriate.
7. Records of inspections and any corrective work completed are maintained through Borough work orders and contractor records.

**2016 – 2020
OBJECTIVES**

1. ***Ongoing Administrative Programs***
 - a) *2016 – 2020*
 - i) Continue implementing the administrative programs, policies and procedures already in effect.

OVERVIEW	The following is a summary of the annual resources available to Mendham Borough's Shade Tree Program, on average, in recent years. Several of the objectives contained within this Plan may require resources beyond those currently available. The Borough's ability to fully satisfy these objectives may be dependent upon its ability to secure additional funding through internal or external sources.	
2011 – 2015 GRANTS RECEIVED	During the 2011 – 2015 management period, the Borough of Mendham received the following grants to assist its Shade Tree Program. 2015 Green Communities Grant for preparation of this third five-year Community Forestry Management Plan.	
EMPLOYEE SALARY & WAGES	Borough Administrator Superintendent of Public Works Department of Public Works Personnel Administrative personnel <i>Subtotal (total salary and benefits prorated by percent of time dedicated to the Shade Tree Program)</i>	<i>\$56,890.00</i>
OPERATIONS	Contracted tree maintenance Crane rental Stump grinder rental Training & professional development Memberships & subscriptions Other expenses <i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$12,000.00</i>
BOROUGH EQUIPMENT	(1) 30' Bucket truck (shared with Mendham Township) (1) Chip-body truck (1) Chipper (1) Dump truck (1) Loader Various chainsaws and related small tools <i>Subtotal (estimated annual value based on value amortized over 5 – 10 year service life, plus annual maintenance, repairs, etc. and prorated by percent of time used by the Shade Tree Program)</i>	<i>\$8,500.00</i>

TREE PLANTING	Cost of trees purchased	
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$5,600.00</i>
TREE WASTE RECYCLING	Trucking and disposal of brush and leaves at recycling facility	
	Chipping	
	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$45,000.00</i>
VOLUNTEER SERVICES	Shade Tree Advisory Committee members	
	Scouts and other community volunteers	
	<i>Subtotal (250 hrs per year @ \$20.25)</i>	<i>\$5,062.50</i>
TOTALS	<i>Borough Resources</i>	<i>\$127,990.00</i>
	<i>Value of Volunteer Contributions</i>	<i>\$5,062.50</i>



Training & Professional Development

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. Provide individuals within the Shade Tree Program with sufficient knowledge to make sound and effective short and long-term management decisions.
2. Ensure that tasks are planned and implemented using the latest technical information and current industry standards.
3. Ensure continuity in the overall level of knowledge and expertise as individuals leave the Shade Tree Program and new ones join.
4. Satisfy the training requirements of the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act to maintain Approved Status and program eligibility without lapse.
5. Maintain at least (3) CORE Trained individuals, including at least two employees or elected officials, to avoid a lapse in Approved Status if an individual leaves the Program.
6. Satisfy the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act's annual continuing education requirements.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. ***Training Provisions***
 - a) Training and professional development opportunities in arboriculture and urban forestry continue to be made available to employees and volunteers serving the Borough's Shade Tree Program.
 - b) These opportunities include Continuing Education as required under the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act.
 - c) The cost of training is funded by the attendee's respective department, board, or committee.
2. ***NJ Community Forestry's Training Skills & Accreditation Program***
 - a) At the time this Plan was prepared, (2) individuals had satisfied the CORE Training requirements of the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act Training Skills & Accreditation Program including:
 - i) (1) Borough employee
 - ii) (1) Shade Tree Advisory Committee volunteer
3. ***Current Expertise, Licenses & Certifications***
 - a) The Superintendent of Public Works is a Certified Public Works Manager and Certified Recycling Professional.
 - b) One member of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is a New Jersey Certified Tree Expert.
4. ***Recent Training***
 - a) Shade Tree Program participants attend meetings held by, and routinely utilize the resources of, various industry organizations including:
 - i) New Jersey Shade Tree Federation
 - ii) International Society of Arboriculture
 - iii) New Jersey Arborists, Chapter ISA

**CURRENT
TRAINING NEEDS**

- b) The Superintendent of Public Works routinely attends training programs required for maintenance of his Certified Public Works Manager and Certified Recycling Professional certifications.
- c) Employees of the Department of Public Works are provided with ongoing safety and related training.

The Borough has reviewed its existing programs and personnel and identified the following areas in which training is currently needed or should be considered:

- 1. Tree hazard identification and assessment for Department of Public Works personnel and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members.
- 2. Tree pruning training for Department of Public Works personnel.
- 3. Insect pest training with emphasis on emerald ash borer for Department of Public Works personnel and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members.
- 4. Electrical Hazard Awareness training for Department of Public Works personnel.

**2016 – 2020
OBJECTIVES**

- 1. ***Ongoing Training Programs***
 - a) *2016 – 2020*
 - i) Continue to attend training programs, in addition to the following objectives, that address the Current Training Needs listed above as appropriate programs become available.
 - ii) Maximize the number of different individuals who increase their level of expertise.
- 2. ***NJ Community Forestry's Training Skills & Accreditation Program***
 - a) *January – March, Annually*
 - i) Review training needs and upcoming training opportunities.
 - ii) Ensure that the Borough will accumulate the necessary continuing education credits required under the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act by the end of each year.
 - iii) Schedule CORE training for additional individuals, as necessary, to maintain three or more CORE trained individuals including at least one Borough employee or elected official and at least one Shade Tree Program volunteer.
- 3. ***Insect & Disease Diagnosis***
 - a) *January – December 2016*
 - i) Train at least two individuals actively involved in the Borough's Shade Tree Program in the principles of tree health evaluation, procedures for diagnosing tree ills via observation, sampling and testing, and the identification of pests and diseases currently, or likely to be, issues in Wood-Ridge – with an emphasis on emerald ash borer identification and treatment. Preference will be given to a multi-day class taught by an expert plant pathologist or entomologist and/or an in-house, hands-on, field based program.
- 4. ***Young Tree Developmental Pruning Training***
 - a) *January – December 2017*
 - i) Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members in pruning young trees in accordance with ANSI A300 standards to promote the development of a structurally sound trunk and crown form, minimize conflicts with roads and utilities, and minimize the need for severe pruning as the trees mature.
 - ii) To the extent feasible, preference will be given to an in-house, hands-on training session by a NJ Certified Tree Expert in conjunction with the actual pruning of Borough trees.

5. *Tree Hazard Evaluation Training*

a) *January – December 2018*

- i) Train at least one additional Shade Tree Advisory Committee member and one additional Department of Public Works employee to recognize and evaluate potential tree hazards using the latest information and techniques.

6. *Electrical Hazard Awareness Training*

a) *January – December 2019*

- i) Provide formal training to all Department of Public Works tree workers in recognizing and avoiding electrical hazards associated with tree work in accordance with OSHA 1910.269 requirements and the ANSI Z133.1 tree worker safety standard.

7. *Mature Tree Pruning Training*

a) *January – December 2020*

- i) Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees in the proper pruning of mature trees in accordance with ANSI A300 standards, including the development of pruning objectives, hands-on techniques, and tree worker safety.



Public Education, Awareness & Outreach

PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS & OUTREACH GOALS

1. Increase and maintain public interest and support for Mendham's Shade Tree Program.
2. Encourage residents and local civic organizations to volunteer and assist in implementing shade tree programs, protecting public trees, and beautifying the Borough.
3. Promote the planting, protection and proper care of trees on private property for the benefit of the entire community.
4. Educate citizens in the value of environmental stewardship.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. **Arbor Day**
 - a) Arbor Day programs are held annually in Mendham, typically in conjunction with Earth Day celebrations.
 - b) Annual programs typically include clean-up projects, tree plantings, tree mulching, and other tree maintenance and environmental stewardship projects.
 - c) Participants typically include the Shade Tree Advisory Committee, the Environmental Commission, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, residents, the Borough Administrator, and other Borough officials.
2. **Tree City USA & Other Awards**
 - a) The Borough has been designated as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for five consecutive years, since 2011.
3. **Media**
 - a) The Borough newsletter, *The Mendham Messenger*, periodically runs announcements regarding Arbor Day and other Shade Tree programs and events.
 - b) The Borough website, www.mendhamnj.org, provides a wide range of information about the Borough. The Shade Tree Program page includes information on how to prune trees, benefits of trees, new tree planting, and proper mulching techniques. The Department of Public Works page includes information on brush pickup.
4. **Special Projects**
 - a) The Borough has completed, or is in the process of planning, several special projects that involve improvements to Borough Parks and the planting of trees and other vegetation with the help of community volunteers. Projects recently completed or currently in planning include:
 - i) The planting of *Metasequoia* and other trees at India Brook Park in 2011.
 - ii) The planting of trees and other landscaping at the newly acquired, 1/2 –acre Tranquility Garden in October 2013.

2016 – 2020 OBJECTIVES

1. **Ongoing Public Education, Awareness & Outreach Programs**
 - a) **2016 – 2020**
 - i) Continue all existing public education, awareness and outreach programs on a regular basis and improve and expand programs in accordance with the following objectives.

2. Annual Arbor Day Programs

a) January – April, Annually

- i) Continue to organize and conduct an official Arbor Day program.
 - Seek assistance from local civic groups, the Board of Education, local businesses, scouts, Garden Club, and others to help spread the workload and maximize visibility and attendance at the programs.
 - Vary the location, activities and target audience each year to help ensure a broad range of exposure and interest.

b) April – June, Annually

- i) Conduct a tree tubing success contest with Borough residents who received free tublings from the annual Arbor Day celebration.
 - Hand out information about the contest with tublings as they are given away at Arbor Day celebrations.
 - Have residents email in pictures of their tublings' success the spring following tubing dispersal to show the plant's success and health.
 - Display a picture of the winner with their tubing, along with their name and a brief description, on the Borough website and in local newspapers or press releases each year.

3. Tree City USA

a) October – December, Annually

- i) Prepare and submit the annual application for continued designation as a Tree City USA through the National Arbor Day Foundation's recognition program.
- ii) Continue to advertise the designation by displaying the program's promotional materials throughout the Borough and in other public relations materials (road signs, plaques, truck decals, stationary logo, etc.).

4. Shade Tree Program Web Page

a) 2016 – 2020

- i) Update the web page regularly to keep the information current and interesting to the general public.

5. Disease and Pest Section on Borough Web Page

a) January – December 2017

- i) Add a page on the Borough website with information about emerald ash borer and its signs, boxwood blight and resistant cultivars, bacterial leaf scorch and its signs, and other disease and pest issues relevant to the Borough's tree population.

6. Press Releases & Educational Articles

a) 2016 – 2020

- i) Issue at least two articles per year that are dedicated to educational and general interest subjects, in addition to ongoing program announcements, to help increase public awareness, interest and support for the Shade Tree Program and tree planting and preservation in general.
- ii) These articles and announcements will be posted on the Shade Tree Program webpage, or in local newspapers or Borough newsletters, as appropriate.
- iii) These articles may be reprints of articles from various sources, such as the International Society of Arboriculture, the National Arbor Foundation, etc., or produced in-house by members of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee or Borough employees.
- iv) Applicable subjects include:
 - The environmental, social and economic benefits of trees to the community.

- Calls for volunteers.
- Shade Tree Program services, policies and ordinance requirements.
- Shade Tree Program awards (e.g. Tree City USA).
- Shade Tree Program events and projects (e.g. Arbor Day programs, adoption of this Community Forestry Management Plan, grants received, training completed, completion of a tree inventory, planting and pruning projects, etc.).
- General tree maintenance tips for private homeowners (e.g. species selection, proper pruning and other maintenance techniques, how to select a professional tree maintenance firm, etc.).
- Selecting and planting trees on private property.
- Issues with planting exotic invasive species and species to avoid.
- Proper mulching and avoiding root collar damage.
- Timely tree health concerns (drought, maple decline, summer shedding of bark on London plan and sycamore, Asian Longhorn beetle, bacterial leaf scorch, hemlock woolly adelgid, etc.) and recommendations for treatment.
- Emerald ash borer issues, especially if the insect is found in the Borough or adjacent municipalities.
- Measures for protecting trees during construction.
- The hazards of cutting roots during sidewalk repair and alternative methods to consider.
- Causes and remedies for root intrusion into sewers.
- How to manage invasive plants.



Tree Inventory & Assessment

TREE INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT GOALS

1. Provide accurate information regarding the Borough's tree resources upon which sound management decisions can be made.
2. Provide a means of monitoring trends in the tree resources and evaluating the impact of management efforts over time.
3. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of tree maintenance, hazard identification and abatement, and planting programs.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. **Existing Tree Inventory**
 - a) Members of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee recently completed an inventory update of trees along Main Street.
 - b) The last complete inventory of the Borough's public tree population is believed to have been completed in the 1960's.
2. **Current Tree Assessment**
 - a) Based on the recent Main Street Inventory update, information from the 1960's inventory, planting and maintenance records, observations by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee and the Superintendent of Public Works, and a simple windshield survey completed in conjunction with the preparation of this Plan, it is believed that the public tree population:
 - i) Is comprised of a relatively wide variety of species and cultivars due to a conscious effort to increase diversity through past planting programs.
 - ii) Contains a significant number of crabapples, tree lilacs, and other small species as a result of efforts to reduce tree and utility conflicts over many years.
 - iii) Contains a significant number of oaks, maples and other native species.
 - iv) Contains a number of 'Bradford' Callery pears, which have been subject to structural failure in recent years.
 - b) No information is currently available regarding the extent, composition and condition of shade trees and forest trees on private lands in the Borough.

2016 – 2020 OBJECTIVES

1. **Tree Inventory & Assessment**
 - a) *January – March 2018*
 - i) Develop plans to conduct an inventory and assessment of the Borough's public trees on Mountain Avenue, and other locations if time and resources allow. Inventory information will be entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. In-house employees and/or volunteers will be utilized for the inventory, as resources allow.
 - b) *April – June 2018*
 - i) Complete field data collection. Adjust timing as needed depending on volunteer and employee resources.
 - ii) Complete data entry concurrently.



Tree Hazard Management

TREE HAZARD MANAGEMENT GOALS

1. Minimize the risk of trees to public safety.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. ***Tree Hazard Identification***

- a) Hazardous tree conditions are generally identified via:
 - i) Service requests from adjacent property owners.
 - ii) Ongoing observations by the Department of Public Works, other Borough employees, and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members during the course of their daily activities.

2. ***Tree Hazard Abatement Procedures***

- a) The Superintendent of Public Works and/or the Shade Tree Advisory Committee members inspect all trees for which potential problems have been identified and determine needs for pruning, removal or other treatments to correct the hazards identified. The head of the Office of Emergency Management is a member of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.
- b) Work orders and contract lists are created, prioritized and completed immediately, when time and available resources permit, or at the appropriate time in the future, based upon the degree of hazard potential.

3. ***Record-Keeping***

- a) Records of inspections and public tree pruning and removal work are maintained by the Department of Public Works.

2016 – 2020 OBJECTIVES

1. ***Ongoing Tree Hazard Management Programs***

- a) *2016 – 2020*
 - i) Continue implementing all existing tree hazard management programs.
 - ii) Continue to address hazard abatement needs as they are identified in order of priority.

2. ***Tree Hazard Evaluation Training***

(see Training & Professional Development, Objective #5)

TREE PLANTING GOALS

1. Achieve and perpetuate the public tree population at maximum practical stocking (the total number of shade trees that is appropriate and which the Borough can effectively manage, given available resources).
2. Optimize and maintain species diversity in the public tree population, while minimizing the presence of exotic invasive species.
3. Optimize and maintain age diversity in the public tree population.
4. Minimize future tree maintenance needs.
5. Minimize conflicts between trees and sidewalks, utilities and other public and private fixtures.
6. Maximize the aesthetic appeal, seasonal variation and physical benefits of trees to the Borough.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. ***Planting Jurisdiction***
 - a) The Borough currently plants trees:
 - i) Within Borough rights-of-way.
 - ii) Within Morris County street rights-of-way.
 - iii) On Borough-owned properties.
 - iv) In Borough parks.
 - b) The Borough does not plant trees on private property.
2. ***Planting vs. Removal Ratio***
 - a) The ratio of Borough trees planted versus removed over the past several years has essentially maintained the number of trees in the public tree population.
 - i) In recent years, the Borough has planted an average of 15 new trees per year along public rights-of-way and in Borough parks.
 - 2011: 6
 - 2012: 26
 - 2013: 0
 - 2014: 16
 - 2015: 28
 - ii) Over this same time period, the Borough has removed approximately 15-20 Borough trees per year.
3. ***Planting Location & Tree Placement***
 - a) Planting locations are identified via:
 - i) Vacancies created by the removal of dead or hazardous trees.
 - ii) Requests from adjacent property owners.
 - b) Trees are placed:
 - i) Within the public right-of-way or on Borough-owned properties – trees are not currently planted by the Borough on private property.

- ii) In a manner that will minimize future conflicts with above and belowground utilities, hardscape fixtures and traffic. Street trees are placed near the right-of-way boundary, wherever possible, to help minimize conflicts with sidewalks and overhead utilities.

4. *Species Selection*

- a) Species are selected by:
 - i) The Superintendent of Public Works or the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.
- b) Species are selected with consideration to:
 - i) Available growing space and above and belowground restrictions.
 - Since the 1950's, consistent effort has been made to plant small and medium size species, where necessary, to minimize utility and sidewalk conflicts.
 - ii) Replacement of the species that was removed or is most prevalent on a given roadway, if the species is appropriate and desired.
 - iii) Future maintenance requirements and past species performance.
 - For example, where maples are desired, red maple is currently planted in favor of Norway and sugar maple, which have performed poorly in street plantings.

5. *Tree Supply & Installation*

- a) Currently, all trees are purchased and planted by the Department of Public Works, except in cases of volunteer plantings and donations.

6. *Post-Planting Care*

- a) Post-planting maintenance includes:
 - i) Removal of stakes, wire, and trunk wrap by the Department of Public Works.
 - ii) Irrigation by the Department of Public Works.
 - iii) Periodic inspection by a member of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

7. *Funding & Sources*

- a) The cost of trees purchased and installed by the Department of Public Works is funded or subsidized by the Borough's general operating expense budget for shade tree planting and maintenance.

8. *Stormwater Management*

- a) Elements of the Borough Code require the preservation, planting and/or maintenance of buffers and filter strips along waterways and drainage courses, minimization of impervious groundcover, and the design and construction of stormwater collection systems in conjunction with new development to ensure efficient, natural drainage and minimize the runoff of silt, nutrients, and pollutant laden stormwater into local water networks.
- b) Owners of previously developed lands are urged to plant and maintain trees, shrubs and other plants to help protect waterways from runoff and stream bank erosion, and to minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides on their properties.

2016 – 2020 OBJECTIVES

1. *Ongoing Tree Planting Programs*

- a) *2016 – 2020*
 - i) Continue implementing all existing tree planting programs, policies and procedures.

TREE MAINTENANCE GOALS

1. Improve and maintain the overall health and structural condition of the tree population.
2. Maximize the service life of public trees.
3. Encourage sound structural development in young trees to minimize the risk of structural failures and the need for severe pruning as they mature.
4. Maintain public safety.
5. Respond promptly and effectively to citizen complaints and service requests.
6. Optimize the benefits that public trees provide to the community relative to the cost of maintaining them.
7. Identify and obtain outside funding to assist in annual and extraordinary tree maintenance expenses.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. ***In-House Crews***
 - a) Currently, Department of Public Works employees complete approximately:
 - i) 40% of all public tree removal work
 - ii) 50% of all public tree pruning work (all developmental pruning, no large pruning work)
 - iii) 100% of all public stump removal work
 - iv) 90% of all emergency tree work
 - b) The Department of Public Works is currently equipped with:
 - i) (1) 30' Bucket truck (shared with Mendham Township)
 - ii) (1) Chip-body truck
 - iii) (1) Chipper
 - iv) (1) Dump truck
 - v) (1) Loader
 - vi) Various chainsaws and related small tools
2. ***Private Contractors***
 - a) Private tree maintenance firms are occasionally hired to complete, or assist the Department of Public Works in completing, tree maintenance work. Contracted work is generally limited to emergency work and work requiring a crane.
 - b) Contractors currently complete approximately:
 - i) 60% of all public tree removal work
 - ii) 50% of all public tree pruning work (no developmental pruning, all large pruning work)
 - iii) 0% of all public stump removal work
 - iv) 10% of all emergency tree work
3. ***Inter-Local & Mutual Assistance Agreements***
 - a) The Borough currently shares a 30-foot aerial bucket truck with Mendham Township.
 - b) Borough crews and contractors cooperate with Jersey Central Power & Light when pruning and removing trees in proximity to their electric lines.

4. *Systematic Maintenance Programs*

- a) The Borough currently lacks a program for systematically pruning public trees on a Borough-wide, rotation basis.
- b) The Borough currently lacks a formal, ongoing program for providing developmental pruning for young trees.

5. *Work Identification, Prioritization, Scheduling & Record-Keeping*

- a) Currently, most public tree maintenance needs are identified via:
 - i) Service requests from adjacent property owners.
 - ii) Observations by Department of Public Works and other Borough employees.
- b) All work needs are scheduled and completed in order of priority, as resources permit.
- c) Records of the work completed are maintained through Department of Public Works and contractor records.

6. *Tree Removal*

- a) It is the Borough's policy to not remove live public trees unless they are dead, pose a threat to public safety or pose a risk of spreading serious pests or diseases to other trees.
- b) Trees may not be removed without approval of the Superintendent of Public Works, except in the event of an emergency.
- c) In recent years, the Borough has removed approximately 15-20 public trees per year.

7. *Plant Health Care & Specialty Treatments*

- a) Specialty treatments such as insect and disease controls, fertilization and cabling and bracing are completed on public trees on a very limited, occasional basis when the value and expected longevity of the tree justifies the cost.

8. *Sidewalk Maintenance*

- a) In recent years, tree and sidewalk conflicts have been limited to certain areas of the Borough and relatively few in number.
- b) In practice, the Borough is responsible for maintaining sidewalks in the public right-of-way and is currently implementing a Borough-wide sidewalk replacement program.
- c) The Borough attempts to select species and place new tree plantings in a manner that will minimize future conflicts between trees and sidewalks.

9. *Funding*

- a) The cost of tree maintenance completed by Department of Public Works personnel is covered by the Department's payroll and operating budgets.
- b) The cost of tree maintenance completed by private contractors is covered by the Department of Public Work's operating budget.

**2016 – 2020
OBJECTIVES**

1. *Ongoing Tree Maintenance Programs*

a) *2016 – 2020*

- i) Continue implementing all existing tree maintenance programs, policies and procedures on a regular basis.
- ii) Conduct systematic, area-wide pruning programs as time and resources permit.

2. *Developmental Pruning for Young Trees*

a) *2016 - 2020*

- i) Continue the developmental pruning project of young trees on a systematic basis. Such pruning is a very cost effective way to ensure the development of good form and sound structure as trees mature, minimize future pruning needs, and minimize the development of potentially hazardous structural defects.

3. *Bucket Truck & Stump Grinder Purchase*

a) *January – June 2019*

- i) Analyze the costs and benefits of purchasing a bucket truck and stump grinder to improve the efficiency of the Borough's Shade Tree Program, versus the costs and benefits of continuing to share a bucket truck with Mendham Township and rent a stump grinder.

b) *July – December 2019*

- i) If deemed cost-effective, identify and secure funding for purchasing a bucket truck and/or stump grinder.

c) *January – July 2020*

- i) If deemed feasible and available funding permits, purchase the bucket truck and/or stump grinder.



1. Minimize the cost of tree waste disposal to the Borough.
2. Provide beneficial recycled products to Borough residents and for use on Borough properties.

1. *Recycling Facilities*

- a) The Department of Public Works yard is currently used to receive, temporarily store and transfer waste and recycled materials generated by the Borough's Shade Tree Program.
- b) Materials not used by the Borough or Borough residents are delivered to the Morris County Compost Facility for recycling.

a) All tree wastes generated by Borough crews and private property owners are recycled as follows:

- Property owners deliver leaves collected from private property and Borough personnel deliver leaves collected from public property to the Department of Public Works yard.
- The Department of Public Works compacts and delivers the leaves to the Morris County Compost Facility for composting.
- The resulting compost is utilized by the Borough and made available to Borough residents.

- Wood chips generated by Borough crews and contractors are delivered to and temporarily stockpiled at the Department of Public Works yard.
- Wood chips are used by the Borough as playground bedding and mulch for landscaping and tree plantings.
- Excess wood chips are made available for pickup by Borough residents or delivered by the Department of Public Works at no cost.

- Bulk wood generated by Borough crews is often cut and left at job sites for use as firewood by area residents.
- Excess wood is delivered to a commercial recycling facility for recycling into mulch and other waste wood products.

a) Currently, no income is generated by the Borough from the sale of vegetative wastes or recycled products.

- a) Leaves from developed publicly and privately owned properties are collected and recycled in a manner that minimizes their entry into stormwater drainage systems, streams and rivers.
- b) Stormwater management is addressed in detail in the Borough's *Stormwater Management Plan*.

**2016 – 2020
OBJECTIVES**

1. *Ongoing Tree Waste Recycling Programs*

a) *2016 – 2020*

- i) Continue implementing all existing tree waste recycling programs, policies and procedures.



Tree Care Disaster Plan

TREE CARE DISASTER PLAN GOALS

1. Minimize the risk of widespread tree damage and losses to weather, insect and disease infestations and other forces.
2. Provide the Borough with a viable plan to repair or replace widespread tree damage or losses.
3. Ensure that the Borough is prepared to respond immediately to tree-related emergencies and disasters in a prompt and effective manner.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. ***Tree Emergency & Disaster Threats***
 - a) Severe weather is still considered the most serious threat to the Borough tree populations.
 - b) Widespread structural failures during severe weather also pose a serious threat to electrical service, communications, and the Borough's ability to provide critical emergency services.
 - c) The risk of widespread damage and losses to biotic threats is currently considered moderate, and manageable through increased species diversity and cultivar selection. However, the potential threat of Asian longhorn beetle, emerald ash borer, and bacterial leaf scorch are of growing concern throughout New Jersey.
2. ***Wildfire Protection***
 - a) Wildfire is not considered to be a significant threat to the public tree resource in the Borough of Mendham at this time.
3. ***Storm Water Management***
 - a) Elements of the Borough Code require the preservation, planting and/or maintenance of buffers and filter strips along waterways and drainage courses, minimization of impervious groundcover, and the design and construction of stormwater collection systems in conjunction with new development to ensure efficient, natural drainage, minimize the risk of serious flooding, and minimize the runoff of silt, nutrients, and pollutant-laden stormwater into local water networks.
 - b) Owners of previously developed lands are urged to plant and maintain trees, shrubs and other plants to help protect waterways from runoff and stream bank erosion, and to minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides on their properties.
 - c) Stormwater management is addressed in detail in the Borough's *Stormwater Management Plan*.
4. ***Existing Emergency & Disaster Plans***
 - a) The Mendham Borough Office of Emergency Management's *Emergency Operations Plan* outlines procedures for vital services and cooperative efforts between all Borough departments during an emergency or disaster.
 - b) The Borough currently lacks a formal plan specific to the repair and replacement of widespread tree damage and losses beyond initial emergency response efforts. However, it is believed that technically sound and responsible planting, preventive maintenance and hazard identification and abatement efforts described elsewhere in this Plan will, over the long term, help insulate the Borough against catastrophic losses.
5. ***Emergency Response***
 - a) The Department of Public Works, in cooperation with local utilities and a Borough contractor, is responsible for clearing trees and debris to open roadways and permit restoration of electrical service and communications.

**2016 – 2020
OBJECTIVES**

- b) The Department of Public Works and a Borough contractor remain on 24-hour call to respond to tree-related emergencies.
-
- 1. ***Ongoing Programs***
 - a) *2016 – 2020*
 - i) Continue implementing existing programs, policies and procedures.
 - ii) Continue to implement or expand technically sound and responsible planting, preventive maintenance and hazard identification and abatement programs, as detailed elsewhere in the Plan, to reduce the risk of future tree failures and losses.



Plan Preparation & Evaluation

PLAN PREPARATION & EVALUATION GOALS

1. Ensure that Mendham's Shade Tree Program continues to follow a well-defined, consistent and efficient course of action toward its overall goals.
2. Continually evaluate the success of past programs relative to the Borough's goals and objectives and effectively adjust programs to address changing needs.
3. Remain in compliance with and eligible for the benefits of the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act.

EXISTING PROGRAMS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. Preparation of this third five-year Community Forestry Management Plan was the cooperative effort of the Mendham Borough Department of Public Works, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee, the Borough Administrator, and their consulting arborist.
2. The Borough received a Green Communities grant for the preparation of this plan.

2016 – 2020 OBJECTIVES

1. **Annual Program Evaluation**
 - a) *December, Annually*
 - i) Evaluate the success of the year's activities and accomplishments relative to the goals and objectives contained within this Plan.
 - ii) Adjust programs, as necessary, based upon the evaluation.
 - iii) Prepare and submit the Annual Accomplishment Report to the New Jersey Forest Service in accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act.
2. **Five-Year Evaluation**
 - a) *April – June 2020*
 - i) Evaluate the success of all objectives completed to date.
 - ii) Evaluate progress toward the overall goals of the Shade Tree Program.
 - iii) Begin formulating new objectives and/or adjustments to existing policies, programs and procedures, if necessary to address changing needs, for the 2021 – 2025 management period.
3. **2016 – 2020 Management Plan Development**
 - a) *July – September 2020*
 - i) Finalize new objectives and/or adjustments to existing policies, programs and procedures for the 2021 – 2025 management period.
 - ii) Prepare and submit a Community Forestry Management Plan for the 2021 – 2025 management period.
 - b) *October – December 2020*
 - i) Obtain Plan approval from the New Jersey Community Forestry Council.



Summary of 2016 – 2020 Objectives

Objectives / Tasks	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION						
1. <i>Ongoing Administrative Programs</i>						
☐ Continue implementing the administrative programs, policies and procedures already in effect (p.16, #1.a.i)						
TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT						
1. <i>Ongoing Training Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing training programs on a regular basis and maximize the number of individuals that increase their level of expertise (p.20, #1.a.i-ii)						
2. <i>NJ Community Forestry Training Skills & Accreditation Program</i>						
☐ Review training needs and schedule training, as necessary, to accumulate sufficient CEU's and maintain Approved Status; Schedule individuals for CORE Training, as necessary (p.20, #2.a.i-iii)						
3. <i>Insect & Disease Diagnosis</i>						
☐ Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members in the observation, diagnosis, reporting, treatment, and pathology of diseases and insect pests which may affect Borough trees (p.20, #3.a.i)						
4. <i>Young Tree Developmental Pruning Training</i>						
☐ Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members in pruning young trees to promote the development of sound structure, minimize conflicts and minimize the need for severe pruning in the future (p.20, #4.a.i-ii)						

Objectives / Tasks	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, <i>cont'd</i>						
5. <i>Tree Hazard Awareness Training</i> ☐ Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees and Shade Tree Advisory Committee members to recognize and evaluate potential tree hazards (p.21, #5.a.i)						
6. <i>Electrical Hazard Awareness Training</i> ☐ Provide formal training to all Department of Public Works tree workers in recognizing and avoiding electrical hazards associated with tree work in accordance with OSHA requirements and ANSI safety standards (p.21, #6.a.i)						
7. <i>Mature Tree Pruning Training</i> ☐ Train appropriate Department of Public Works employees in the proper pruning of mature trees in accordance with ANSI A300 standards (p.21, #7.a.i)						
PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS & OUTREACH						
1. <i>Ongoing Public Education, Awareness & Outreach Programs</i> ☐ Continue all existing public education, awareness and outreach programs on a regular basis; Continue to improve and expand programming (p.22, #1.a.i)						
2. <i>Arbor Day Programs</i> ☐ Continue to plan, organize and conduct annual Arbor Day programs (p.23, #2.a.i)						
☐ Conduct annual Arbor Day tree tubling contest (p.23, #2.b.i)						
3. <i>Tree City USA</i> ☐ Prepare and submit annual application for Tree City USA designation, advertise designation by displaying the program's promotional materials (p.23, #3.a.i-ii)						
4. <i>Shade Tree Program Web Page</i> ☐ Update the web page regularly to keep the content current and of interest to the general public (p.23, #4.a.i)						
5. <i>Disease & Pest Section on Borough Web Page</i> ☐ Add a "Diseases and Pests" page to the Borough website to give information about common and upcoming tree diseases and pests, including emerald ash borer, boxwood blight, and bacterial leaf scorch (p.23, #5.a.i)						

Objectives / Tasks	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PUBLIC EDUCATION, AWARENESS & OUTREACH, <i>cont'd</i>						
6. <i>Press Releases & Educational Articles</i>						
☐ Issue at least two articles per year that are dedicated to educational and general interest subjects in addition to ongoing Shade Tree Program announcements (p.23, #6.a.i-iv)						
TREE INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT						
1. <i>Tree Inventory & Assessment</i>						
☐ Develop plans to conduct an inventory and assessment of Mountain Avenue and other locations if time allows, to be entered into Microsoft Excel (p.25, #1.a.i)						
☐ Conduct field data collection and data entry. Adjust timing as needed (p.25, #1.b.i-ii)						
TREE HAZARD MANAGEMENT						
1. <i>Ongoing Tree Hazard Management Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing tree hazard management programs; Continue to address hazard abatement needs as they are identified in priority order (p.26, #1.a.i-ii)						
TREE PLANTING						
1. <i>Ongoing Tree Planting Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing tree planting programs, policies and procedures (p.28, #1.a.i)						
TREE MAINTENANCE						
1. <i>Ongoing Tree Maintenance Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing tree maintenance programs, policies and procedures on a regular basis; Conduct systematic, area-wide pruning programs as time and resources permit (p.31, #1.a.i-ii)						
2. <i>Developmental Pruning for Young Trees</i>						
☐ Continue the developmental pruning project of young trees on a systematic basis to ensure the development of good form and sound structure as trees mature (p.31, #2.a.i)						

Objectives / Tasks	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
TREE MAINTENANCE, <i>cont'd</i>						
3. <i>Bucket Truck & Stump Grinder Purchase</i>						
☐ Analyze the costs and benefits of purchasing a bucket truck and stump grinder to improve the efficiency of the Shade Tree Program (p.31, #3.a.i)						
☐ If deemed cost-effective, identify and secure funding for purchasing a bucket truck and/or stump grinder (p.31, #3.b.i)						
☐ If deemed feasible and available funding permits, purchase the bucket truck and/or stump grinder (p.31, #3.c.i)						
TREE WASTE RECYCLING						
1. <i>Ongoing Tree Waste Recycling Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing tree waste recycling programs, policies and procedures (p.33, #1.a.i)						
TREE CARE DISASTER PLAN						
1. <i>Ongoing Programs</i>						
☐ Continue all existing programs, policies and procedures; Reduce risks via other elements of this Plan (p.35, #1.a.i-ii)						
PLAN PREPARATION & EVALUATION						
1. <i>Annual Program Evaluation</i>						
☐ Evaluate the prior year's accomplishments, identify objectives not yet completed, and adjust programs, as necessary; Prepare and submit an <i>Annual Accomplishment Report</i> to NJFS (p.36, #1.a.i-iii)						
2. <i>Five-Year Evaluation</i>						
☐ Evaluate the Shade Tree Program's accomplishments during the current 5-year management period; Evaluate progress toward the overall goals of the Shade Tree Program; Begin formulating new objectives and program adjustments for the 2021 – 2025 management period (p.36, #2.a.i-iii)						
3. <i>2016 – 2019 Management Plan Development</i>						
☐ Finalize new objectives and program adjustments and prepare and submit a Community Forestry Management Plan for the 2021 – 2025 management period (p.36, #3.a.i-ii)						

Objectives / Tasks	2016				2017				2018				2019				2020				2021			
PLAN PREPARATION & EVALUATION, <i>cont'd</i> ☐ Obtain State approval of the 2021 – 2025 Community Forestry Management Plan (p.36, #3.b.i)																								



Related Ordinances

RELATED ORDINANCES

1. Chapter 54 of the Code of the Borough of Mendham, *Shade Tree Advisory Committee* (adopted November 4, 1974), which establishes the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.
2. Chapter 202 of the Code of the Borough of Mendham, *Tree Conservation and Protection* (Ordinance # 5-00, adopted April 17, 2000), which regulates the removal and protection of trees on private lands.

CHAPTER 54

SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chapter 54, Shade Tree Advisory Committee

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham 11-4-1974 as Ch. 38 of the 1974 Code. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Administrative organization — See Ch. 4, § 4-48J.

Environmental Commission — See Ch. 15.

Department of Public Works — See Ch. 42.

Planning Board — See Ch. 124, Art. I.

Subdivision of land and site plan review — See Ch. 195.

§ 54-1 Establishment; membership.

- A. The Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee is hereby established.
- B. The Advisory Committee shall consist of three members appointed by the Mayor of the Borough of Mendham, who shall be residents of this municipality and shall serve without compensation.

§ 54-2 Term of office.

- A. The first members of the Committee shall be appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this chapter, and their terms of office shall commence on January 1 next succeeding such appointment as follows:
 - (1) One member to serve for a term of one year.
 - (2) One member to serve for a term of two years.
 - (3) One member to serve for a term of three years.
- B. The term of each appointee shall be designated in his or her appointment. All subsequent appointments, except to fill vacancies, shall be for the full term of five years, to take effect on January 1 next succeeding such appointment. In the event that the membership of any Committee is increased, the new members shall be appointed in such manner that the terms shall expire in accordance with the foregoing.

§ 54-3 Organization.

The Advisory Committee shall organize within 60 days after the appointment of its total membership for the remainder of the then calendar year, and thereafter annually by the election of one of its members as Chairperson and the appointment of a Secretary, who need not be a member.

§ 54-4 Filling of vacancies.

Any vacancy occurring by reason of death, resignation or removal of any member of the Advisory Committee shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Mayor of the Borough of Mendham.

§ 54-5 Scope and responsibilities.

The scope and responsibilities of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee shall be as follows:

- A. To prepare programs and plans for consideration by the governing body and the Superintendent of Public Works with respect to the purchase, planting, care, rearing, trimming, preserving and control of the shade and ornamental trees of the borough.
- B. To meet with the Borough Council and the Superintendent of Public Works upon their request for discussion of programs and recommendations.

- C. To consult regularly with the Borough Council and the Superintendent of Public Works concerning the shade tree program of the borough.
- D. To encourage arboriculture.

§ 54-6 Inspection of proposed subdivisions; report to Planning Board.

- A. When application for a subdivision of land is first submitted to the Planning Board, the Planning Board will, within one week, advise the Shade Tree Advisory Committee of the desired subdivision, whereupon the Advisory Committee shall inspect the property involved, noting the number, type and location of the various trees situate on the land proposed to be subdivided, their approximate age and density of growth, together with the topography, and taking into account the necessity for cutting or filling the land to meet subdivision requirements.
- B. Within 10 days after receipt of such information, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee shall make a written report of its findings to the Planning Board, together with any recommendation it might desire to make regarding the safeguarding of desirable trees during the course of the subdivision and the erection of buildings in such development.

§ 54-7 Powers of Borough Council.

The Borough Council shall have the power to:

- A. Regulate and control the use of the grounds surrounding the shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery, so far as may be necessary for their proper growth, care and protection.
- B. Move or require the removal of any tree or part thereof dangerous to public safety.
- C. Administer treatment to or remove any tree situate upon private property which is believed to harbor a disease or insects readily communicable to neighboring healthy trees in the care of the municipality, and enter upon private property for that purpose, with the consent of the owner thereof, provided that this suspected condition is first confirmed by a certificate of the Department of Agriculture.

§ 54-8 Appropriations for expenses.

The Borough Council shall annually appropriate such sum as it may deem necessary for the purchase of trees and shrubbery, the purchase of necessary equipment and materials and for the cost of services for the promotion of the work.

§ 54-9 Superintendent of Public Works to oversee work.

The Superintendent of Public Works shall be charged with the duty of overseeing the program of work undertaken by the Borough Council pursuant to this chapter. Said Superintendent shall make monthly reports to the Borough Council on the work undertaken pursuant to the program provided for herein.

§ 54-10 Authority of governing body not superseded.

Nothing contained in this chapter shall be held to take away or diminish any of the powers or authority of the Mayor and Council over the trees or shrubbery in the Borough of Mendham within its jurisdiction or to give any other commission or board any power or authority with respect to such trees or shrubbery.

CHAPTER 202

TREE CARE, CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION

Chapter 202, Tree Care, Conservation and Protection

Article I: Conservation and Protection of Trees

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham 4-17-2000 by Ord. No. 5-00. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 202-1 Purpose.

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham has found that tree conservation will help secure safety from flood, promote a desirable visual environment, promote conservation of valuable natural resources and prevent degradation of the environment. Therefore, the borough desires in this chapter to regulate and control indiscriminate and excessive cutting of trees within the borough. In conjunction with an application for site plan approval or major or minor subdivision approval, the chapter further intends to preserve the maximum possible number of trees in the course of development of a site, to protect older specimen trees and to encourage careful site design and grading to promote the preservation of existing trees.

§ 202-2 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BOARD

The municipal agency, either the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment.

CLEAR CUTTING

The removal of all standing trees on a lot or portion of a lot.

DIAMETER AT POINT OF MEASURE

The diameter of a tree measured 4 1/2 feet above the ground level for existing trees to be surveyed in the field. On sloped terrain, such measurement shall be made on the downhill side. Diameter at point of measurement may appear in this chapter as the abbreviation "DPM."

DRIP LINE

An imaginary ground line around a tree that defines the limits of the tree canopy.

HOMESTEAD LOT

A preexisting lot located within a zone permitting single-family detached dwellings or two-family detached dwellings upon which is constructed a single-family detached dwelling or two-family detached dwelling or upon which it is proposed to construct one single-family detached dwelling or one two-family detached dwelling, and which property as a result of zoning restrictions could not be further subdivided.

SILVICULTURE

The management of any wooded tract of land to ensure its continued survival and welfare, whether for commercial or noncommercial purposes, pursuant to a plan approved by the New Jersey Bureau of Forestry.

SPECIMEN TREE

Any tree which has a DPM of 24 inches or greater.

TREE

Any tree species which has a DPM of eight inches or greater. § 202-3 Cutting or removal prohibited.

No person shall cut down or remove or permit, suffer or allow the cutting down or removal of any tree or specimen tree without first having complied with this chapter.

§ 202-4 Exceptions.

The following shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter:

- A. Commercial nurseries and fruit tree orchards.
- B. Christmas tree plantations.
- C. Removal of trees which are dead, dying or diseased, or trees or specimen trees which have suffered severe damage, or any tree or specimen tree whose angle of growth or location make them a hazard to structures or human life.
- D. Pruning or removal of any tree or specimen tree growing on or over a public right-of-way or public property by an appropriate authority or authorized utility company for maintenance of utility wires or pipe lines.
- E. Homestead lots.
- F. Projects which, prior to the effective date of this chapter, have received preliminary or final major subdivision, minor subdivision or site plan approval. Amendments to said approvals subsequent to the effective date of this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- G. Silviculture.

§ 202-5 Permit required.

Prior to the cutting down or removal of any tree or specimen tree which is subject to this chapter, a permit shall be obtained from the Borough Administrator. The application for a permit shall include a completed application form as prescribed by the Borough Administrator which contains:

- A. Name, address and phone number of property owner.
- B. Name, address and phone number of applicant if different from owner.
- C. Consent in writing of owner if applicant is different than owner.
- D. Street address and tax lot and block numbers of premises.
- E. A mapped inventory of all trees and specimen trees by size and species within the area subject to tree removal and cutting and within a transition area 10 feet from the perimeter thereof. Any significant tree canopy shall be delineated at the drip line.
- F. All review fees and escrows as established by ordinance.

§ 202-6 Tree removal standards.

When the application for a tree removal permit is submitted in conjunction with an application for major subdivision or site plan approval or minor subdivision approval, the following standards, in addition to the above application requirements, shall apply:

- A. A diagram of lot or parcel of land specifically showing the size, location and species of all trees and specimen trees within the disturbed area and a transition area 10 feet from the perimeter thereof shall be submitted to the Board. Any significant tree canopy shall be shown and shall be delineated at the drip line.
- B. The location of all streams, watercourses and freshwater wetlands shall be shown. No trees or specimen trees within 25 feet from the center line of a stream or watercourse shall be removed except as may be necessary to construct a driveway, roadway or utility, in which case the Board may issue a waiver of this requirement.
- C. The location of all slopes of greater than 10%, as measured between ten-foot contour lines, where any tree removal is proposed shall be shown.
- D. Removal of any specimen tree shall require specific approval by the Board. All efforts shall be made by the applicant to preserve specimen trees, including, if necessary, plan changes to relocate utilities, driveways, roadways, buildings and other site improvements.

- E. In the event that the development of a property requires the removal of an excessive number of trees or specimen trees due to unique site characteristics or natural features or, in the event that there is removal of trees through error, the Board shall have the authority to require the replacement of trees in accordance with the following schedule:

Replacement of Trees

Percentage of Trees Removed	Percentage of Trees Removed to be Replaced with Replacement Trees
80% to 100%	70%
60% to 79%	50%
40% to 59%	30%
20% to 39%	20%
Less than 20%	10%

Replacement of Specimen Trees

Existing Specimen Tree to be Removed (inches)	Number of Replacement Trees
24 to 30	5
31 to 36	6
37 to 40	9
41 or greater	10

All replacement trees shall be of No. 1 nursery grade quality, northern grown, balled and burlapped and not less than 3 inches to 3 1/2 inches DPM. Replacement trees shall be consistent with the type and species removed from the site and shall be planted in accordance with accepted nursery practices. In the event that replacement of trees is required, and the tree replacement is not included in a performance bond for a subdivision or site plan, the developer shall be required to post a cash bond or letter of credit in a form approved by the Borough Attorney and in an amount which shall be 120% of the replacement cost of the trees, as determined by the Borough Engineer. The bond shall require the tree replacement to be accomplished within a certain period of time and authorize the borough to take any of the money and make the replacement should the developer fail to make the replacement within the time specified. The bond shall continue in effect for at least two years after the replacement to assure that the replacement tree(s) shall survive the initial growing season.

- F. Prior to any site clearing, grading or disturbance for premises subject to the provisions of this section, the applicant shall delineate, with snow fence, all areas which are to remain undisturbed and shall individually flag or mark to the satisfaction of the Borough Engineer all trees or specimen trees which are to remain within the area of disturbance as approved by the Board. The clear cutting of trees is disfavored by this chapter and shall only be permitted if there is no practical alternative and only if such cutting is specifically approved by the Board.
- G. The applicant shall provide evidence to the Board that the method of disposal of removed trees, stumps, toppings and slash is consistent with all applicable laws and borough ordinances.
- H. The applicant shall demonstrate compliance in all tree removal applications with the provisions of the Mendham Borough Code, Article XI, § 195-44H, Environmental considerations.
- I. During major or minor subdivision review, the Board shall be authorized to require a tree removal plan for each individual lot which will result from the proposed subdivision. Any tree removal restrictions shall remain in effect until a certificate of occupancy is issued.

Article II. Tree Care

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham 12-6-2010 by Ord. No. 14-10. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 202-7. Definitions.

The following terms, whenever used or referred to in this article, shall have the following respective meanings for the purposes of this article, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context.

STREET TREES

Trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues, or ways within the Borough.

PARK TREES

Trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the Borough, or to which the public has free access as a park.

TREE TOPPING

The severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the crown of a tree to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree.

§ 202-8. Street tree species to be planted.

The type of street tree species to be planted shall only be those tree species recommended by Rutgers University in their street trees for New Jersey publication. A copy of said publication shall be on file with the Borough Clerk's office. No species other than those included in the aforesaid publication list may be planted as street trees without written permission of The Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

§ 202-9. Spacing.

The spacing of street trees shall be in accordance with the three species as listed in the most current "Trees for N.J. Streets Manual" published by Rutgers University and the New Jersey Shade Tree Foundation, presently the Fifth Revision, 2007, which is on file with the Borough Clerk; or in the alternative, special plantings approved by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee or Superintendent of Public Works.

§ 202-10. Distance from curbs and sidewalks.

The distance trees may be planted from curbs or curb lines and sidewalks will be in accordance with the three species size classes referred to in § 202-9, and no trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following:

- A. Small trees: two feet.
- B. Medium trees: three feet.
- C. Large trees: four feet.

§ 202-11. Distance from street corners and fireplugs.

No street tree may be planted closer than 35 feet to any street corner, measured from the point of nearest intersecting curbs or curb lines. No street tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet of any fireplug.

§ 202-12. Distance from utilities.

No street trees other than those species listed as small trees in § 202-8 of this article may be planted under or within 10 lateral feet of any overhead utility wire, or over or within five lateral feet of any underground water line, sewer line, transmission line or other utility. Other size trees may be planted providing the expressed consent of the DPW and Shade Tree Advisory Committee along with conditions required for such trees.

§ 202-13. Public tree care.

- A. The Borough shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to ensure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.
- B. The Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee may remove or cause or order to be removed any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines,

water lines, or other public improvements, or which is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with this article.

§ 202-14. Tree topping.

It is unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or Borough department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property, as defined in § 202-7 of this article. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this article by a determination of the Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

§ 202-15. Pruning and corner clearance.

- A. Every owner of any tree which overhangs any street or right-of-way within the Borough shall prune the branches so that such branches do not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of eight feet above the surface of the street or sidewalk.
- B. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The Borough shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign or if it interferes with essential snow plowing.

§ 202-16. Dead or diseased tree removal on private property.

- A. The Borough shall have the right to remove any dead or diseased tree on private property within the Borough if said tree constitutes a hazard to life and/or property, and/or harbors insects or diseases which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the Borough.
- B. The Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within 60 days after the date of service of notice or sooner if there is an immediate threat to public health and safety. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the Borough shall have the authority to remove such trees and include the cost of said removal on the owner's property tax notice.

§ 202-17. Removal of stumps.

All stumps of street and park trees shall be removed below the surface of the ground so that the top of the stump shall not project above the surface of the ground.

§ 202-18. Interference with Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay or interfere with the Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee, or any of its agents, while engaging in the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removing of any street trees, park trees, or trees on private grounds, as authorized in this article.

§ 202-19. Arborist's license and bond.

It shall be unlawful for any person or firm to design or plan for pruning, treating, or removing street or park trees within the Borough without maintaining a state arborist license or approval by the DPW Superintendent providing it is consistent with the "Trees for New Jersey Streets Manual."

§ 202-20. Review by Mayor and Council.

The Borough Mayor and Council shall have the right to review the conduct, acts and decisions of the Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee. Any person may appeal from any ruling or order of The Borough of Mendham Shade Tree Advisory Committee to the Borough Mayor and Council, who may hear the matter and make final decision.

§ 202-21. Violations and penalties.

Any person violating any provision of this article shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a fine not to exceed \$250.