



TreeVitalize Philadelphia Spring 2010 Tree Planting Program

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The TreeVitalize Philadelphia Spring 2010 Tree Planting Program will support neighborhood volunteer tree planting by supplying trees and limited services to help prepare planting locations. Organizations and groups in Philadelphia that are willing and able to organize **a neighborhood volunteer tree planting event of at least 10 trees** are invited to apply. Submitting an application does not guarantee your group will receive trees. Eligibility and selection criteria are described below. Funding for seasonal plantings is limited. **Completed applications, along with signed property owner tree request forms, must be received no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, August 3, 2009 at PHS offices, 100 N. 20th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.**

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

TreeVitalize is a program launched by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in 2005 to increase tree canopy in urbanized areas. **The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society** is the lead partner for TreeVitalize in Southeast PA through its **Philadelphia Green** urban community greening program. PHS is a private non-profit organization that motivates people to improve the quality of life and create a sense of community through horticulture. **Tree Tenders** is a PHS training program offering free classes on tree biology, identification, planting, and proper care. **The Fairmount Park Commission** oversees street tree planting and care within Philadelphia.

To be eligible, your neighborhood group must:

- Secure tree request forms, *signed by property owners*, for at least 10 trees. (**A signed form must be submitted by the property owner for each address requesting trees.**)
- Be prepared to organize and mobilize volunteers to conduct the tree planting.
- Agree to provide watering and basic care for the first two years of establishment.
- Have three or more group representatives receive Tree Tenders training on tree planting and basic tree care.

If approved, your group will receive:

- Between 10 and 100 trees to plant in your neighborhood, based on your group's request, capacity, and level of experience. The number, species, and type of nursery stock (balled & burlap, container, or bare root) of trees approved will be determined by the Fairmount Park Commission and TreeVitalize staff. Bare-root trees will be used wherever possible.
- Cutting and removal of pavement, as needed and as funding allows. However, please note that if the property owner cancels the tree request after submitting the request form and the sidewalk has already been cut, he or she will be held responsible for the cost of replacing the pavement. (Property owners are also responsible for removing any stumps.)

- Tree stakes and ties.
- Priority enrollment for free Tree Tenders training as well as other specialized trainings, offered seasonally at various locations.

Application process

The deadline for this cycle of TreeVitalize Philadelphia applications is Monday, August 3, 2009 for plantings in Spring 2010. (Applications for the Fall 2010 planting season will likely be due in February 2010.)

Steps to success:

- 1) Identify group leader to serve as your primary “sponsoring applicant.” Your team should have either at least three graduates of Tree Tender training or three applicants who agree to attend Tree Tender training.
- 2) Before submitting an application, each group must send at least one member to a one-hour “Pre-Application Workshop” unless they have attended one in the past year. If your group has not attended the workshop during the past year, please send a representative to one of these two sessions: **Thursday, June 18th at 6:30 PM, or Friday, June 19th at 12:00 noon.** Both sessions will be held at PHS. (RSVP to address and contact information on last page.)
- 3) Survey your neighborhood with your team to assess tree planting opportunities.
- 4) Have each interested property owner complete and sign a “Request to Plant a Street Tree in Philadelphia” form. **Make sure your team and property owners understand that not everyone requesting a tree will be able to receive one**, due to regulations, site conditions, and limited resources. Please use the most current version of this form. (Also, please make sure that property owners who submit tree requests through this TreeVitalize process do not also make a duplicate request directly to the Fairmount Park Commission.)
- 5) Fill out the attached “TreeVitalize Philadelphia Spring 2010 Tree Planting Application” and **send it to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society by August 3**, along with copies of all signed and completed “Request to Plant a Street Tree in Philadelphia” forms. The number of trees requested in your application should match the total number of trees on the submitted request forms. (Note: Keep copies of all tree request forms for your records.)

Approved applicants will be notified in January 2010.

If your application is approved, you agree to:

- Work with a TreeVitalize Coordinator who will assess your needs and skill level and help assure a successful project.
- Keep your community informed about all phases of the project (Fairmount Park approvals and denials, tree delivery and planting dates, maintenance reminders, etc.).
- Keep records on tree requests.
- Recruit and organize volunteers, and arrange for all necessary tools and supplies for the tree planting event.
- Receive trees for planting.
- Be responsible for watering and maintenance, especially during the critical first two years of establishment.

If your application is not approved this season, you will:

- Have the opportunity for priority enrollment at the next free Tree Tenders training in your area. (Groups with three or more Tree Tender graduates will improve their chances for a successful application.)
- Be directed to Fairmount Park and the City of Philadelphia's tree planting program, if appropriate. (See www.fairmountpark.org for information.)
- Be invited to submit an application in the next cycle. (Important: If a particular site has already failed inspection once due to City regulations, please do not resubmit a tree request for that same site in the future.)

Applications (with signed request forms) must be submitted to PHS no later than 5:00 pm, Monday, August 3, 2009.

Send to:

TreeVitalize Philadelphia

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
100 N. 20th St, 5th flr
Philadelphia, PA 19103

If you have questions, contact:

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For more information about Tree Tenders, or to reserve a space in upcoming Tree Tender training programs, contact PHS Education Services (dwaters@pennhort.org, 215-988-8845) or check our website: <http://www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/phlgreen/tree-training.html>