

**RESTORING
THE CANOPY
TO THE
CITY OF YORK**

Tree Planting - Accomplished

DATE	AREA	# PLANTED
Apr. 2009	The Avenues; Roosevelt & Linden Sts.	9
Oct. 2009	Center City: Philadelphia St., Market St. Newberry St.	15
Apr. 2010	Center City: Philadelphia St., Market St. King St. , Pershing Ave.	25
April 2011	Community Progress Council; College Ave. Pershing Ave., Princess St. Renaissance Park	50
Oct. 2011	The Avenues: Linden & Madison Sts. Market St., N. George St., S. Penn St. Newberry St., Princess St., United Way	51 3
	lost or vandalized trees replaced	3
April 2012	York College area: W. Jackson St. W. Springettsbury Ave., Manor St.	29
Oct. 2012	York County Rail Trail E. Philadelphia St., E. Princess St. N. Hartley St. Rose of Lima	21 12

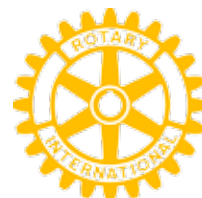
PPE contributed \$3,000. and 42 volunteers to each effort

Tree Planting - Projected

DATE	AREA	# TO BE PLANTED
Oct. 2014	Jackson Street Neighborhood Improvement Project	50
Apr. 2015	The corridors: East & West Market St.; North & South George St., E. Philadelphia St. expect some additional stump removal	50
Oct. 2015	Complete the corridors: East & West Market St. North & South George St.; East Philadelphia St.	50
Apr. 2016	Continue work on Roosevelt corridor & The Avenues	50
Oct. 2016	East King St., East Princess St.	50

This schedule will be flexible as we work with the City of York, York Water Company, and Columbia Gas to identify areas for planting that will move with street disruption and repair and prevent the paving over of tree lawns

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**A Project Of The
Preserve Planet Earth Committee
Of The Rotary Club Of York**



Restoring the Canopy to the City of York



“Urban trees are important to the global ecosystem, and at the moment, they’re in decline. The broad-shouldered [tree] you pass without notice on your way to the office each day is part of a sprawling urban canopy that helps absorb carbon dioxide, pull particulate matter from the air, prevent floods and keep temperatures at livable levels.

Every tree that’s subtracted from a city’s ecosystem means some particulate pollution that should have been filtered out remains.

The crown of a large tree is also a free-standing anti-flood reservoir, in some cases intercepting so much rainfall that more than 1,500 gal. a year evaporates instead of hitting the ground.

But it’s the thermometer that most notice-ably reflects the impact of trees. A high canopy tree prevents sunlight and heat from ever reaching the ground; by contrast, un-shaded asphalt soaks up thermal energy and radiates it back raising temperatures by 5 to 8 degrees.”*

The Preserve Planet Earth Committee of the Rotary Club of York, PA is endeavoring to restore the tree canopy to the City of York. It is the committee’s goal to make York truly a Tree City U.S.A. by planting 1,000 two year old immature trees of a variety of decorative and broad-leafed species** which are amenable to city life. They will ultimately have enough leaf spread to have an impact on air quality and rain water runoff while also being able to survive in a narrow concrete bordered area without tearing up the sidewalk, impacting water and sewage systems or inhibiting the home or street area. The trees will be competitively purchased from a local arborist and planted by volunteers under the guidance of state and local qualified tree experts. Property owners and tenants will take some responsibility for watering trees in the early years, but the committee recognizes that it will require some maintenance or replacement over time from loss or vandalism.

Thus far the committee has planted over 200 trees throughout the city. We have planted trees in Farquhar Park and along Willis Run as well as the York County Rail Trail, Lafayette Park, York City School District, along Hartley Street by the West York Farmers’ Market, along Roosevelt Avenue, on Jackson Street near York College, and across twenty streets in center city York. Thus far our success ratio has been very good as we have had to replace only 10 trees in the city.

Our plan is two-fold:

One is to take a step-by-step, area by area approach as we work our way systematically across York. Each area will be somewhat compact as we will try to plant approximately 50 trees at a time. A chart of areas is on the back cover.

The other tenant is to take advantage of opportunities as they arise. These may include partnering with the City and local utilities to either plant trees after an area has been torn up for street or utility repair or to prevent areas from simply being cemented over after repairs are completed.

The Rotary Club of York has the commitment and the manpower to complete this undertaking. However, we cannot provide all of the funding. It costs approximately \$175/tree, and if a dead tree has to be removed or a stump ground the additional cost starts at \$300.

Our initial goal is to plant 800 more trees in York City for a grand total of

1000 trees. We are establishing a grant with The York County Community Foundation to reach our goal and your contribution will help us to achieve this and establish our generation’s legacy of trees in York City. Past contributors and partners include The York County Community Foundation, Louis Appell, Wagman Construction and CS Davidson.



Resources That Support Information On The Benefits Of Urban Trees

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Sav-A-Tree organization – describes the benefits of urban trees
- Tree Link organization – the benefits of urban trees; describing carbon sink
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide at a rate of 26 lb./year
- U.S. Forest Service – discussed how trees conserve energy, filter airborne particles, remove carbon dioxide and reduce storm water run-off.
- American Forests Organization – advocates every city sets up a canopy goal. They’ve done urban ecosystem analysis across the country. They used City Green, a software which conducts complex analyses of ecosystem services and generates reports about the area surveyed. The software calculates dollar benefits for service provided by trees and green space in an area. City Green is GIS (geographic information system) which analyzes the ecological and economic benefits of tree canopy and other green spaces using the following information:
- PA DCNR facilitates TreeVitalize programs for south central Pennsylvania. They have a goal of planting 1,000,000 trees over the next five years.
- Conference of Mayors – a survey conducted across 135 cities and their plans to green their cities. A compilation entitled “Protecting and Developing the Urban Tree Canopy” was a result of the need to address the diminishing canopies.

- 1.Storm water runoff
- 2.Air pollution removal
- 3.Carbon storage
- 4.Alternate scenario models



*Time magazine 2003

**tree species planted are: Cleveland Pear, Service Berry, Linden, Maple Red Sunset, Willow Oak, Hornbeam, Golden Rain Tree and Black Gum Possibly other varieties as recommended for urban locations by Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.