

7/5/2023

Village of Mamaroneck Tree Committee
6 July 2023 Agenda

*** Welcome to new member Lilia Ramos-Dries**

***Approval of the March 15, 2023 Minutes** (Attachment 1)

***Comments from Residents** (*Please limit in-person comments to 3 minutes*)

***Correspondence**

- Tree Donation, Josh Koller & Pypestream Staff (Attachment 2)
- 629 Fairway Ave, Thank you (Attachment 3)
- 130 Beach regarding Tompkins Farm Oak and other issues (Attachment 4)

***Old Business**

VOM Inspection for Maintenance or Removal *Please provide street numbers when reporting tree-related issues*

- May requests (Attachment 5)
- June requests (Attachment A-5)
- Tompkins Farm Oak inspection
- Requests for maintenance on two trees (Attachment 6)

Public and Private Tree Removals, Applications, Violations

- 430 Claflin inspection for removing a beech tree (Attachment 7)

Tree Law Update

- Revision to Tree Law
 - o Replacement requirements for 3”- 8” trees on steep slopes or in wetland buffer zones
- Planting BROW and Tree Scholarships

Reporting Active Tree Removals – How to do it?

Spring Planting

- Bishop St trees
- 19-20 of carry over trees need replacement (Attachment 8)

Guided Tree Walk May 21 – Columbus Park, eleven participants

***New Business**

- Spotted Lantern Fly & Invasive Plants (Attachment A-1)
- CFIE recommended Resolution regarding Native Plants (Attachment A-2)
 - o Comments (Attachment A-3)

- Tree Committee Recommended Tree List (Attachment A-4)

***Other Business**

***Calendar Notes**

- Wednesday, July 19, 2023, scheduled Tree Committee meeting

Attachment A-1

Tree of Heaven and Other Invasive Plants

Dear Tree Committee, Mayor and Board,

Hope you are enjoying the Fourth of July weekend!

When you get back, please consider doing something about the Tree of Heaven and Japanese Knotweed invasive plants in our community. Doing so now will save time and money later. More info below.

Best,

Jean Chung

203-907-7256

We need villagewide removal of the invasive tree *Ailanthus altissima*, aka "Tree of Heaven" (TOH). It is a major host of the invasive spotted lanternfly, which is a destructive pest that [causing damage in NJ, PA and NY](#), and this year has reached the Village. Feeding on TOH renders lanternflies distasteful and toxic to birds and other predators, who thereafter recognize its distinctive coloration and avoid it. Lanternflies swarm over many plants, and spread their sticky honeydew on vehicles, sidings, and decks, causing nuisance and economic cost.

Also, you may also be aware of *Polygonum cuspidatum*, "Japanese knotweed" (JKW), an aggressive invasive that is also capable of property damage, that is widespread in public and private land in Mamaroneck.

Neither TOH and JKW can be removed by conventional means of cutting. Cutting will only encourage established plants to send out more roots and shoots. JKW, especially, can propagate itself from small pieces less than 1/2 inch long and is adapted to surviving under lava flows, so it's important that crews clean and bag all fragments of JKW, and never put them into the compost.

Here are some thoughts on how we could deal with the issues proactively:

- Research into effective methods of control. Many municipalities have found what works and what doesn't. Here's a good resource, for instance. <https://extension.psu.edu/tree-of-heaven> <https://extension.psu.edu/japanese-knotweed>
- Publicize to citizens and businesses on what the plants look like, and the proper methods of removal. Above all prevent JKW fragments and TOH seeds from going into our compost!

- Provide education/certification on invasives removal to village workers, landscapers and arborists.
- Contact landowners with large stands of these invasives. Help citizens and businesses connect with trained personnel.
- Consider carving out an exemption (if needed) to protected trees definition in the Village Code for invasive trees such as TOH and Norway Maple.
- Reach out to the MTA, County, and State to ask them to remove these invasives along roads and tracks.
- Provide resources for replanting land with attractive and hardy native plants

Village of Mamaroneck Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, the Village of Mamaroneck government has the opportunity to preserve its natural heritage as well as promote sustainable landscapes by choosing native plants, i.e., plants native to the County of Westchester and the Northeast; and

WHEREAS, native plants enhance the beauty of the landscape, maintain and restore biodiversity, support native pollinators, butterflies, and birds, and protect local ecosystems and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, native plants enrich the soil by helping rain percolate into the soil through their root systems, thereby reducing erosion and water irrigation requirements and filtering storm water runoff, which, in turn, improves water quality; and

WHEREAS, native plants minimize maintenance costs and the need for chemical applications; and

WHEREAS, native plants have historical and cultural interest that help promote the Village of Mamaroneck's regional identity; and

WHEREAS, landscape demonstration projects promote public awareness and education and can be a catalyst for the general public to use native plants in private and commercial landscaping;

WHEREAS invasive, non-native plants threaten the natural heritage and identity of Westchester County and New York State, disrupt the ecology of natural ecosystems, displace native plant and animal species, and degrade our unique and diverse biological resources; and

WHEREAS, New York State has passed regulations prohibiting and regulating certain invasive species;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS MURPHY as Mayor of the Village of Mamaroneck, do hereby order and direct to each and every department, board, agency, and commission of the Village of Mamaroneck, under my jurisdiction, as follows:

1. Plant materials native to Westchester County and the Northeast or their cultivars shall be used exclusively in designing, planting, maintaining, and managing the landscape features of all Village roadsides, parks, public areas, and other Village properties and facilities.
2. Plans and specifications for any Village of Mamaroneck contract involving landscaping and/or plantings shall, where practicable and appropriate, require the use of native plants.
3. All plant species listed as Prohibited and Regulated in New York State's NYCRR PART 575 Invasive Species Regulations shall be prohibited in all Village of Mamaroneck parks and on all other Village lands, along Village roadsides, and in gardens surrounding Village buildings, and where possible, these species shall be eradicated from Village parks and other lands, as well as along Village roadsides and in gardens surrounding Village buildings.
4. Appropriate site and soil analyses shall be performed, matching plant characteristics with site and soil conditions, to ensure success of the planting of native plants.
5. Site design and construction as well as plant selection shall incorporate considerations such as biological needs, low maintenance, low water usage, character of plant communities at project sites, and minimal need for fertilizers and pesticides.
6. The public shall, through various means, be educated about the importance of native plants to the Village of Mamaroneck landscape.
7. Outdoor demonstration projects exhibiting and promoting the benefits of native species and environmentally sound landscaping practices shall be created and maintained in Village of Mamaroneck parks and at Village offices.
8. Public/private partnerships with educational institutions, arboreta, commercial nurseries, botanic gardens, and garden clubs shall be encouraged to increase the availability of native plants, and share knowledge about their use, maintenance and propagation.
9. This Executive Order shall apply in all instances unless the Planning Department or the Department of Parks & Recreation determines that no native plant fits the ecological niche in which case plants that are non-invasive and beneficial to wildlife may be permitted in place of native plants.

10. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in full force and effect until otherwise superseded or revoked.

THOMAS MURPHY
Mayor of the Village of Mamaroneck

Dated:
Mamaroneck, New York

Attachment A-3
Comments Regarding Proposed Resolution Regarding Native Plants

Hi Beverly,

You may have already received this from Jerry or another CFTE member.

The resolution on native plants is directly based on that of Westchester county, adopted in 2018.

Kate

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Thanks Kate,

As a general thing I think it's good, but it's going to complicate our tree selection. We made a lot of native additions to Recommended Trees list recently, I'll go through it and try to find alternatives for the non-natives that have worked well for us.

Most of our tall trees are already natives, the problem is with the small ones.

You do know, I assume, that most pollinator garden experts say that 100% native is good but not necessary to convey huge benefits.

I wish we could go through the Village and rip out all the Bradford pears!

Beverley

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Hi All - regarding tree planting. This is mission critical to mitigate urban heat island effects in the Village. The sooner we get trees planted the better prepared we will be for increasingly hot summers.

Thus I think we need to have an understanding of tradeoffs and lean into the importance of leaf cover ASAP. In some locations where tree coverage is sparse, plant fast growing trees (whether native or not). It also takes time for a tree to adjust to a new site and start growing.

Natives will likely be able to handle extreme weather better across the board, so we should have a list with preference to natives. However, this may not always be the case.

Here a link to the trade offs and it's worth being realistic. We might want to consult with tree experts if this not been done already!

Best,
Dinah

<https://extension.psu.edu/selecting-community-trees-in-a-changing-climate>

<https://woodyplants.cals.cornell.edu/urbantrees>

<https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/greening-the-inner-city-how-do-we-choose-the-best-trees/44602/>



[Greening the inner city: How do we choose the best trees?](#)

Nina Bassuk from the Urban Horticulture Institute, School of Integrative Plant Science Cornell University shares her thoughts on the value of green spaces in inner cities and how we should choose the best trees for this purpose

www.openaccessgovernment.org

<https://portal.nifa.usda.gov/web/crisprojectpages/1007212-adaptation-of-urban-trees-to-climate-change-through-superior-genetics-and-modified-soils.html>

[Selecting Community Trees in a Changing Climate](#)

Choosing resilient and adaptable trees for your community can ensure a healthier and fuller tree canopy for the long term.

extension.psu.edu

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Thank you for your thoughts. You align well with the recent choices for street and park trees by the Village Tree Committee.

I'm attaching our current list of recommended trees. Its most recent revision expands the list with a number trees recommended by our NY state arborist, George Profous.

As you can see, the list heavily favors natives, especially among the tall (at maturity) trees, which are the longer lived and more valuable, environmentally, ones. A notable exception is the london plane, a workhorse tree that grows quickly, establishes a wide canopy, tolerates heat, drought, flooding, and salt, and has few predators. Unfortunately, it also hosts few beneficial species. All our other tall trees, however, are native trees that participate in the food web.

Small trees that perform well along streets are a little trickier. The committee hopes to try some of the species recommended by George during next fall's planting of new trees for the Village.

Thanks again.
Beverley Sherrid
Chairman, VOM Tree Committee

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Hawthorns are smaller and sturdy and provide lots of ecological benefits. I have a Winter King in my yard.

Dinah

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Thanks. Two questions:

- Does it have thorns? We have to be careful about thorns on street trees
- I think Winter King is a cultivar. Is it similar enough to the native to support wildlife?

Beverley

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Actually, it's already on our list.
Small thorns to none at all. No information about wildlife that I can find.

Beverley

Tree Committee -- Recommended Species for VOM Trees

REVISED 1/18/2023

<u>name</u>	<u>common name</u>	<u>Salt Type Soil</u>	<u>Salt Type Aerosol</u>	<u>Street/Park/ Both</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<u>Small Trees</u>					
cercis canadensis	eastern redbud	no		Both	shade tolerant
prunus virginiana "Shubert"	canada red select cherry				native
prunus serrulata	Kwanzan cherry	yes		Both	non-native
prunus sargentii	Sargent cherry	moderate		Both	non-native
amelanchier laevis	service berry	yes		Both	wide canopy
malus sugartyme	flowering crabapple	moderate		Both	recommended by Cornell
acer buergeranum	Trident Maple	yes	some	Both	
crataegus spp.	hawthorn	yes		Both	Washington hawthorn: thornless, shade tolerant, persistent fruit
oxydendron arboreum	sourwood				shady sites
halesia carolina	carolina silverbell				
cornus florida	flowering dogwood	no		Both	partially shade tolerant
cotinus obovatus	American smoketree				native
carpinus caroliniana	American hornbeam	no		Park	shade tolerant; good host plant
<u>Medium/Tall Trees</u>					
platanus acerfolia	London plane tree	yes	yes	Street	non-native, reserve for streets
nyssa sylvatica	tupelo/ black gum	yes	yes	Both	
Gleditsia triacanthos, thornless	honey locust "inermis", "Imperial"	yes	yes	Both	
acer rubrum	red maple	no		Both	
acer x freemanii	Freeman red maple				
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweet gum "Rotundifolia" seedless	moderate	yes	Both	
Tilia americana	linden/american basswood	no	no	Park	
tilia heterophylla	white basswood				
quercus alba	white oak	yes		Both	
quercus bicolor	swamp white oak	yes		Both	
quercus rubra	northern red oak	yes		Both	
quercus palustris	pin oak	no		Both	
quercus macrocarpa	bur oak				
quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak				
quercus phellos	willow oak				
quercus muehlenbergii	chinkapin oak				

quercus imbricaria	shingle oak				acidic, well-drained soil
quercus lyrata	overcup oak				
Prunus serotina	black cherry	yes	yes	Both	native, non-invasive in US
Juglans cinerea	white walnut	no		Park	
liriodendrom tulipifera	tulip tree			Park	
taxodium distichum	baldcypress				
gymnocladus dioicus (seedless)	Kentucky coffee tree (seedless)				
celtis occidentalis "Prairie"	hackberry				
ostrya virginiana	eastern hophornbeam				
cladrastis kentukea	yellowwood				
betula nigra	river birch				
maclura pomifera "white shield"	osage orange			Park	

Do not use

cornus kousa	Kousa Dogwood				multi-stem; need heavy pruning
Ulmus Americana	Valley Forge Elm				weak branch structure
Acer platanoides	Norway maple				non-native, invasive
Pyrus calleryana/"bradford"	callery/bradford pear				non-native, invasive
Ailanthus Tree	Tree of Heaven				non-native, invasive

<u>Attachment</u>			
<u>VOM Tree Inspection, pruning, removals -- June 2023</u>			
Address		Street	<u>Comments</u>
	Inspection		
		Carroll @ Post Road, school side	Oak, struggling
<u>Pruning/Maintenance</u>			
	420	S Barry	Large elm (significant tree) has black cherry growing
<u>Removal</u>			
	209	Carroll	trimmer damage, bad pruning
		Melbourne on Tompkins	pear tree, dying, Con Ed pruning damage
	510	Prospect	dead

Additional Trees For Inspection

VOM Tree Inspection, pruning, removals -- June 2023 - A

<u>Address</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Inspection		
826	Harmon on Hill St; dying	Is it VOM tree?
	Florence Park basket ball court	looks dead photo
	Florence Park basket ball court	looks dead photo
	Florence Park basket ball court	looks dead photo
	Florence Park basket ball court	looks dead photo