

**2010 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**Cazenovia Tree Commission**

**1.0 SUMMARY**

Slightly fewer trees were planted in 2010 as compared to 2009 due to logistical issues. Additionally, seventeen trees required removal, leaving a net gain of four. In addition to the new trees, several desired goals were achieved during 2010:

- The first public seminar was held, with over 50 attendees.
- An electronic brochure was created of recommended species by height.
- A page was added to the Village website for the Tree Commission was added.
- Guidelines for use of bare root versus ball and burlap were prepared and approved.
- A well publicized Arbor Day planting occurred with community participation.

**2.0 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**2.1.0 Organization & Governance**

The previously established teams proved effective in carrying out the Commission's responsibilities: Site Selection & Species; Tree Inventory Database; Press Releases; Education & Community Outreach; Annual Reports & Documentation. An additional team has been created to pursue the Tree City USA requirements.

Seven meetings and additional planting sessions were conducted, allowing for two month summer and winter breaks.

**2.2.0 Trees Planted**

As used below, "Replacements" are defined as trees planted to replace a dead or recently removed tree. "New" is a tree planted where none had previously existed. A "Memorial" or "Gift" tree is a tree purchased by a community resident for the Village's general use or to commemorate a person or event, and may be a replacement or new tree.

The focus of trees planted was the west end of Albany (Brea Loch to Memorial Park), with selected other locations. Two trees planted in 2009 had died, both bare root and both Oak. These were replaced by the nursery. The focus of the Commission continues to be on replacement trees, due to the aging tree population; however, a healthy balance of additional trees took place.

**Total Trees Planted: 21**

**Replacements: 8 New: 13 Memorial & Gift Trees: 4**

Trees planted include Red Oak (4), White Oak, Redbud (2), Ginkgo, Kousa Dogwood, Katsura, Norway Spruce, European Beech, Redspire Pear, Crabapple (2), Cornus Mas, American

Hornbeam, and Japanese Tree Lilac (3). While fewer than anticipated trees were planted, unspent funds will be available for 2011.

### **Total Trees Removed: 17**

Fifteen of seventeen trees removed were Sugar Maples, in declining or poor condition.

Details on specific plantings can be found in the Tree Inventory.

### **2.3.0 Other Initiatives Completed**

An electronic brochure with color photos of recommended small, medium, and large deciduous, ornamental, and evergreen trees was developed.

The Tree Commission was added to the Village website. The charter and annual reports are housed there, as well as the electronic brochure.

Guidelines for use of ball and burlap vs. bare root were developed and approved by Commission members.

A data collection form was created to input to the tree inventory data base.

A blog was created to house photos and other material for press releases.

The first public seminar was held March 27<sup>th</sup> consisting of presentations on pruning and species selection. Over fifty members of the community attended. Press releases and press coverage of the event were well done. Representatives of the Fayetteville, Dewitt, and Cortland Tree Commissions also were in attendance.

The Village was able to participate in the National Grid's "10,000 Trees" program and received reimbursement funds for several trees.

A successful Arbor Day event was held in April. While commemorating the day, it also served as a means to plant what eventually will be the replacement Christmas Tree. A Norway spruce was planted on the Presbyterian Church grounds, with remarks made by Rev. Thomas, a student, and by Trustee Amy Mann. Critz Farms donated the spruce, while Windsong Farms donated installation services.

Utilizing ESF of Syracuse University or other landscaping firm to undertake and donate a design for Lakeland Park in conjunction with its upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary was found to not be feasible at this time, due to constraints in funding and resources.

Three members of the Tree Commission met with the Chair of Fayetteville's Tree Commission to review respective governance, programs, and best practices. A summary was prepared and issued to all members,

A working educational meeting was held on tree pruning and removal by National Grid, and public safety issues surrounding electrical wires.

#### **2.4.0 Community Outreach & Press**

Press releases and photos were published highlighting the seminar, Arbor Day, and tree installations. Coverage by the press of these events also was good, and carried in both the *Republican* and the *Madison Courier*.

#### **3.0.0 ACTIVE INITIATIVES UNDERWAY OR PLANNED**

The preliminary 2011 plan calls for roughly 25 trees. This will focus on Lincklean Street, Albany/Nelson Street, with six retained for residential locations requested last year.

Other activities currently in the planning stages and/or recommended for 2011 include:

- Development of a Tree Ordinance for the Village. This document would provide guidelines to residents, protection for existing trees, and fulfill a requirement for Tree City USA designation. Included should be the desired involvement of the Tree Commission in the design and engineering phase of future street repairs where tree planting considerations can be incorporated.
- Development of a Tree Management Plan and Management Program also remains as a requirement. No progress was made on this in 2010 but will be pursued in 2011.
- A second public seminar will be conducted in Spring 2011.

#### **4.0.0 OTHER COMMENTS/ISSUES/CONCERNS**

There are no open issues. The Commission was able to continue progress on its goals within budget. Public awareness of the Village's work by the Commission continues to grow as its work becomes more visible. Public demand for new and replacement trees also remains strong.

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