

Charter: Cazenovia Tree Commission

The residents of Cazenovia view its trees as an important community asset contributing to the scenic beauty, health, and environment of Cazenovia. The Cazenovia Tree Commission has been established to preserve, protect, and enhance this resource.

The Commission has eight objectives within this mission:

Preserve:

- Undertake programs to ensure or correct the health of the tree population.
- Provide for the replacement of diseased or dying trees.

Protect:

- Maintain an on-going inventory of Cazenovia's trees, designating species, replacement cost, location, age, historical or other community value.
- Increase community knowledge in the selection, location, care, and maintenance of trees.
- Become a knowledgeable resource in environmental or invasive threats to the tree population or specific species, so as to undertake or communicate preventative measures to the community.

Enhance:

- Ensure a sustainable and diverse population of trees, particularly on public property, parks, and streets.
- Increase the population of trees allowing for gradual and natural replacement of each generation.
- Act in an advisory capacity to Planning and Zoning Boards, when desired, in reviewing landscaping plans of developers.

The Commission will be chaired by a trustee of the Village or Town Board and be comprised of community volunteers. To accomplish these objectives, the Commission may undertake any or all of the following actions:

- Develop and disseminate a list of optimal trees, based on diversity, sustainability, life-span, etc.
- Undertake corrective re-planting and maintenance of trees in public locations.
- Provide input to the Department of Parks and Highways in the care and maintenance of street trees and park trees.
- Develop and maintain the Cazenovia Tree inventory utilizing optimal technology
- Work with utility companies, government and educational institutions, arborists, and subject matter experts to increase the Commission's knowledge and expertise, as well as in carrying out its programs.
- Coordinate public presentations and forums on tree-related topics.
- Prepare newsletters, articles, brochures, or other material in support of its programs.
- Actively engage homeowners to care for street trees adjacent to properties.
- Be a consultative resource available to homeowners in the selection and care of trees.
- Identify and prioritize new and replacement tree planting sites.
- Undertake tree-planting programs by volunteers.
- Develop and coordinate community programs for tree donation such as memorial trees, historical trees, adopt-a-tree, etc.
- Apply for grants to acquire additional funding for trees.
- Work to achieve "Tree City USA" and/or similar designations
- Acquire tools and equipment, within budgetary constraints, to carry put its programs.