



NEIGHBORWOODS
Application Package

Greensboro NeighborWoods

Keeping Greensboro Green, One Neighborhood at a Time

Application Deadline May 30, 2009



Greensboro NeighborWoods

Application also available online at www.greensboro-nc.gov/planning

| Date | Activity Timeline |
|----------------|---|
| May 30 | Project Applications due back to City of Greensboro by 5:00pm |
| June 30 | Applicants are notified of awards |
| TBD - November | Tree Planting Day |

The NeighborWoods Program reserves the right to revise all or any components of this proposal based on availability of resources (tree species, equipment, financial support, etc.)

Please return your application to:

Mike Cusimano
Urban Forester
City of Greensboro
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27402-3136
Fax: 336-412-6315
Email: mike.cusimano@greensboro-nc.gov

If you have questions about any part of this application, please contact Mike Cusimano at 373-2150 or mike.cusimano@greensboro-nc.gov

About NeighborWoods

NeighborWoods is a program developed through a partnership between Greensboro Beautiful Inc. and the City of Greensboro to help restore our City's tree canopy by planting trees in neighborhoods and neighborhood parks with the assistance of the neighborhood residents.

Neighborhoods are eligible for neighborhood park plantings or a neighborhood street tree plantings. Our tree plantings take place on a "planting day" in which the planting and mulching of trees is done by the homeowners and volunteers.

There are 4 requirements to be eligible for the NeighborWoods program, which include:

1. Neighborhood must be located in the Greensboro City Limits.
2. Trees must be planted adjacent to City's Right-of-Way or in a City Park.
3. Commitment to care for trees (water, plant, mulch).
4. Neighborhood participation

One neighborhood will be selected each year. The selection will be based on neighborhood involvement, existing tree canopy in the neighborhood, project justification, how well the project is organized and location of the project (the goal to spread the planting projects around the City).

Responsibilities

Applicant responsibilities:

- Get tree planting permission forms signed by homeowners.
- Dig holes, plant and mulch the trees provided by the NeighborWoods Program.
- Ensure that the trees will be maintained for at least two years after planting. This includes watering and mulching as needed.

City of Greensboro and Greensboro Beautiful responsibilities:

- General coordination of the project.
- Advice about planning the tree planting project.
- Planting supervisors (if needed) and detailed planting instructions.
- Trees (*10 or 15 gallon and 6 to 10 feet tall, depending on availability and species*)
- General information about design specifications
- Develop final planting plan
- Maintenance of park trees

Putting Together an Ideal Project:

- Through a one-on-one meeting, we will help you select appropriate tree species and how to space them for your area and will provide the final planting plan.
- Trees cannot be planted between the sidewalk and the curb, unless it is a minimum of 8 feet wide for large shade trees or 6 feet wide for small flowering trees.
- Trees should be spaced approximately one tree per house. Depending on your neighborhood size, you may wish to focus your tree planting on main streets or entrances.

Project Timeline

February

- Release Grant Applications to the public. (CITY)

May

- May 30- Grant Application deadline (NEIGHBORHOOD)

June

- June 30 - Applicants notified of awards (CITY)

August

- August 1 - Meet with neighborhood representatives (NEIGHBORHOOD AND CITY)
- Develop a detailed planting plan; actual tree placement and tree species (NEIGHBORHOOD AND CITY)
- Begin to recruit planting supervisors. (NEIGHBORHOOD)

September

- September (date TBD) - Attend Neighborhood Meeting (CITY)
- September 9 - Order trees (CITY)

October

- Mid-October (date TBD) - Stake locations for trees (CITY WITH NEIGHBORHOOD)
- Late October (date and location TBD) - Hold "Tree Planting Demo" (CITY WITH NEIGHBORHOOD)
- Mid-October (date TBD) - Have underground utilities located. (CITY)
- Late October (date TBD) - Modify planting locations based on underground utilities. (CITY WITH NEIGHBORHOOD)

November

- Tree Planting Day- TBD – 9:00 am

NeighborWoods Application

Please read through the entire application. Applicants must complete and return the following:

- Part 1: Applicant Information
- Part 2: Project Justification
- Part 3: Neighborhood planting permission forms

Part 1: Applicant Information

Name of Neighborhood or Project Area: _____

Application submitted by: _____ Telephone: _____

Project Volunteer Information (if different from above):

(This person is responsible for managing the proposed activities and must be able to communicate regularly with the City of Greensboro and Greensboro Beautiful staff.)

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Daytime Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Neighborhood Team (*This is a group of reliable volunteers that can help distribute flyers, contact homeowners, etc.*)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Part 2: Project Justification

Please answer the following six questions and attach with completed packet (Attach additional sheets if necessary).

1. Could this project be funded by other sources? If so, please list.
2. Would this group be willing to contribute to funding the project? If not, please explain. *We ask this question because if the neighborhood shares in the cost, more trees can be planted in the neighborhood.*
3. Where will the trees be planted (addresses or park name):
4. Number of trees requested (maximum 150 trees):
5. If trees are going to be planted in front of homes or businesses, a representative from each address should help on the planting day. How will you accomplish this?
6. Do you anticipate needing extra volunteers other than homeowners in the neighborhood? If so, explain why.

Part 3: NeighborWoods Interest Form/Informational Flyer

FOR STREET TREE PLANTING ONLY: One important component of the NeighborWoods program is support and interest from the neighborhood residents. To confirm neighborhood interest we require the attached interest forms to be signed by neighborhood residents. We recommend the following steps. (*Copy additional forms as necessary*).

1. Distribute the two page Informational flyer to all residents. The informational flyer will help explain the program and also explain why trees are important to our community.
2. A few weeks later, distribute the Interest forms to homeowners. Forms can be mailed, hand delivered or distributed at a neighborhood meeting. Be sure to include the date the forms need to be returned and where they can be returned. The most effective method to get responses from homeowners is to go door to door.

FOR PARK TREE PLANTING ONLY:

1. Distribute the two page Informational flyer to all residents. The informational flyer will help explain the program and also explain why trees are important to our community.

ATTACHMENT 1

Distribute the Interest forms to homeowners.



NEIGHBORWOODS INTEREST FORM

NeighborWoods is a program developed through a partnership between Greensboro Beautiful and the City of Greensboro to help restore our City’s tree canopy by planting trees in neighborhoods and neighborhood parks with the assistance of the neighborhood residents.

One important component in the NeighborWoods program is support and interest from the neighborhood residents. To confirm neighborhood interest, we require the attached interest forms to be signed by the neighborhood residents.

HOMEOWNER INFORMATION

Please check all that apply:

- Yes, I am interested in receiving a free NeighborWoods tree.
- No, I do not want a free tree.
- Yes, I support the project in my neighborhood
- No, I do not support the project in my neighborhood

Name

Address

Email

Phone

- I am a homeowner.
- I am a renter.

Name of landlord

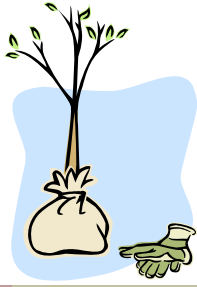
Phone number of landlord:

Please Return Interest Form to:

Deadline to submit Interest Forms:

ATTACHMENT 2

Distribute two page Informational flyer to all residents.



Free Trees for Our Neighborhood?

Our neighborhood is applying for the Greensboro NeighborWoods Tree Planting Program. This program will allow us to plant trees in our neighborhood at no cost to us. Please read this flyer for more information about the program and the benefits trees will provide to our neighborhood. Only one neighborhood is selected each year to have a tree planting in the fall. Stay tuned for more information.

NeighborWoods Frequently Asked Questions?

What is NeighborWoods?

NeighborWoods is a program developed through a partnership between Greensboro Beautiful Inc. and the City of Greensboro to help restore our City's tree canopy by planting trees in neighborhoods and neighborhood parks with the assistance of the neighborhood residents.

Why are we planting trees?

For every 4 trees being removed, only 1 is being replaced. It is not a coincidence that Greensboro has lost over 18% of its tree cover in the last 16 years. The NeighborWoods Program was developed to help replace the trees we have lost and to "Keep the Green in Greensboro".



Where are the trees coming from?

The trees will be purchased by City of Greensboro and Greensboro Beautiful and are funded through private donations made to the Greensboro Beautiful Tree Fund.

How many trees will be planted?

We can plant up to 150 trees throughout the neighborhood.

Who will be planting the trees?

We are asking the homeowners that will be receiving trees to help plant their trees.

How big are the trees?

The trees will be anywhere from 6 to 8 feet tall depending upon the species. At maturity, the smaller flowering trees will get about 20 feet tall and the shade trees will get from 50 to 70 feet tall.

Who will get trees?

Trees can be planted in common areas, neighborhood parks or along the streets in individual homeowners yards. If the neighborhood decides to plant trees along the street, any interested homeowner is eligible to receive a free tree, however, only 150 trees are available.

Can I pick the type of tree to be planted in my yard?

Each homeowner will be able to select from two or three species of trees, however, for properties that have power lines, they will receive a tree that will not grow too large to create a conflict with the power line.

Where will these trees be planted?

The trees will be planted near the street in front of individual properties and in park areas.

When will the trees be planted?

A Neighborhood Tree Planting will be arranged for a Saturday during the month of November. The actual date will be determined at a later date.

Who will take care of the trees?

After the trees are planted, the homeowners are responsible for watering the tree in front of their house at least once a week during the summer for two years. This is to make sure they get a good root system established. Because we have limited funding for these trees, trees that die will not be replaced, so it is very important to make sure the trees are watered.



Benefits of Trees-*Did you Know?*

- **Trees clean the air**— Leaves work as air cleaners, reducing the amount of harmful carbon dioxide in our air. A tree can absorb 26 pounds of carbon dioxide per year— about 2.5 tons per acre of trees— and replace it with life giving oxygen.
- Trees remove sulfur and nitrogen oxide— major parts of acid rain and ozone pollution.
- Tree leaves and branches trap dust and pollen to make the air cleaner.
- **Trees clean the water**— Trees reduce water pollution by acting as natural water filters for storm water runoff. By absorbing stormwater, tree roots can reduce peak runoff by 10 to 20%. Tree roots also prevent erosion by holding soil in place.
- **Trees reduce wind speed**—

Trees can reduce wind speeds by up to 85%.

- **Trees help recovery**— Research shows that trees help speed recovery of hospital patients.
- **Trees relieve stress**— Trees relieve stress at home and in the work place, helping people feel relaxed.
- **Trees save electricity**— Trees provide shade for more pleasant summer living and savings on

your electricity bill. Well placed trees can cut air conditioning costs by up to 50%. As wind-breaks, trees shield against wind and snow, cutting heating costs by up to 30%.

- **Trees buffer noise**— Trees reduce noise pollution by acting as a buffer and absorbing 50% of urban noise.
- Shade trees help counter the urban “heat island” effect on downtown streets and parking lots which can be 7 to 9 degrees hotter than surrounding areas.
- **Trees increase property values**— Well placed mature trees add value to your property. According to numerous studies, landscaping, especially with trees, can increase property values as much as 20 percent.



The North Carolina State tree is the Longleaf Pine

Tree Myths— *Common misconceptions about trees.*

MYTH #1: Tree wound paint is necessary.

FALSE. Wound dressings are no longer recommended. In fact, studies have shown they cause more harm than leaving cuts unpainted.

MYTH #2: Tree topping is a recommended pruning practice.

FALSE. Topping Stresses Trees

Since topping removes 50-100% of the tree’s leaf bearing crown, the tree needs to put out a new crop of leaves as soon as possible or it will literally starve. If a tree does not have enough stored energy reserves to do this, it will be seriously weakened and may die.

Topping Creates Hazards

When a tree is topped, it produces multiple branches that are weakly attached and grow quickly. Unfortunately, these new branches are prone to breaks, especially during windy conditions. This is ironic since many people see topping as a way to make trees safer, when this practice actually creates more hazards.

Topping Makes the Tree Ugly

Topping destroys the natural form of a tree, and, without the majority of its canopy, the tree appears disfigured and mutilated. A topped tree will never fully regain its natural form.

Topping Is Expensive

If a topped tree survives, it will require more frequent pruning due to the rapid new growth and is more

likely to be damaged by storms. If the tree dies as a result of topping, the cost of removal can be very expensive.

MYTH #3: Crape myrtles need to be topped to promote better flowering.

FALSE. Research has shown that pruning does not promote more flowers on a crape myrtle tree (See also the previous myth). The only pruning crape myrtles require is to thin out the trunks on young trees leaving somewhere around 3 to 7 permanent trunks.

