

The Borough of Somerville

Community Forestry Management Plan

**Third Management Plan
November 7, 2013
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Prepared by:

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Prepared for:

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2. Introduction

A. Mission Statement

The Borough of Somerville plans to work to achieve an urban forest that is well-stocked, safe, healthy, diverse, aesthetically pleasing, and functional. The Borough will provide for the pleasure and safety of residents and visitors by maintaining the tradition of tree-lined streets and by acting as stewards of the urban forest. With the planning proposed within this Community Forestry Management Plan and guided by our Street Tree Inventory, Somerville will continue to address the street tree vacancies that currently occupy approximately 40% of the planting sites within the Borough.

B. Goals and Objectives

Goal

- Maximize borough tree care.

Objectives

- Maintain effective municipal tree care through training, planning, and scheduling.
- Increase communication with municipal administrator and departments to assure proper tree care.
- Provide public programs and information regarding tree care and maintenance through workshops and events that focus on tree care, planting needs, benefits, and pruning.

Goal

- Support the training of volunteers and employees in the management and maintenance of borough trees.

Objectives

- Meet the annual Community Forestry requirements.
- Seek on site or regional trainings in subject relevant to issues being addressed.
- Target community groups for volunteer participation and training options.

Goal

- Increase public awareness and participation in maintenance of the tree resource.

Objectives

- Foster interest and education among the citizens of Somerville regarding trees and the urban forest through programs and events.
- Continue development of educational outreach programs and collaborative programs with other agencies.

Goal

- Reduce vacant street tree sites to 10% or less over the next 10-30 years.

Objectives

- Obtain new funding and sources for trees, planting, and maintenance. Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.
- Advocate for annual tree budget from the Planning Board and Borough Council.

- Continue to plant street trees in the vacant sites identified in the Street Tree Inventory with appropriate and diversified species (smaller stature trees under utility lines or in smaller planting strips, larger stature trees in larger planting strips with no overhead obstructions).
- Maintain tree species diversity so that losses of a predominant species through senescence, disease or pestilence are minimized in the future.

C. Liability Statement

Adherence to this management plan is expected to reduce liability claims against Somerville. The Borough has maintained vigilance in removing hazard trees as witnessed by the low number of hazards designated in the street tree inventory. Trees that are potential hazards are noted and will be monitored. A pruning schedule to remove large deadwood on a routine schedule is planned.

Whereas no maintenance program can predict each tree failure before it occurs, the Borough of Somerville is taking reasonable care of a living and changing resource. This is expected to reduce exposure to liabilities by reducing significantly the occurrence of tree-related accidents.

3. Community Overview – Five Years of Progress

The Borough of Somerville is a community bordering the Raritan River in Somerset County, New Jersey. With a population of approximately 12,000, the Borough serves as the County seat and includes the historic Somerset County Court House and a traditional "downtown" area along Main Street. Public transportation is provided by New Jersey Transit's Raritan Valley rail line with a station in the downtown area. Somerville, together with Bridgewater and Raritan, has been designated as a Regional Center pursuant to the State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

The western end of town is home to large historic houses with wide streets and relatively wide tree planting strips. Many of the older, large trees that used to line the streets here have been removed over the years and replacement has not kept up with removal. Parts of the downtown area were revitalized with new sidewalks and street trees in the past 10 years. New Main Street construction now calls for tree replacements at the west end. The north, east and southern parts of town are generally younger than the downtown and western portions of town and tend to have smaller planting strips and less room for large trees between the sidewalk and curb. As in the older parts of town, replacement has not kept up with removal and loss in these areas as well. Generally, street trees have been planted between the sidewalk and the curb.

Achievements of following the initial Community Forestry Management Plan include:

- Street tree vacancies continue to be filled by tree planting grants, street improvement projects, and responses to requests from homeowners. In 1999, Somerville completed a street tree inventory that identified a vacancy rate of 56%. Somerville has made great strides

in beginning to restore the urban forest, planting trees using State grants and as part of road improvement projects. Currently, the vacancy rate is approximately 45%.

- Continued close coordination with the Borough on tree species selection for street improvement projects (repaving, curb and sidewalk replacements).
- Provided at least 2 hours of public education/community outreach per quarter.
- Implemented an on-going pruning program for recently planted trees and conducted several pruning workshops for the public.
- Hosted annual community tree event. Events included tree treks (identification walk), Arbor Day planting, centennial tree planting, and tree clean up.
- A town tree and shrub nursery was established in parkland through the collaborative efforts of local Girl Scouts, Recreation and Environmental Commission, and Department of Public Works. The tree nursery will serve as a community project that supports public education and serves to grow trees to replant in town. The project was recognized with an ANJEC award in October 2012.
- Used technological resources to educate the public with messaging on website and cable TV.
- Benefited from the installation of kiosk and tree identification plaques through a Boy Scout Eagle Project. Twenty two tree identification plaques were placed in the most active park in town along with and a display kiosk that serves as an educational resource on trees.
- Coordinated with the planning board so that requirements to plant trees with new development projects were met.

These achievements correspond well with the goals and objectives and implementation timeline of the original plan. In some areas we have exceeded our goals. A highlight has been the increase in community involvement and volunteers which have resulted in meaningful projects.

Time and money are common problems encountered in implementing elements of the Plan. Our Commission's work in municipal environmental issues has also divided our time.

We have been more successful in reaching the public as we have targeted communications and involvement with community groups such as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, school groups, Recreation Department and sports leagues who use the parks. It is important to be realistic about what can be proposed and accomplished successfully so we are now focused on collaborative efforts. Somerville's Plan is implemented by a volunteer organization, the Environmental Commission, with assistance of, primarily, the Borough DPW. We have incorporated into the Plan activities that have been successful and an emphasis on continued tree planting. Our most important goal has always been and continues to be tree planting.

The Community Forestry Management Plan has been a stand-alone document. However, the implementation of the plan will occur throughout the public lands of the Borough including public right-of ways, parks, and other open spaces. It complements the Master Plan, focusing on the re-establishment of street trees as recommended in the Master Plan for "gateway" streets into the Borough. For example, one of the key recommendations under the Recreation / Conservation heading within the Community Facilities Plan is:

"A comprehensive street shade tree program along major roadways within the borough, such as Union Avenue, Bridge Street, and Gaston Avenue, in order to enhance the image and environmental quality of these road corridors."

This recommendation is reiterated within the Recreation / Open Space Recommendations section of the Improvement Sub-Plans:

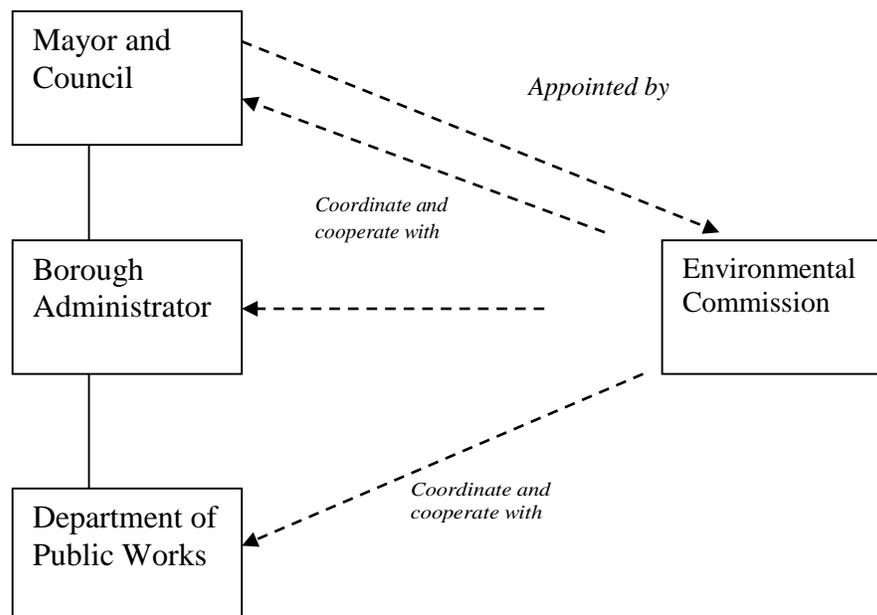
"Support the borough's Shade Tree Commission's [sic] efforts to provide shade trees on major roadways within the community, such as Union Avenue, Bridge Street, and Gaston Avenue, in order to enhance the image and environmental quality of these areas."

The link between the Community Forestry Master Plan and the Municipal Master Plan has not changed. The Community Forestry Master Plan remains a stand-alone document that is not referenced in the Municipal Master Plan.

4. Community Forestry Program Administration

Management of the Borough's shade trees has been through the Department of Public Works with oversight by the Borough Administrator. The volunteer-staffed Environmental Commission provides input to the Mayor, Borough Council, and Administrator. As of 2014 the members of the Environmental Commission include: Gina Stravic, Chair, Vijay Tusani, Vice Chair, Granville Brady, Secretary, Harry James, Master Gardner, Katherine Hughes, Landscape Architect, Tara DeAngelo, Environmental Attorney, Larry Cleveland, Planning Board Representative. The Borough Administrator is Kevin Suluka, and the Department of Public Works is presently led by Rodney Hadley.

Organizational Chart



Requests for tree service or complaints about trees are forwarded to the Director of the Department of Public Works. The director then assigns a foreman to investigate the complaint. If work is required, it is done in-house unless it is beyond the capabilities of the DPW, in which case it is contracted to a professional tree service. This plan is in accordance with the current Shade Tree Ordinance.

Plans to Improve Program Administration

Due to controversial tree removals the Environmental Commission may look to solve such problems through a proposed revised chain of command or new ordinance. The commission has regular communication with the Borough Administrator who brokers the work or directions of the Environmental Commission. We have been interacting with the mayor and council, presenting to the planning board, and seek to meet with the business district groups and look to strengthen relationships and build understanding of trees as a necessity and resource in town. . We have a representative from the planning board on the environmental commission. This is very effective and allows for maintaining and adding trees in town when new development occurs.

5. Community Map (See Attached Map)

6. Training Plan

Training overview. Training needs for volunteers center on their advisory role (plus a practical but nonprofessional role in minor tree pruning and maintenance of natural areas). Employees of the Department of Public Works (DPW) do some minor pruning and removals. Work beyond the skills and equipment of the DPW will be contracted out.

Core training and continuing education units (CEU's). One former Environmental Commissioner and one Borough employee have completed core training. CEU requirements are met by attendance at the NJ Shade Tree Federation annual meeting and other members annually have obtained required CEU's. Technical training needs include: planting, pruning, urban soils, hazard tree identification, tree care disaster planning, sidewalk/tree conflicts, tree selection, soil amendments, and root barriers.

Public employees responsible for tree maintenance. The personnel responsible for planting trees have been trained in proper planting techniques by a Certified Tree Expert as part of the tree planting grants received from the Division of Parks and Forestry.

Needs

Obtain training for appropriate DPW / Engineering staff to fully access and utilize data in the Street Tree Inventory to aid in planning of tree pruning, removal or planting.

- Obtain Borough Council approval of the revised street tree ordinance.
- Maintain public outreach by notifying homeowners of street tree installation, tree care, and the benefits of trees.
- Apply for the Tree Planting Grant administered by the NJDEP Division of Parks and Forestry, as available.
- Have another Environmental Commissioner receive core training.
- Expand the number of Environmental Commissioners trained in tree care.
- Provide another pruning workshop for DPW personnel.
- Staff and volunteer resources to seek donations and grants for tree purchases.

The Borough maintains a training budget that can be used to meet certain of these needs. Others, such as making application for Tree Planting Grants, will be met by the volunteer efforts of the Environmental Commission.

7. Public Education/Awareness/Outreach

As part of its Comprehensive Management Plan, the Borough intends to continue its practice of public education, community programs, and collaborative projects related to community and its trees in order to involve the residents in the implementation of this plan. This includes programs, media communications, and outreach to groups.

Programs

1. Community pruning workshops have also been conducted for the community and promoted through our local hardware store
2. The Borough also has a Memorial Tree program in cooperation with the Recreation Commission.
3. The Environmental Commission sponsors an annual Earth Day clean-up at various Borough locations with tree seedlings give-aways from the Arbor Day Foundation.

Media Communications

1. Notification to homeowners who are to receive new street trees and an instructional flyer on how to care for their tree.
2. The use of the local Ville TV has been established to convey information.
3. A kiosk in a local park contains environmental commission messaging and education flyers.

Outreach to Groups

1. Pruning newer trees being planted through volunteer efforts of environmental commissioners and residents. This provides an opportunity for community contact and reduces the work-load and cost to the Public Works Department.
2. A Girl Scout tree nursery was established in 2012 and is maintained in conjunction with parks department, scouts, and environmental commission to replace street tree vacancies.
3. Collaborations with local groups and municipal bodies including the Recreation, Planning Board, Public Works, District Management Corporation, school and scout groups. Specific goals for future public education and outreach efforts are listed in the Implementation Plan of this document.

4. Meetings with the district management corporation help educate on tree issues in the downtown district.

8. Statement of Tree Budget

The Borough Council determines the budget each year. In general, the Borough does not have a specific tree budget. Most of the tree planting is done as part of capital projects for street repair and re-paving. Tree replacement is funded, in part, by grants received through the efforts of the Environmental Commission. In addition, the Commission voluntarily coordinates planting strategies, suggests tree species, prunes younger trees, and provides recommendations for maintenance. The Commission has approximately 8 active members and meets once a month for approximately 2 hours. Work related to trees constitutes approximately 10 or more hours per month. A tree planting budget line was established that is funded by Planning Board applicants who provide funds for tree planting when they are unable to plant a sufficient number of trees as part of their project. Currently, there is approximately \$3,000 in this account.

Somerville maintains equipment and staff to handle a significant amount of tree work annually. The Borough has its own chipper, front-end loader, dump trucks, pickup trucks and various saws, safety saddles and ropes to perform tree work. Currently, the Borough expends approximately 3,500 man-hours, worth an estimated \$80,000, annually on planting, tree care, branch pick-up, and other tree-related work. This is in addition to approximately \$9,500 from the DPW budget used to hire outside contractors for pruning work on larger, more mature trees.

Also included in this budget is the weekly and annual tree recycling programs and door to door tree branch pick up. Somerville currently disposes of wood waste by grinding it up to make mulch or cutting it into firewood that is sold to residents. Any excess wood waste is disposed of at the A.T.S. recycling/mulch facility in Bridgewater. There are contractors who will pick up sawlogs for no charge. However, the wood must be in long (24-foot) lengths and contain no metal staining or rot. Storage of these logs until they can be picked up may pose a logistical problem. Disposal of trees and wood primarily within the Borough is currently meeting the needs of Somerville.

The town also has a very reliable fall tree leaf pick up schedule that is maintained through the town budget. Residents are asked to put raked leaves to the curb so that they can be vacuumed into the town trucks for recycling. This prevents clogged storm water drains and related problems. The schedule is posted on the borough website, cable TV, etc.

9. Statement of Plan Implementation

Tree Inventory and/Assessment

- Reduce vacant street tree sites to 10% or less over the next 10-30 years.
- Maintain tree species diversity so that losses of a predominant species through senescence, disease or pestilence are minimized in the future.

- Apply for available grant funding that supports tree assessments or programs to increase tree inventories.
- Collaborative with municipal and community groups to manage and maintain tree needs of the borough.

Hazard Identification and Management

- Obtain new funding and sources for trees management and maintenance.
- Coordinate tree evaluations and maintenance priorities with public works.
- Recent concerns have been around the liability of protruding tree roots and sidewalks, causing controversial tree cuttings. The EC has taken an aggressive stance on protecting trees and solving root problems without removing trees. This is an issue we will continue to work on through the education, communication, passage of a new tree ordinance, and improved management.

Tree Planting

- Host an educational event annually that educates and involves regarding trees and the work of the Environmental Commission and target scout, school, YMCA and family groups.
- Conduct an Arbor Day program or event recognizing Arbor Day. Replicate past commemorative tree planting and tree seedling distribution or develop new educational programs.
- Make public presentation and report at borough council meeting to increase awareness of tree inventory and plantings..
- Organize a town tree planting project.
- Obtain new funding and sources for trees, planting, and maintenance.

Tree Maintenance and Care

- Maintain tree nursery inventory and transplant to street locations.
- Maintain tree care educational information in the Exchange Field park kiosk.
- Update current tree inventory to include tree hazards identified/addressed and any trees planted/removed.
- Conduct tree pruning workshop(s) to prune smaller street trees.
- It may be necessary to control the outbreak of pests such as the Asian long-horned beetle. Management of the tree resource in a disaster will mean that some loss of control of private homeowners may be necessary to contain the disaster. For instance, in trying to prevent Dutch Elm disease from spreading to other susceptible elms it is necessary to remove infected individuals promptly whether they be on public or private property. The same concept is valid in an outbreak of the Asian long-horned beetle or some as yet unknown pestilence. This need will be provided for by the diversification of species within the borough.
- No other pest management plans are currently deemed necessary unless a disaster occurs. Note: The best disease management is diversity within the population. No active disease control should be undertaken if it takes funding away from pruning, removal and planting. In light of a disaster, the borough will take direction from the state foresters.

Annual Plans for 2014-2018

2014

Draft new shade tree ordinance.

Work with District Management Corporation to resolve Main Street tree issues.

Survey the town trees for hazards and replacement needs. Make recommendations for removing high hazard tree based on their threat and identify new planting locations.

Submit for Sustainable New Jersey credits in the natural resources and tree categories.

Increase outreach efforts by the posting and distribution of information concerning the community trees and resources through the town web site, email newsletter, park kiosk, and local TV station.

Obtain required state forestry core training for another Environmental Commissioner/staff.

Obtain required state forestry CEU's for Environmental Commission.

Conduct annual Arbor Day program.

Hold annual tree arbor event.

Plant 50 trees towards goal of reducing tree vacancy level.

Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.

2015

Investigate how the i-Tree program resources might be incorporated into the management plan.

Submit revised shade tree ordinance to borough for approval.

Schedule annual town tree inspection with EC and DPW.

Increase outreach efforts by the posting and distribution of information concerning the community trees and resources through the town web site, email newsletter, park kiosk, and local TV station.

Obtain required state forestry core training for another Environmental Commissioner/staff.

Obtain required state forestry CEU's for Environmental Commission.

Conduct annual Arbor Day program.

Hold annual tree arbor event.

Plant 50 trees towards goal of reducing tree vacancy level.

Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.

Survey the town trees for hazards and replacement needs. Make recommendations for removing high hazard tree based on their threat and identify new planting locations.

2016

Apply for Tree Planting Grant from NJDEP Division of Parks and Forestry, if available.

Use i-Tree mapping resource to determine canopy cover in the Borough.

Schedule annual town tree inspection with EC and DPW.

Continue tree identification labeling along walking/bike path through a Scout project.

Increase outreach efforts by the posting and distribution of information concerning the community trees and resources through the town web site, email newsletter, park kiosk, and local TV station.

Obtain required state forestry core training for another Environmental Commissioner/staff.

Obtain required state forestry CEU's for Environmental Commission.

Conduct annual Arbor Day program.
Hold annual tree arbor event.
Plant 50 trees towards goal of reducing tree vacancy level.
Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.
Survey the town trees for hazards and replacement needs. Make recommendations for removing high hazard tree based on their threat and identify new planting locations.

2017

Develop a tree resource packet for tree trail use.
Schedule annual town tree inspection with EC and DPW.
Increase outreach efforts by the posting and distribution of information concerning the community trees and resources through the town web site, email newsletter, park kiosk, and local TV station.
Obtain required state forestry core training for another Environmental Commissioner/staff.
Obtain required state forestry CEU's for Environmental Commission.
Conduct annual Arbor Day program.
Hold annual tree arbor event.
Plant 50 trees towards goal of reducing tree vacancy level.
Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.
Survey the town trees for hazards and replacement needs. Make recommendations for removing high hazard tree based on their threat and identify new planting locations.

2018

Provide a pruning workshop for DPW personnel.
Schedule annual town tree inspection with EC and DPW.
Increase outreach efforts by the posting and distribution of information concerning the community trees and resources through the town web site, email newsletter, park kiosk, and local TV station.
Obtain required state forestry core training for another Environmental Commissioner/staff.
Obtain required state forestry CEU's for Environmental Commission.
Conduct annual Arbor Day program.
Hold annual tree arbor event.
Plant 50 trees towards goal of reducing tree vacancy level.
Seek tree donations, corporate and non-governmental grants.
Survey the town trees for hazards and replacement needs. Make recommendations for removing high hazard tree based on their threat and identify new planting locations.

10. Community Stewardship Incentive Program

CSIP #1: Training – see section 6

- *CORE Training*
- *CEU Training*

- *Other elective Training above and beyond minimum required training*

Summary: One former Environmental Commissioner and one Borough employee have completed core training. As the commissioner with the core training has left the group, a new commissioner will be asked to take the core training. Finally, training is needed for DPW staff in tree maintenance, tree identification, and tree hazards. The Commission will review the NJ Forest Service's Community Forestry Program book of guideline's and its website. The EC chairperson will encourage the commissioner attendance at ANJEC trainings.

CSIP #2: Ordinance Establishment- see Section 4

- *Establishing Ordinance – establishes Shade Tree Commission*
- *Supplemental Ordinance - establishes Shade Tree Commission powers*
- *Tree Preservation Ordinance*

Review the borough tree ordinance once every 5 years or as issues dictate. Revise as needed, working with appropriate government bodies and employees. Utilize resources and research changes appropriately.

CSIP #3: Public Education and Awareness- see Section 7

- *Outreach Events*
- *Outreach materials*

Summary: Public Education, Awareness and Outreach is the most vital portion of this plan and the cornerstone for a successful program. The overall goal is to enhance the community's awareness of the community forest and the value and benefits of maintaining and improving trees and respecting them as a resource. With increased awareness will come improved volunteer recruitment and more successful activities and ultimately a more successful Community Forestry Program. Public education projects and workshops will be coordinated with the Borough Administration, various Borough Departments, Commissions, and town groups. Awareness will also be increased at annual EC educational events and through media releases. Annually an accomplishment report will be presented to the Mayor and Council to further highlight Environmental Commission accomplishments.

CSIP #4: Arbor Day – see Section 9

- *Establishes or Expands Arbor Day Celebration*

Summary: A recognition event, tree plantings and/or seedling distribution will be planned annually.

CSIP #5: Tree Inventory – see Section 9

- *Comprehensive Inventory of Street Trees*

Summary: The Borough updates removals on the Street Tree Inventory originally completed in December 1999. The commission desires to investigate new on line tools for maintaining its tree inventory.

CSIP #6: Hazard Tree Assessment- see Section 9

- *Assessment of Tree Hazards*

Summary: An annual inspection will be conducted by a foreman in the DPW to identify dead trees or other obvious hazard trees. In addition, all potential hazard trees listed in the inventory will be inspected annually. These trees were not a hazard at the time of the inventory but contained large cut faces, cut roots or other signs that they may become hazardous in the near future. The department will continue to respond to resident complaints about trees that appear unhealthy or dangerous. The environmental commission will contribute assistance as requested or required.

CSIP #7: Storm Damage Assessment- see Section 9

- *Pre-Storm assessment of potential damage to the tree resource after a severe storm*

Summary: The DPW generally plans for the removal of downed wood resulting from ice storms, violent thunderstorms, and hurricanes. The Environmental Commission can assist to identify damage or by gathering volunteer help where appropriate and has done so with recent hurricanes.

CSIP #8: Tree Maintenance and Removal- see Section 4 & 9

- *Pruning trees*
- *Removing trees*
- *Root Collar Excavations*
- *Fertilization*
- *Water*
- *Mulching*

Summary: The town will continue using Environmental Commissioners and volunteers to prune smaller street trees. In addition, they will continue to respond to resident tree requests, concerns, questions and issues with the removal of dying and hazardous trees. DPW's schedule of inspections and pruning of larger trees may be supported with contracted professionals when necessary. DPW will attach water bags to newly planted trees and maintain a schedule to fertilize, water, mulch, and prune trees in early years of growth. The commissioners will monitor and advocate for proper tree care in light of tight budgets and reduced allocation of staff time to tree care. The EC will seek to revise the plans and processes to remove street trees in the next 5 years to assure unnecessary removal of our natural resources.

CSIP #9: Insect and Disease Management- see Section 9

- *Managing Insect and Disease Problems - Community Forest Health*

Summary: There is a plan for the control of major disease or pestilence mostly through the removal of infested trees both on the public *and* private property. In the event of an outbreak of the Asian long-horned beetle, or similar catastrophic disease or pestilence, disaster response will have to be enacted according to the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Departments.

CSIP #10: Wildfire Protection

- *Wildlife Protection Plans*
- *Firewise Communities*
- *Species Selection and Fuel Reduction Programs*
- *Fire Protected Related Outreach*

Summary: There is no current known plan for wildlife protection. Therefore the Somerville Environmental Commission will investigate needs pertinent to Somerville, research solutions, consult with our fire officials and determine the need to write a plan.

CSIP #11: Tree Planting- see Section 9

- *Planting Trees – must remove wire baskets, quality planting stock, species selection*

Summary: The Commission will target 50 trees planted annually to reduce vacancy level to 10% within 10-30 years. Commissioners with expertise will make recommendations to various boards in town to assure that the proper type tree is planted in the designated areas. The commission will seek to plant 2 significant trees per year: memorial, anniversary, tribute, in featured area in town.

CSIP #12: Tree Recycling- see Section 8

- *Establish programs to recycle trees – free mulch from removed tree debris, Christmas Tree Recycling Program, Tree Removal Utilization Programs*

Summary: The Borough offers a year round tree clipping collection program where residents can put tree branches out weekly for pick up. There is also an annual Christmas tree pick up schedule and fall leaf pick up. The mulch created by the tree recycling is also provided free to residents.

CSIP #13: Sidewalk Maintenance Program- see Section 9

- *Promotes the establishment of a sidewalk maintenance program that encourages alternatives to tree removal through curbing and replacing sidewalks where appropriate*

Summary: Within the next 5 years the Environmental Commission will be working with the Borough officials, insurance agent and others to resolve current sidewalk issues including tree root liability in sidewalks, root grates, tree removals, and chain of commands for removing trees.

CSIP #14: Storm Water Management- see Section 8

- *Storm Water Management as it relates to Community Forestry – Leaf Pick Up Program*

Summary: The Commission can educate residents in this regard to keep storm drains clear. Additionally, the Environmental Commission will continue working with NJ Water Supply, Rutgers, and town officials to support rain barrel use and rain gardens with small trees and bushes that aid in absorbing storm water run-off.

CSIP #15: Other

- *A Community Forestry practice that does not fit easily into one of the above practices but that can be justified as a valid community forestry practice*

There is no current known need for another plan not fitting any categories above.

Attachment 1. **Community Map**

Attachment 2. **Pertinent Pages of Master Plan, Borough Code**