

Canton Borough

Phone: (570) 673-5700

Project Manager: John Shaffer

Grant Award: \$3,000

Evaluation, Remediation & Restoration of Canton's Trees enabled Canton to renew its urban forest and maintain a safe and pleasant community. Canton Borough has a population of 1,935 and is known as Pennsylvania's Smallest Business District Community. Canton's 25 year-old Shade Tree Commission is very active and the borough has become the area's leader in tree programs. Nearby municipalities often call for information on tree programs. At the time of this grant, Canton was the only municipality in Bradford County with Tree City USA status.

Phase I began by hiring a certified arborist to evaluate street trees between the sidewalk and curb areas. One-third of the Borough street trees were evaluated. Once the most dangerous trees were identified, the Shade Tree Commission invited property owners to participate in a 50/50 cost-share partnership to remove and replace hazard trees and to prune other trees as needed. A total of ten trees were removed and 11 trees were replanted that were appropriate for each location.

The program received great support, reduced community liability, and improved Canton's streets. Many property owners have been prompted to become better stewards of their trees so future hazards will be minimized. Participating residents are more likely to provide diligent care for their new trees.

Although only 10 of 35 hazardous trees were removed, this approach was successful in using the best available resources in the daunting and expensive problem of remediating the decline of several beloved sugar maples. Canton will continue to investigate opportunities to assist property owners with other forms of tree care.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$3,000
Cash Contributions	\$3,000
In-kind Contributions	\$3,770
Total Project Cost	\$9,770





- Used a certified arborist to evaluate 60 trees in one-third of the borough, 35 were hazardous.
- Removed 10 trees and planted 11 replacements.
- Supported the use of diverse and appropriate species selection in urban areas.
- Developed a homeowner cost-share program for tree removals and plantings within the sidewalk and curb right of way.
- Raised \$2,766 from homeowners to cost share the grant.
- Achieved a 1 to 2.25 cost share ratio for the grant.

Partners' Contributions

Borough Administrator – Grant and project management
Borough Council – Personnel and equipment use
Borough Street Crew – Tree plantings, delivery, and cleanup
DCNR Bureau of Forestry – Technical assistance
Penn State Extension Service – Technical assistance
Residents – Cost-shared removals and replanting
Shade Tree Commission – Administrative assistance
Totally Trees, Inc. – Technical assistance