

## Northeast Pennsylvania (NEPA) Community Tree Association

Phone: (570) 825-1701

Project Manager: Vincent Cotrone

Grant Award: \$15,000

---

**The Community Forestry Workshop Series** was developed by the NEPA Community Tree Association in partnership with Penn State Cooperative Extension and other organizations. The workshops focused on critical community forestry issues identified through the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban Forestry Program. Educational programs and resource materials empowered communities and grantees to better manage and protect their trees and other natural resources. In total, three full-day workshops, five tree maintenance demonstrations, a day-and-a-half satellite conference, and a field exercise on riparian buffers were developed and implemented.

“Assessing Tree Health, Hazard, and Liability” (August 1997) provided communities and arborists with the knowledge base and tools to implement Tree Liability and Assessment Grants.

In the fall of 1997, three Tree Maintenance Workshops, entitled “Discovering Trees and Their Care: A Demonstration of Proper Tree Care,” were held in Bloomsburg, Stroudsburg, and Keystone College. Two maintenance demonstrations were also held in Kingston and Tunkhannock.

The workshop, “Building with Nature,” educated the building and planning community about the benefits and techniques of protecting trees and natural resources during construction.

“Establishing Trees in Urban Areas,” a collaborative conference with Cornell University and the Pocono Northeast Pennsylvania Resource Conservation and Development, presented new research in urban tree planting and included topics such as modifying urban planting sites, revegetating mined land, planting bare root material, and using structural soils in urban settings.

“Riparian Forest Buffers Systems” training (September 1998) became part of a larger nationwide satellite-training program developed by the Maryland Cooperative Extension.

### Project Value and Match

<b>Grant Award</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
Cash Contributions	\$16,544
In-kind Contributions	\$22,435
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$53,979</b>

### Significant Revisions to Scope of Work

The “Riparian Forest Buffers” workshop was originally planned for Fall 1997 but was delayed due to a conflict with the Alliance for Chesapeake Bay’s Riparian Reforestation Field Days.

### Project Accomplishments

- Held 9 workshops in 4 counties.
- Built support for municipal budgeting for urban and community forestry efforts and points for Tree City USA Growth Awards.
- Provided exposure and public relations for local tree commissions and their programs.
- Workshops informed Laporte and Eagles Mere Boroughs that using bare root stock can be effective.
- Highlighted planting toxicity in culm-based soils.
- Promoted research and experimentation with mine land.
- The “Riparian Buffers Satellite Program” was part of a nationwide program attended by 1,700 people in 20 states.

- Documented that tree maintenance workshops are not as cost-effective for the general public as tree care demonstrations.
- The extension urban forester gave two presentations on protecting trees at construction sites for contractors in 1999.
- Workshops were attended by approximately 360 natural resource professionals, municipal leaders, building industry representatives, and volunteers.
- Saved \$16,948.68 as a result of partners donating services.
- Achieved a 1 to 2.59 cost share ratio for the grant.

#### Partners' Contributions

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – Workshop collaboration  
American Institute of Architects – Marketing workshops  
Back Mountain Regional Land Trust – Planning and marketing  
Borough of Stroudsburg – Demonstration site and marketing  
Borough of Langhorne – Speaker  
Building Industry of NEPA – Mailing labels and marketing  
Cornell University – Collaboration for conference, speaker, etc.  
Dincher & Dincher – Consulting, speaker, program planning  
Economic Development Council – Workshop marketing  
Wyoming County Conservation District – Marketing workshops  
Keystone College – Speaker and hosted two demonstration sites  
Kingston Municipality – Hosted workshop  
Lackawanna County Conservation District – Technical assistance  
Lackawanna Homebuilders Association – Marketing workshop  
Luzerne County – Use of conference site for builder workshop  
Maryland Cooperative Extension – Satellite program and books  
Montgomery County Planning Commission – Speaker  
National Association of Homebuilders – Speaker  
Northeast Hardwood Association – Cosponsored workshops

NRCS – Donated speaker for riparian workshop  
PA Urban & Community Forestry Council – Financial support  
PenDel Chapter of ISA – Advertisement, mailings and speaker  
Pennsylvania Homebuilders Association – Marketing workshop  
Penn State Cooperative Extension – Speakers and marketing  
Penn State University – Speakers, planning, publications, marketing  
Pike County Conservation District – Marketing workshops  
Pocono Builders Association – Marketing and mailings  
Pocono NE RC&D – Conference site and program planning  
PP&L Riverlands Nature Center – Speaker  
South Abington Township – Workshop site and program planning  
Susquehanna County Conservation District – Marketing workshops  
Town of Bloomsburg – Maintenance demonstration site  
Tunkhannock Tree Association – Planning and marketing  
Wayne County Conservation District – Marketing workshops  
Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business – Marketing workshops  
Wyoming County – Courthouse grounds for maintenance demo