

## Northeast Pennsylvania Community Tree Association

Community Tree Stewards Training

Project Manager: Vincent Cotrone

1999 Grant Award: \$ 14,099

The **Community Tree Stewards Training** project undertook several new initiatives to improve urban forestry ecosystem knowledge among community tree associations and trained volunteers. Funds were used to complete a curriculum for municipal tree commissioners, a self study resource guide, and more intensive recruiting and monitoring of communities interested in improving their trees and natural resources. The curriculum provided comprehensive training, three hour workshops, and two full day programs open to professionals across the region.

### Project Accomplishments

- The Community Tree Stewards curriculum addressed:
  - Starting a Community Tree Program,
  - Tree Commissions/Work Plans/Budgeting,
  - Tree Pruning,
  - Shade Tree Ordinances and Liability in Community Forests,
  - Tree Planting Site Evaluation and Species Selection,
  - Education, Outreach, and Community Involvement,
  - Organizing Volunteers, and Contracting Tree Work,
  - Community Forest Ecosystems,
  - Community Tree Inventories,
  - Fundraising for Community Trees, and Model Programs;
- 43 people registered for the Short Course representing 21 communities, 2 colleges, 5 consultants, PA DCNR, PA Turnpike Commission, and the NEPA Urban Forestry Program; and
- Conducted three surveys including:
  - Survey of Tree Commissions in Northeast Pennsylvania (265 responses),
  - Survey of Municipal Tree Programs in Northeast Pennsylvania (265 responses), and
  - Initial Community Tree Stewards Workshop Survey (83 responses).

### Project Value and Match

<b>Grant Award</b>	<b>\$14,099</b>
Cash Contributions	\$ 1,957
In-kind Contribution	<u>\$22,192</u>
<b>Total Project Value</b>	<b>\$38,248</b>

### Project Partnerships

Bartlett Tree Experts – technical assistance

High, Swartz, Siedel, & Roberts, Attorneys at Law – presentation

Keystone College, Penn State Landscape Architecture Department and School of Forest Resource – education and materials

Laporte Tree Commission – presentation about Shade Tree Commission  
PA DCNR, Bureau of Forestry and Penn College of Technology–  
project support

Penn State Cooperative Extension  
Service – technical assistance  
and materials

Pennsylvania Horticultural  
Society – project support

Pennsylvania Urban and  
Community Forestry Council –  
project support

Totally Trees Consulting Arborist,  
Bernard Dincher –  
demonstration tree planting

USDA Forest Service – instructor  
for class, materials, and  
financial support

