

Laporte Shade Tree Commission

Laporte Community Hall Project

Project Managers: Ann and Henry Street

2000 Grant Award: \$ 5,995

The goal of the **Laporte Community Hall Project** was to enhance the appearance of an 1873 building and provide the town of Laporte with a pleasant place to hold outdoor functions. A privacy border of trees and shrubs was created to separate the Community Hall courtyard and adjacent neighbors' yards. Prior to planting, soil amendments were needed, as the site was formerly a dumping ground for coal ash. A perennial flowerbed was created along the top of the grass courtyard.

Significant Revisions to the Scope of Work

Regrading of the north and east sides of the yard was done to provide a flatter place for an outdoor tent. Issues with neighbors delayed project activities.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 5 canopy trees including 1 evergreen and 4 deciduous. 4 trees were bareroot stock;
- Planted 58 shrubs and 150 herbaceous plants;
- Placed 30 cubic yards of mulch;
- Bernard Dincher, Certified Arborist, conducted a tree inventory;
- Pruned 2 hazardous trees;
- Cleared 950 square feet of barberry, honeysuckle, privet, multiflora rose, forsythia, and blackberry;
- Saved and repotted 21 slips of snowball viburnum;
- Planted 1,875 square feet of the project site;
- Participated in Master Gardener Composting Workshop, Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council Conference, and a Tree Liability Conference;
- Opened the Community Hall on Memorial Day, 2002; and
- Secured a Special Purpose Study Grant through Endless Mountains Heritage Region Inc., PA DCNR's PA Parks program to conduct a feasibility study on Community Hall. A separate Landscape Grant will restore and repair the building.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$ 5,995
Cash Contributions	\$ 167
In-kind Contributions	<u>\$ 6,431</u>
Total Project Value	\$12,593

Project Partnerships

Engineering District 3-0 – services

Laporte Borough – equipment and services

Laporte Borough Council – project oversight and administration

Laporte Women's Club – project support

Local Victim Services – project guidance

Penn DOT – services

Pennsylvania Heritage Parks Program – financial support

Shultz Equipment – mulch, topsoil, gravel donation and brush, stump, and rubble removal

The Sullivan Review – publicity

