# **BOROUGH OF CALDWELL**

in the County of Essex

Third Community Forestry Management Plan January 2013

# **Mayor and Borough Council**

**Mayor Ann Dassing** 

\* Councilman President Richard Hauser

Councilman John Coyle

Councilman Thomas O'Donnell

Councilman John Kelley

**Councilman Francis Rodgers** 

Councilman Edward Durkin, Jr.

Paul M. Carelli, Borough Administrator Mario Bifalco, Director of Public Works

### **Environmental Commission**

\* Ann Marchioni, Chairman

**Douglas Piazza** 

Ann E. Martin

**Donald Neil Aharrah** 

Kristian Brown

**Marguerite Kenney** 

**Edward Durkin** 

**Alternates** 

Robert Edelstein

# **Tree Removal Committee**

Edward Broheimer, C.T.E.

Donal Niel Aharrah

Paul M. Carelli, Administrator

Councilman Edward Durkin

### **Forestry Consultant**

John D. Linson, N.J.C.T.E. #198

# **Plan Duration 2013 - 2017**

\*Environmental Commission Member and Tree Removal Committee Member

# 2.) INTRODUCTION

### A) MISSION STATEMENT

Recognizing the enhancing value of street trees to the quality of life in the Borough of Caldwell, it is the borough's mission to promote a sustainable and productive community forest.

# B) GOALS

In recognizing the developed land use status within the Borough and its surrounding municipalities of West Caldwell, North Caldwell and Essex Fells, it is the goal and objective of the Borough of Caldwell to take a pro-active approach in the management of its tree-lined streets and parkland. It is the firm belief of the Borough that by taking logical steps as outlined in the Community Forestry Management Plan and by providing reasonable levels of resources to accomplish them, the possibility of natural disaster structural tree failure, or other tree-related hazards can be minimized thereby reducing the Borough's exposure to liabilities, increasing public safety, and enhancing the quality of life for its residents.

### C) OBJECTIVES

The Borough of Caldwell Community Forestry Management Plan will enable the Borough Council, Administrator and the Environmental Commission to set attainable goals within the present budgetary constraints in meeting present and future tree maintenance needs. This management plan will evaluate Caldwell's Shade Tree assets and liabilities and chart a course setting short and long term objectives to correct existing deficiencies such as the following:

| Goal  | Objectives  |
|---|---|
| *Prompt removal of dead and diseased trees      | <ol> <li>Conduct an annual hazard tree survey inspection during late summer/early fall.</li> <li>Removal all dead and diseased trees within 9 months of identifying.</li> <li>Budget to contract out large tree removals.</li> <li>Explore privatization alternatives.</li> </ol> |
| *Correction of hazardous sidewalk<br>situations | <ol> <li>Improve communication with Code<br/>Official who supervises this program.</li> <li>Increase capital sidewalk budget.</li> <li>Change system from reactive to<br/>pro-active.</li> </ol>  |

**Goal** Objectives

- 4.) Maintain a 7 year cycle inspection/correction program as funding permits.
- 5.) Explore alternative grant funding options.
- 1.) Maintain a contractual tree pruning line item.
- 2.) Maintain a 7 year tree pruning cycle based on the 7 Borough Wards or voting districts as funding permits.
- 3.) Explore alternative grant and funding options.
- 4.) Explore privatization alternatives.
- \*Provide prompt response to service requests

\*Maintain a routine tree maintenance program

- 1). Contract out routine street tree pruning and other time consuming duties.
- 2.) Explore alternate contractual arrangements.
- 3.) Explore alternative grant and funding.
- 4.) Explore privatization alternatives.
- 5.) Provide class training in tree maintenance to DPW
- \*Maintain a tree replacement program current with tree mortality
- 1.) Maintain tree planting budget line item.
- 2.) Replace trees lost through attrition within one year

#### D.) LIABILITY STATEMENT

The Borough of Caldwell recognizes it's responsibility and the liabilities it has in promoting safe streets, sidewalks, parkland and public right-of-way. Toward this end, it has made a conscientious effort to promptly remove all dead, dying, diseased and potentially hazardous trees. This has resulted in a reduction in the need for emergency response.

Although street trees are an asset to the community, it is inevitable that they mature and require care, maintenance and eventually replacement. Care and maintenance, in addition to planting "the right tree in the right place" can help insure that community trees not only contribute to the environmental and economic vitality of the area, but also reduce the potential hazards to public safety. Our community must work within a reasonable budget that may not be able to meet each and every need of our community forest immediately. Therefore, it is the intent of this plan to focus available resources to the greatest need and step by step work towards a healthy forest with commensurate reduced risks to public safety.

It is our position that by taking logical steps outlined in the plan, we will garner public support for plan implementation and demonstrate the long-term benefits to the environment and public safety.

We also want to become more pro-active in the management and care of our trees. Through inventory and hazard assessment, we will position the Borough of Caldwell to take corrective action prior to structural tree failure and other hazardous tree related conditions. It is acknowledged that not all hazardous conditions will be predicted. Good maintenance and care will reduce the probability, but unexpected events will still occur.

The implementation of this plan will demonstrate that Caldwell is devoting reasonable levels of resources in a planned manner to reduce the number of tree related accidents and thereby reduce its exposure to liabilities and increase public safety.

# 3.) COMMUNITY OVERVIEW - Five Years of Progress

Caldwell Borough was first established as a municipality in 1892. It's early history was connected to agriculture uses. Slowly, the population grew and Caldwell evolved into a suburban community with a wide variety of local shops, stores and services. Most of this development occurred in the 1930's, although, development and in some cases redevelopment has continued to the present.

As of 2010, Caldwell had a population of 7,822 persons living in 3,362 housing units. Most land in Caldwell is 54.4 percent used for residential purposes. There are 19 miles of borough roadway.

Caldwell Borough for planning purposes is a fully developed municipality. The middle core area is developed commercially along Bloomfield Avenue. Astride these uses are offices and multifamily housing. The remaining and major portion of Caldwell is developed for single family housing. Caldwell College, in the eastern sector of the municipality, is the largest landholder in the community.

Adjacent communities located along Caldwell's boundaries are largely residential. Exceptions are Bloomfield Avenue in North Caldwell which supports business uses similar to those on the north side of Bloomfield Avenue in eastern Caldwell; and both sides of Bloomfield Avenue in West Caldwell, where some apartments and businesses similar to those in the western portion of Caldwell are located. Further to the west is extensive shopping center development.

A street tree inventory was conducted in March 2000 and the information was entered into a computerized data base.

A partial summary of the information collected is as follows:

| Total Street Tree Population: | 2529 |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Species Present               | 20+  |
|                               |      |
| Species Distribution:         |      |
| Maples                        | 40%  |
| Oaks                          | 11%  |
| Cherry, Plum and Crabapple    | 10%  |
| London Plane                  | 5%   |
| All Others (per specie)       | 4%   |
|                               |      |

A windshield Tree Survey conducted in 2011following the October 29, 2011 Snow Storm revealed the following conditions:

| Trees in need of Pruning approximately | 180 Storm Related    |
|--|----------------------|
|  | 4 Non-Storm Related  |
| Trees in need of Removal               | 48 Storm Related     |
|  | 13 Non-Storm Related |
| Private Trees in need of maintenance   | 25                   |
|  |                      |

Essex County Highway trees in need of Maintenance 46

The damage would have been much more severe had the Borough not been current with its tree maintenance obligations.

Our improved status is primarily due to the following reasons:

- 1) Increased funding for tree maintenance
- 2) CSIP Grants for Tree Planting and Tree Pruning
- 3) Improved oversight, supervising and involvement by DPW as a result of Core and Continuing Education Training in Hazardous Tree Identification.
- 4) Increased involvement of Environmental Commission in Community Outreach.

**See examples in the Appendix.** 

The following best summarizes the Borough's Community Forestry accomplishments:

| <u>Year</u> | Trees Planted | Trees Removed | Trees Pruned |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 2001        | 0             | 26            | 7            |
| 2002        | 63            | 22            | 42           |
| 2003        | 17            | 28            | 24           |
| 2004        | 8             | 12            | 52           |
| 2005        | 15            | 18            | 50           |
| 2006        | 23            | 12            | 24           |
| 2007        | 16            | 32            | 20           |
| 2008        | 22            | 63            | 133          |
| 2009        | 24            | 44            | 127          |
| 2010        | 24            | 38            | 18           |
| 2011        | 0             | 24            | 28           |
| 2012        | 0             | 31            | 16           |

The Borough's most recent Master Plan Reexamination Report was prepared in March 2005 by Jeffrey Stiles AICP/PP of Edwards and Kelcey.

Two areas of the Reexamination Report which coincide with Community Forestry Management Plan goals are "to develop a strategy that reinforces the downtown as the retail core of the community" and "to provide more open space and recreational opportunities."

Obviously trees will play a large role in achieving these goals.

# February 25, 1998

The land use element of the Master Plan makes several specific references to the importance of street trees and landscaping in making the redevelopment of Caldwell's downtown area "more appealing and inviting to shoppers" (Page 58). It recommends that proposals appear before the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment be more carefully scrutinized for compliance with landscape zoning requirements in the future (Pages 58-62).

A copy of the 2013 Borough of Caldwell Community Forestry Management Plan will be provided to the Borough Planner for incorporation into the Appendix of the next Master Plan revision.

The Conservation Plan Element of the Master Plan stresses the importance of considering the value of Caldwell's environment as described in the December 1996 Environmental Resources Inventory.

All of this information combined provides a useful tool that can be applied to the future management of Caldwell street trees.

The new Re-examination Report is not scheduled until 2014.

# 4.) COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Mayor and Council

Environmental/Shade Tree Commission......Borough Administrator (Policy and Watchdog)
Review of Planning Activity

Director Department of Public Works Requests for Service

Department of Public Works Private Tree Contractor

\* Branch elevation \* Large tree and stump removal

\* Routine cleanup \* Planting \*Emergency storm response \* Pruning \* Recycling and disposal of tree debris \*Construction

As evidenced by the accompanying chart, the Borough of Caldwell has an effective table of organization and responsive customer service program. Residents call in tree-related requests to the Director of Public Works who makes all inspections within the next few working days. The Department of Public Works is the responsible party to implement all Shade Tree services and carry out the intent of the Community Forestry Management Plan. Items requiring immediate attention are handled in-house or contracted out. A hazardous tree survey is usually conducted in the late summer with major tree removals contracted out over the fall and winter months.

Mario Bifalco, Director, Department of Public Works is the official contact person. His phone number is (973) 403-4640. The Environmental Commission helps the Borough set tree maintenance policy (see appendix) and review landscaping plans submitted to the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. The Commission acts as "eyes and ears" for the Department of Public Works to ensure that tree hazards and maintenance issues are handled responsibility. Recommendations to the Department of Public Works from the Commission flow through the Borough Administrator's office. The Environmental Commission meets monthly on the second Thursday at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers.

The responsive cleanup following the October 29, 2011 snowstorm and Hurricane Sandy is proof positive that Caldwell's Community Forestry Program Administration effectively is meeting the needs of the Community.

### 5.) COMMUNITY MAP

No changes since prior submission

### 6). TRAINING PLAN

Funding has been budgeted for the mandatory New Jersey Forestry Council's Training requirements.

At present, two members of the Environmental Commission and the Director, Department of Public Works have attended the required core training session.

It is our intention to maintain this balance in the future.

CEU credits will be accrued as training sessions are offered by the New Jersey Forestry Service by Environmental Commission Members and Department of Public Works personnel.

Caldwell has been very active in providing training for its employees evidenced by the following:

- Caldwell has sent two (2) representatives to the Rutgers "Hazardous Tree Identification Course" (2008)
- Caldwell has sent two (2) Public Works Employees to the Rutgers "Tree Planting and Installation Course" (2009)
- Caldwell has sent three (3) representatives to a course sponsored by the Borough of Riverdale entitled "Tree Maintenance from the Ground", "Preserving Trees on Construction Sites", and "Resolving Tree and Infrastructure Conflicts" (2010)
- Caldwell has sent four (4) representatives to the "Hazard Tree Identification Course" (2011)
- Caldwell has sent three (3) representatives to the Borough of Riverdale "Hazardous Tree Identification and Emerald Borer Course" (2012)

It is our intention to send field personnel to pertinent training sessions whenever possible. Hazardous Tree Identification, Chain Saw Safety, Integrated Pest Control, Tree Identification, Tree Pruning and Tree Planting Training Programs will be sought out for field personnel.

### 7). PUBLIC EDUCATION / AWARENESS / OUTREACH

The Borough of Caldwell is proud to be certified as a Tree City, U.S.A. since 1997.

Arbor Day is observed annually with a tree planting on public property. The program is advertised in Caldwell's local paper, <u>The Progress</u>. Seedlings are frequently distributed with the Borough, Environmental Commission members, and the general public attending.

The Environmental Commission occasionally issues news releases to <u>The Progress</u> and the Borough newsletter and special mailings are utilized as well.

The Environmental Commission regularly communicates with the Caldwell/West Caldwell Garden Club, the Garden Committee of the Caldwell Women's Club, the Environmental Club at James Caldwell High School, the Ecology Club at the Grover Cleveland Middle School, Caldwell College, as well as private Schools in the Borough.

The Environmental Commission has access to the local cable television station, TV 35, which advertises important events and information.

The Borough's web site www.caldwell-nj.com is also used to disseminate relevant Shade Tree information

The Environmental Commission also hopes to enhance its future Arbor Day programs by involving more students. A series of poster contests has been very successful within the schools in raising environmental consciousness and will continue in the future.

# Past Arbor Day Programs

- **2001** (2) Trees on Borough Green
- **2002** (10) Trees Kaplan Parking Lot
- **2003** (1) Tree Westville Avenue Pocket Park
- **2004** (3) Trees Grover Cleveland Park with Essex County
- 2005 (1) Tree at the Library and (3) Cherry Trees Westville Avenue Island planted by the Boy Scouts
- **2006** (1) Tree at Grover Cleveland Birth Place
- 2007 (1) Tree Hanford Parking Lot combined with Earth Day Program
- **2008** Sponsored a poster contest within the school system entitled "Transform our trash"
- 2009 Sponsored a poster contest entitled "Green Your House"
- 2010 Sponsored a poster contest entitled "Art and Photography inspired by Nature"
- **2011** Planted a tree honoring former Library Director
- Sponsored a student contest "Why are clean air and clean water important?" and "How can you encourage anti-idling?" Published an article in Caldwell Progress about Arbor Day/Earth Day.

Samples of past community outreach efforts are included in the Appendix.

# 8). STATEMENT OF TREE BUDGET

The Borough Tree Budget has increased since our first management plan. The Borough understands the importance of their tree program and has been committed to providing sufficient funds each and every year. The following is a summary of the Shade Tree portion of the budget over the twelve (12) years:

|      | Budget      | Grants Obtained                               |
|------|-------------|---|
| 2001 | \$30,487.45 | Applied for \$15,000 CSIP Grant to prune 162  |
| 2002 | \$28,674.42 | Trees<br>\$7,500 CSIP Tree Planting Grant     |
| 2003 | \$31,456.75 | Applied for \$6,000 CSIP Grant to Prune trees |
| 2004 | \$44,273.00 | (64)<br>CSIP Grant                            |
| 2005 | \$49,500.00 |   |
| 2006 | \$54,500.00 |   |
| 2007 | \$54,500.00 | \$3,000 Green Communities                     |
| 2008 | \$47,500.00 | CSIP for tree maintenance                     |
| 2009 | \$36,500.00 | \$7,000 BSF Grant                             |
| 2010 | \$41,500.00 |   |
| 2011 | \$38,500.00 | \$3,000 Green Communities Grant               |
| 2012 | \$44,000.00 | \$40,000 total grants received to date        |

The Borough is dependent on CSIP Funding to meet all of its Community Forestry Management Plan goals.

The scarcity of State Funding has set us somewhat backward especially in light of the damages sustained in the December 29, 2011 Snowstorm and in Hurricane Sandy.

The Borough initiated an Emergency Appropriation of \$237,400 to deal with the 2011 storm. Hurricane Sandy cleanup cost the Borough is \$82,032.67 to date.

The Breakdown on the 2012 annual budget allocations is as follows:

| Tree Removal   | \$ 15,000.00               |
|--|----------------------------|
| Tree Pruning   | \$ 8,000.00                |
| Stump Removal  | \$ 3,500.00                |
| Tree Planting  | \$ 3,000.00                |
| Disposal of grass, leaves & brush Environmental Commission | \$ 18,500.00               |
| In-Kind Services   | \$ 2,500.00<br>\$50,500.00 |

### 9.) STATEMENT OF PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

### A.) EXISTING PROGRAMS TO BE CONTINUED 2013-2017

### 1. TREE INVENTORY/ASSESSMENT

The Borough of Caldwell's Tree Inventory is 12 years old and needs to be re-done. The Director of the Department of Public Works is responsible for updating the inventory by adding new trees planted, deleting trees removed, and changing maintenance priorities as trees are pruned. CSIP Funding will be applied for (if available) to conduct a new inventory.

# 2. HAZARD TREE IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT

**Introductory Statement** 

The October 29, 2011 freak snow storm and Hurricane Sandy had a devastating effect on North Jersey Street Trees. It is our belief that by being proactive over the last two management plan cycles the Borough minimized the effect of these two storms on the community. By promptly removing dead, disease and dying trees identified by annual hazard tree inspections, by removing trees of marginal value in capital budget road reconstruction projects, and by replacing compact growing trees under overhead wires.

Immediately following the October 29, 2011 storm a hazardous tree survey was conducted (see appendix) and \$237,400 was allocated through an emergency appropriation to address issues identified in the hazardous tree survey.

Unlike many of its neighboring communities, the Borough only lost approximately twenty (20) trees in Hurricane Sandy and was able to very quickly open its roads and get back to speed. We credit this to our Hazardous Tree Identification and Management program.

- a. Identification and Management of Trees requiring pruning or removal.
  - 1.) An annual hazard tree inspection is conducted in July, August or September. This is done by the Director of Public Works and a Certified Tree Expert. Work is prioritized and put into bid contract specifications.
  - 2.) The Environmental Commission has developed Tree Removal Criteria (see addendum) for justification of its pro-active removal program. With over 40% of its street tree population being older maple trees, decline and mortality is a serious concern. Public opinion on the one hand wishes to preserve or prolong as many trees as possible, yet safety issues necessitate many tree removals. Most tree removals are conducted in-house. Large tree removals, removals associated with sidewalk replacement, and removals in Community Development Areas are conducted through contractual arrangements. Assuming a 1-3% annual mortality, Caldwell will remove between 25-75 trees per year. Typically \$15,000 is budgeted each year for tree removal and \$8,000 for tree pruning.
  - 3.) Funding is provided through the Public Works Operational Budget. Most of the tree removals and pruning are contracted out to suitable contractors in the field. This process enables the Borough of Caldwell to promptly remove dead and diseased trees, efficiently process residential pruning requests and prune high priority pruning conditions. High maintenance priority items found in our windshield the survey are given priority.
- b.) Identification of tree root hazards and management.

A significant goal for this plan, will be to conduct a walking survey of Borough sidewalks. This will be accomplished with CSIP funding or, if funding is not available, possibly as an Eagle Scout Project or with summer interns.

- 1.) Identify sidewalks that have been uplifted more than three quarters of an inch.
- 2.) Determine the course of action to abate the situation. Typical solutions include:
  - a.) Remove the offending slab or slabs, shave the offending roots pour a new slab or slabs
  - b.) Preserve and re-use the offending slab, shave the offending roots, re-set the original sidewalk slab in stone dust
  - c.) Plank the existing sidewalk over the offending roots. Most frequently used with blue stone slabs
  - d.) Offset the replacement sidewalk to minimize damage of tree roots
  - e.) Remove the tree. Replace the sidewalk per Borough specifications

Once a hazardous sidewalk survey has been compiled, the list will be turned over to Mario Bifalco, Superintendent of Public Works, who will prescribe how each problem will be abated and will supervise the root pruning of any trees to be preserved. The list will also be given to the Borough Code Enforcement Officer who will put the respective property owner on notice and recommend a window of compliance.

# 3. TREE PLANTING

- a.) Tree planting efforts over the last several years have partially mitigated the under stocked situation identified in the 2000 Community Forestry Management Plan. \$3,000 is budgeted annually for re-planting.
- b.) Caldwell's tree inventory established that over 40% of all street trees are maples. Future efforts will strive to plant replacement species that are appropriate for a given site particularly in respect to the planting belt width and whether a potential conflict exists with overhead utilities.
- c.) A frequently encountered problem in the Borough of Caldwell is the fact that many of the residents living adjacent to a vacant tree planting location do not want a replacement tree. This has created inconsistent stocking levels throughout the Borough. Up to this point the Borough has rarely imposed its right upon property owners to plant replacement trees in the public right-of-way against their will. A goal for this management plan period will be to revisit this policy and consider requiring tree replacement as per Borough ordinance. An information letter extolling the value of street trees will be distributed to residents to hopefully convince them to accept a street tree in the future
- d.) Since 2002, the Borough has budgeted \$3,000 annually through its operational budget to replace trees per year and trees are actively replaced through capital funding of road reconstruction projects.
- e) The Borough strongly encourages any interested party to contribute to Caldwell's Adopt-A-Tree Program.

# 4. TREE MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL

- a.) The in-house service capabilities of the Public Works Department are extremely limited. All **requests for services** are processed through the Department of Public Works. Hazardous conditions are attended to immediately either in house or by contractual arrangement. Other situations are postponed to the off season. The Public Works Department is hindered by its small size (8) and cramped facilities.
- b.) The Public Works Department actively provides **cross training to DPW personnel** whenever possible. \$ 200 per year is budgeted for training purposes this year.

c.) It is the desire of the Borough of Caldwell to create and maintain a 7 year contractual pruning cycle on all trees within the public-right-of-way or on public property. In-house crews are not equipped or capable of performing preventive maintenance. This program will increase public safety, minimize the need for emergency response, and increase the health and vigor of the entire tree population.

If trees are to be pruned on a 10 year cycle, knowing that Caldwell has a tree population of 2,529 trees, we need to budget a minimum of \$19,000 per year to operate such a program. The present annual budget for pruning is \$8,000. Future CSIP Grants will hopefully fill this gap.

### 5. OTHER GOALS

a.) Annual Evaluation. Each month the Director of Public Works will provide a list of tree related accomplishments to the Environmental Commission. Each year the Environmental Commission secretary will prepare an accurate summary of annual accomplishments. A comparison of subsequent annual reports with the goals of the Community Forestry Management Plan will enable the Mayor, Administrator, Director, Department of Public Works and the Environmental Commission to evaluate actual performance against goals and objectives.

This will help insure adequate funding and management for the foreseeable future.

- b.) The Environmental Commission will monitor the effectiveness of the existing Ordinances, review Ordinances from other communities, and work on drafting more effective Ordinances.
- c.) The Environmental Commission will oversee the celebration of Arbor Day and public relations and news releases. All communications will receive prior approval of the Borough Administrator.
- d.) Encourage at least one person from the Environmental Commission and the Director of Public Works to attend the NJ Shade Tree Federation Annual Convention in October.

#### B.) NEW GOALS

### <u>1.</u> 2013

- a) Core certify one volunteer and one employee
- b) Provide opportunities training for DPW workers.
- c) Apply for a CSIP Grant for conducting a walking sidewalk survey
- d) Celebrate Arbor Day
- e) Publish at least one tree related article
- f) Provide a copy of approved Community Forestry Management Plan to all Borough Planning Officials
- g) Provide a news release for residents on storm preparedness.

### 2. 2014

- a) Review the effectiveness of existing tree ordinances
- b) Apply for a CSIP Grant to conduct a new street tree inventory
- Publish at least one tree related article and continue utilizing the Borough website to disseminate tree information
- d) Survey all existing and potential tree planting locations and report findings back to Borough
- e) Continue working on unfulfilled goals
- f) Apply for a CSIP Grant to redo Tree Inventory and budget for municipal match

#### 3. 2015

- a) Publish at least one tree related article
- b) Review annual accomplishments and revise goals for the remaining management plan as needed.
- c) Revisit the Downtown Streetscape budget and schedule maintenance, repair and replacement as necessary
- d) Continue working on unfulfilled goals

# 4. 2016

- Sponsor a Borough wide contest to identify landmark and unusual specimen trees;
   Photograph the trees, gather information and create a virtual arboretum on the
   Borough Website.
- b) Apply for a Tree City, USA Growth Award
- c) Enhance Caldwell's Arbor Day program by reviewing past Arbor Day programs and research what other towns have been doing.
- d) Publish at least one tree related article
- e) Apply for all applicable CSIP Grants
- f) Continue working on unfulfilled goals

# 6. 2017

- a) Apply for all applicable CSIP Grants
- b) Apply for a Green Communities Grant to revise Community Forestry Management
- c) Consider what goals and objectives would be apropos for next five years.
- d) Review previously listed and un-attained goals and objectives and work on these.

# 10.) COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM (5 YEAR)

The provision of Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Grants through the New Jersey Forest Service would greatly assist the Borough of Caldwell in attaining its management objectives. Specific needs have been identified in this section where additional funding would be appreciated.

#### **CSIP #I Training**

CSIP scholarships for volunteers, employees and Borough representatives would be appreciated as would be the possibility of Borough-wide distribution of informational literature or media. See Section 6 on page 8.

### **CSIP #II Ordinance Establishment**

As Caldwell examines its existing ordinance in comparison with those of other municipalities, it may see a benefit for revisions that would strengthen its tree protective ordinances. CSIP funding would be used for hiring a consultant to review our existing ordinance and future needs. See Appendix for existing ordinance.

### **CSIP #III Public Education and Awareness**

The Environmental Commission possesses good skills in these areas. However, CSIP Funding could enable us to introduce professional programs to the Borough school system or over the local cable TV station. See Section 7 on page 8.

### **CSIP #IV Arbor Day Activities**

Caldwell would definitely be interested in any CSIP sponsorship that would broaden or enhance our existing program. Funding is requested to bring in a professional program on an annual basis. See Section 7 (Public Education/Awareness/Outreach) on page 8.

# **CSIP #V Tree Inventory**

The Borough's Tree Inventory is obsolete. Funding for a new inventory in 2014 years would be helpful. Nothing is requested at this time.

### **CSIP #VI Hazard Tree Assessment**

Refresher CSIP training to better recognize tree related hazards would be greatly appreciated and would enhance our existing efforts. See Section 9 on page 11.

#### **CSIP #VII Storm Damage Assessment**

Funding to subsidize Caldwell's annual Hazard Tree Windshield Tree Survey conducted by a N.J. Certified Tree Expert would be good use of these funds.

# **CSIP #VIII Tree Maintenance and Removal**

Caldwell recognizes that it has much room for improvement in providing regular scheduled pruning of street trees on a prescribed cycle. Any C.S.I.P. funds in this area are essential for the Borough to meet its goals. See item 4 of Section 9 on page 12.

# **CSIP #IX Insect and Disease Management**

The Borough has extremely limited capabilities in this area and would definitely seek any CSIP Funding to provide integrated pest management training, materials or equipment.

# **CSIP #X Wildfire Protection**

In consideration of Caldwell's highly developed status, it is unlikely that it would apply for CSIP funding in this category.

### **CSIP #XI Tree Planting**

CSIP Funding is crucial in order for Caldwell to be current with its tree planting goals. Vacancies created in the October 2011 and 2012 storms need to be filled. See item 3 of Section 9 on page 12.

# **CSIP #XII Tree Recycling**

The Borough pays for processing large tree waste at a state approved resource recovery facility. CSIP funding that would offset or reduce these costs is needed. Transportation of saw logs to Citi-logs in Newark is a possibility.

# **CSIP #XIII Sidewalk Maintenance Program**

Funding is requested for 2013 if CSIP Funding is available to conduct a walking survey of Borough right-of-way.

# **CSIP #XIV Storm Water Management**

Perhaps CSIP Funding could help finance improve leaf collection and catch basin cleaning equipment.

# CSIP #XV Other

CSIP Funding to provide feasibility studies to regionalize services would be one possibility.

# **APPENDICES**

- A. Article V, Environmental Commission, Ordinance No. 577-75
- B. Chapter 227, Tree Removal & Protection, Ordinance No. 885-90
- C. Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy
- D. Procedures for removing trees from Borough right-of ways
- E. General Tree Removal Policy
- F. Examples of Public Education/Awareness/Outreach
- G. 2011 Windshield Tree Survey