

Following this plan will demonstrate that the City of Cape May is devoting reasonable levels of resources in a planned manner to reduce the number of tree related accidents and thereby reduce it's exposure to liabilities and increase public safety.

3. COMMUNITY OVERVIEW – 5 Years of Progress

Accomplishments from 2011-2015

2011-Budget \$32,000

We planted 22 trees throughout the City where street trees were removed because of decay, and/or sidewalk conflict and in other areas. Hazardous trees were removed on Washington and Lafayette Streets to comply with orders from JIF (Joint Insurance Fund). This was done to protect the City from possible law suits.

Our Tree Removal Program requires an inspection by a member of the STC on a private property. 22 Permits were processed and those trees were removed. There is a \$25.00 fee per tree. No fee is collected if the tree is dead or hazardous.

This was also the year of storm Irene. Three Mall trees were blown over and there was extensive damage to trees throughout the city.

Two Memorial Trees (Red Buds) were planted with plaques on Cape May Avenue.

2012- Budget \$32,000

We were the recipients of a White Pine Seedling whose seed was grown in space on the Space Shuttle. The tree was planted next to the Colonial House. (It is doing well in 2016.)

Several more of the hazardous trees were removed on Hughes, Washington, and Delaware. A total of 51 trees were removed either by Homeowner Permit or by the city. 22 New trees were planted, some to replace the hazardous trees we were forced to take down.

We have an ARRA Sidewalk Grant in the amount of \$10,000. The city provides 50% of the cost to replace a bad sidewalk caused by street tree roots. The homeowner pays 50%. A number of "bad" sidewalks were discovered by inspection by Public Works for JIF.

Two Memorial Trees were planted with plaques.

2013-Budget \$31,850

A Green Festival was held at the "new" Convention Hall. The Shade Tree Commission had a booth and we answered many questions about tree care and conservation and distributed information. It was well attended. 49 Trees were removed either by permit or by the city. Menear, our Tree Service Contractor, removed 14 trees due to the storm. 15 New trees were planted. Five Memorial Trees were planted with plaques.

2014

17 Trees were removed by permit. 5 Trees were removed by the City. 10 New trees were planted. 35 Sidewalks were repaired due to the street tree damage.

2015-Budget \$32,900

35 Trees were removed by permit. In 2015, our part-time secretary resigned and a few months later a replacement was hired. She is working out well, but didn't receive full training. Our system of having her notify the District Commissioner of a resident requesting a Tree Removal, New Tree Request or Sidewalk problem is working well. She is very eager to become fully acclimated to the job.

Arbor Day is now combined with Earth Day at our local Elementary School. It is a wonderful celebration of conservation and appreciation. The children participate by reading poems, singing songs about trees, etc. and know what types of plastic to recycle or toss. We usually have press coverage for this event.

The City renovated Rotary Park this year and removed 33 trees. Some were failing and some were insignificant. A joint committee of Business owners and the City got together to plan and pay for much of the amenities, a fountain, gas lights, a new gazebo, stone courtyard, and sod. This committee decided where and what kind of trees and plants to put in. Some of the original trees were kept or moved. Our Shade Tree Commission was not included in the decisions which were

Grants:

The City of Cape May received a grant to develop a new 5 year Community Forestry Management Plan

Services in Kind:

Volunteer time and labor are contributed privately from residents.

Budget for the year 2016

Budget for the Year 2016		
	Cash	Service in Kind
Income		
Municipal Contribution	\$ 35,392.50	\$
Private / Commercial Contributions	\$ 0	\$
Municipal In-kind Services (Public works)	\$	\$ 8,000
Leaf and Brush Collection	\$	\$ 12,000
Total Revenue	\$ 35,392.50	\$ 20,000
Expenses		
Pruning, Maintenance, & Removals	\$ 22,742.50	\$
Training and Education	\$ 220 dues 330 conf.	\$
Professional Services	\$ 0	\$
Arbor Day Activities	\$	\$ 200
Administrative Expenses	\$ 200	\$
Grants, green community	\$ 12,100	\$ 3,000
Total Expenses	\$ 35,392.50	\$ 3,200

9. STATEMENT OF PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The City of Cape May has set the following goals and objectives in an effort to fulfill its mission for the next 5 years. These goals have been categorized by CSIP classification. The objectives and details are provided in the corresponding program descriptions.