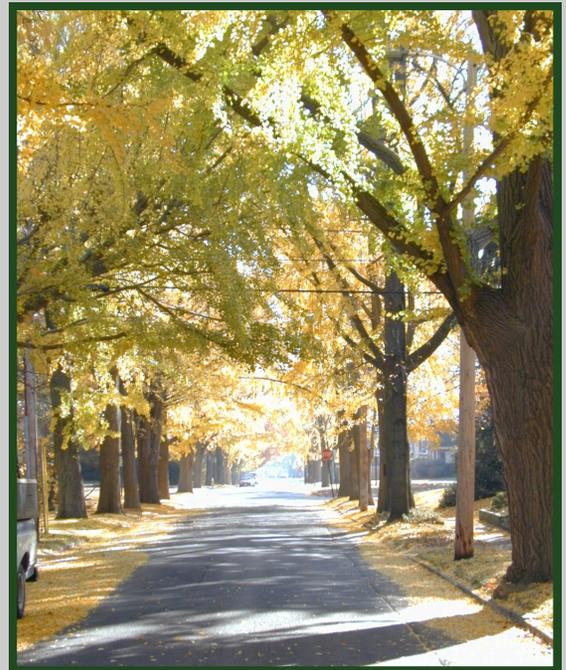
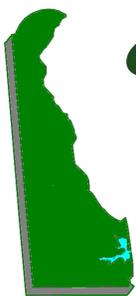


ANNUAL REPORT 2007



Protecting &

Enhancing



Our Community Forests

**Delaware Community
Forestry Council**

Protecting Delaware's urban and community forests

Public trees are a relatively low-cost investment with high returns that have allowed many cities and towns in Delaware to effectively improve their livability. Trees increase in value the minute they are planted and continue to become more valuable as they mature. They add to property resale and rental values by improving curb appeal, not to mention the numerous other economic, environmental and health benefits they provide. Well-maintained trees also supply year-round esthetic interest that adds to the quality of life for all citizens.

Together we must ensure that future generations continue to receive the benefits of trees - even during tough economic times.



Delaware's urban foresters are available to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of your community's tree care programs. These professionals are more than happy to meet with elected officials, city staff, volunteers, and citizens to enlist their support and begin organizing a comprehensive tree care program if one doesn't already exist.

Urban foresters are also experts on trees, and they're knowledgeable on how to best plant and maintain them. They can help you assess the health and condition of public trees and develop recommendations for their care.

Another way urban foresters can help is by sharing what other communities are doing to care for their urban forests. They are able to pool ideas from towns across the United States and put them to use in your local community. In the past few years, they've been distributing information about the Asian longhorned beetle, which may eventually pose a serious risk to thousands of trees here in Delaware. The urban forestry staff are constantly working to ensure the health and vigor of our valuable trees - today and tomorrow.

Urban and Community Forestry Program Staff

E. Austin Short, III - State Forester, Delaware Forest Service

Henry Poole - Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator

Kyle Hoyd - Senior Urban and Community Forester

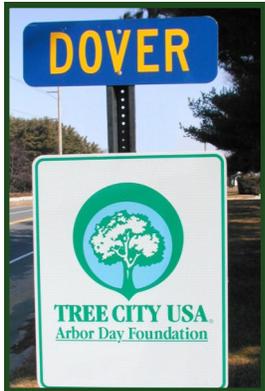




TREE CITY USA.

With the help of the Urban and Community Forestry Program, 23 Delaware communities in 2007 qualified as a Tree City USA through the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Tree City USA is a community improvement program designed to recognize communities that promote and enhance their forest resources.



Delaware's 2007 Tree City USAs

New Castle County		
Village of Arden	Ardentown	Delaware City
Elsmere	Middletown	Newark
Odessa	Wilmington	
Kent County		
Dover	Dover Air Force Base	Harrington
Milford	Smyrna	
Sussex County		
Bethany Beach	Bridgeville	Dagsboro
Dewey Beach	Fenwick Island	Lewes
Millsboro	Ocean View	Rehoboth Beach
Seaford		

To be a Tree City USA, a town or city must meet 4 standards:

1. Establish a tree board to develop and administer a public tree management program
2. Develop a community tree ordinance that designates the tree board and gives them responsibility for writing and implementing an annual community forestry work plan
3. Spend at least \$2 a year per capita on community forestry activities
4. Celebrate Arbor Day with a ceremony that includes a proclamation from the mayor and council.

Tree-Friendly Community Awards recognize Delaware communities with active forestry programs.

To qualify as a Tree-Friendly Community, three of the following must be met:

- Celebrate trees through a tree-centered event (i.e. Arbor Day or Earth Day ceremonies)
- Conduct a tree project within your community that enhances existing urban forest resources.
- Develop a 5-year forestry management plan in cooperation with the Delaware Forest Service
- Develop a community tree ordinance that protects trees.
- Formulate a tree commission or board that guides tree related decisions throughout the community.
- Have a tree budget of \$1 per household for residential communities.



American Holly (Ilex opaca)

Delaware's State Tree

HISTORY OF DELAWARE'S STATE TREE:

THE AMERICAN HOLLY

As far back as 2000 years ago, records indicate that the holly tree was regarded as a sacred plant to the Druids who controlled France and Britain. It was thought to keep evil spirits at bay and was exchanged as tidings of good will.

Christianity gradually replaced the more ancient religions, but the holly maintained its association with goodness and the bright red berries and green holly boughs have now played a part in winter celebrations for centuries.

During the early 20th century, the American holly's abundance in Delaware led to a major export industry in the state. By the 1930s, Delaware was the leading holly producer in the United States. One man, Charles C. Jones, Sr., a fertilizer salesman from Milton, Delaware, was a pioneer in this new industry. Known as "Jones, the Holly Wreath Man," Jones became the state's leading exporter, shipping holly products throughout the United States and abroad. The area around Milton became known as "The Land of Holly" and Milton was referred to as "The Holly Capital of the World". It produced more Christmas and holiday holly wreaths and decorations than anywhere else in the world.

Delaware State Forester William S. Taber graduated from the Pennsylvania State Forest Academy in 1921 and was the author of the state's first big trees list, *Delaware Trees* and *Delaware Trees: A Guide to the Identification of Native Tree Species*. Taber's secretary Olive Wilkins, citing its beauty, worldwide renown and economic importance to Delaware, suggested to him that the American holly be adopted as Delaware's state tree.

By an Act of the General Assembly of Delaware, signed by Governor Richard C. McMullen on May 1, 1939, the American holly (*Ilex opaca*) was adopted as the official State Tree of Delaware.



Urban and Community Forestry Grants

As a component of our U&CF Program, the Delaware Forest Service offers grants to municipalities, educators, non-profits and government agencies for tree planting and tree management projects on public lands. Since it began in 1991, the Delaware Forest Service grant program has awarded over \$1.5 million to over 200 civic groups to improve urban forest resources within the state.

In FY 2007, the U&CF Program awarded 36 grants totaling \$120,420 in all three Delaware counties. These grants included funding from the USDA Forest Service U&CF program, state funds, as well as the DNREC Division of Soil and Water Conservation Non-Point Source Pollution Program. The Non-Point Source Pollution Program funds are specifically designed to plant trees along streams, storm-water detention ponds and within public spaces.

Grant recipients provide a 50-50 cost share match; this match is often supplied through volunteer labor, donated materials and service, or additional cash funds such as their local representative street funds.

Tree Management grants help fund tree inventories, hazardous tree removal, and software to track tree management.

Tree Planting grants promote the proper planting and care of trees and the reestablishment of forested areas.



In FY07, the Delaware Forest Service awarded 36 community forestry grants totaling \$120,420 for various projects within all three Delaware counties.

COMMUNITY	AWARD	MATCH
40 Acres Civic Association	\$ 2,725.00	\$ 2,725.00
Alapocas Maint. Corp.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Bay Pointe Maint. Corp	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,259.02
Brandywine Village Civic Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Brennan Estates Maint. Corp.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,250.00
City of Delaware City	\$ 2,638.00	\$ 2,638.00
City of Dover	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
City of Milford	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
City of Newark	\$ 1,598.00	\$ 1,720.00
City of Newark	\$ 2,531.00	\$ 7,350.45
Cloutier Court Maintenance Corporation	\$ 3,980.00	\$ 3,980.00
Delaware City	\$ 2,420.00	\$ 2,665.00
Edenridge Civic Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Edenridge Civic Association	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Fenwick Island	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Gilpin Hall	\$ 3,740.00	\$ 3,780.00
Hunters Run-CIB	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Kennett Pike Assn	\$ 687.00	\$ 1,563.00
North Star Chase	\$ 711.32	\$ 711.32
North Star Chase	\$ 932.28	\$ 932.28
North Star Elementary	\$ 4,426.00	\$ 4,426.00
Ocean View	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,710.00
Sharpley Civic Assn.	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,255.00
Sharpley Civic Assn.	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 5,661.00
St. George Church- Ocean View	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Stonewold Maint. Corporation	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
Tavistock	\$ 2,802.00	\$ 2,802.00
Tavistock Civic Assn.	\$ 1,573.00	\$ 5,859.17
Town of Bridgeville	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,440.00
Town of Dagsboro	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Town of Odessa	\$ 3,050.00	\$ 3,050.00
Town of Odessa	\$ 955.00	\$ 970.00
Wesley College	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Westover Hill Maint. Corporation	\$ 675.00	\$ 675.00
Westover Hills Maint. Corporation	\$ 4,837.00	\$ 6,163.00
Woods at Seaside	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,224.43
Total Grant Award	\$ 120,420.60	



Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator Henry Poole works with volunteers from the Delaware Center for Horticulture on a tree planting project in Wilmington.

Technical Assistance

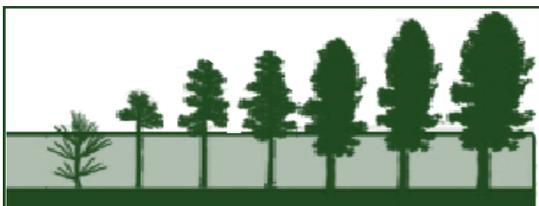
The U&CF Program also provides technical assistance to local governments, private industry, community organizations, and landowners. In FY07, the Delaware Forest Service assisted 341 census-defined communities with establishing tree ordinances, protecting trees during construction, conducting tree inventories, hazard tree assessments, urban watershed management, and organizing tree commissions. Our urban field forester also worked with various planning commissions to provide technical assistance to establish standards for tree preservation on new construction sites.

Urban Assists	341
Development Reviews	
New Castle County	27
Kent County	34
Sussex County	69
Total	130
Educational Programs	
New Castle County	6
Kent County	10
Sussex County	5
Total	21

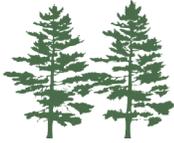
Keeping Development in Check

In FY07, the U&CF Program reviewed subdivision plans for 27 proposed development projects in New Castle County, 34 in Kent County and 69 in Sussex County. The U&CF Program participates in the subdivision review process in order to provide technical recommendations to developers to preserve and mitigate our natural resources.

In FY07 the U&CF Program continued to partner with the State Office of Planning and other state agencies to implement the Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) Process. This process has streamlined the review of new development projects allowed for improved working relations between state, county and local governments and private development and engineering firms. For FY07 the U&CF Program commented on a total of 130 proposed developments.



Community Forestry Council



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Hagley Museum and Library

Vacant, Vice Chairperson

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University of Delaware

Susan Barton
University of Delaware

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*Delaware Nursery and
Landscape Association*

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Delaware Community Forestry Council