

Frequently Asked Questions Village of Lancaster Tree Equity and Education Initiative

What is the purpose of this tree planting project?

The tree planting project's purpose is to increase tree canopy cover within the Village of Lancaster, creating a healthier and more sustainable environment for residents. The project benefits the community by enhancing the aesthetic value of the area, provides shade, improves mental and physical health, and offers educational opportunities about environmental stewardship.

How is this project funded?

This exciting project is funded by a \$255,584 federal subaward grant from the USDA Forest Service, facilitated by American Forests. This grant will fund consultants, trees, planting materials, tools, and educational materials.

Where will the trees be planted?

Trees will be planted in pre-selected areas between the sidewalk and the curb in the municipal right of way. An arborist has inspected the sites to ensure it is suitable for tree planting. The tree species selected for each location has been chosen based on the specific site conditions, including potential obstructions such as utilities and walkways. Please note that all planting site locations have been approved and cannot be changed.

How were the neighborhoods selected?

The project will focus on planting and maintaining trees in four neighborhoods within the village. Neighborhoods were selected for tree planting based on a detailed assessment of the current tree planting efforts and environmental risks within the community. The Village of Lancaster focused on areas with lower tree canopy coverage and higher vulnerability to extreme heat and flooding. The identification process used census tracts and environmental risk data to pinpoint the neighborhoods most in need of enhanced tree cover.

How will I know if a tree will be planted in front of my house?

You will be notified via mail if a tree is planned to be planted in front of your house. The notification will include details such as the type of tree and the expected planting date. This ensures that residents are informed before the planting takes place.

Residents can look up their address and see the approximate planting location by using the Village's online tree inventory map powered by TreeKeeper. Visit the site, and in the search feature, select the "Quick Filter" option, and choose the appropriate project name to display only the trees associated with this planting. You can then use the search bar to enter your address, which will zoom the map to your property and show the nearby planned planting site(s). The map is interactive, allowing you to click on tree locations for additional details. The link to Treekeeper can be found on the Village website.

How many and what type of trees will be planted?

A total of 799 trees will be planted. Native and climate-resilient species are prioritized to ensure they thrive in the local environment and are working to diversify the tree species throughout the village to enhance biodiversity and resilience. The selected species follow New York State DEC guidelines to support a healthy and diverse community forest

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What about potential damage to property from tree roots?

We carefully select tree species with non-invasive root systems and consider the proximity to buildings, sidewalks, and underground utilities when planning tree placement. This minimizes the risk of damage to property.

When will the tree planting take place?

The first planting season will be Spring 2025, and planting will take place in the fall and spring seasons over the next several years. Residents will be notified when planting will begin in each neighborhood.

How will the trees be maintained after planting?

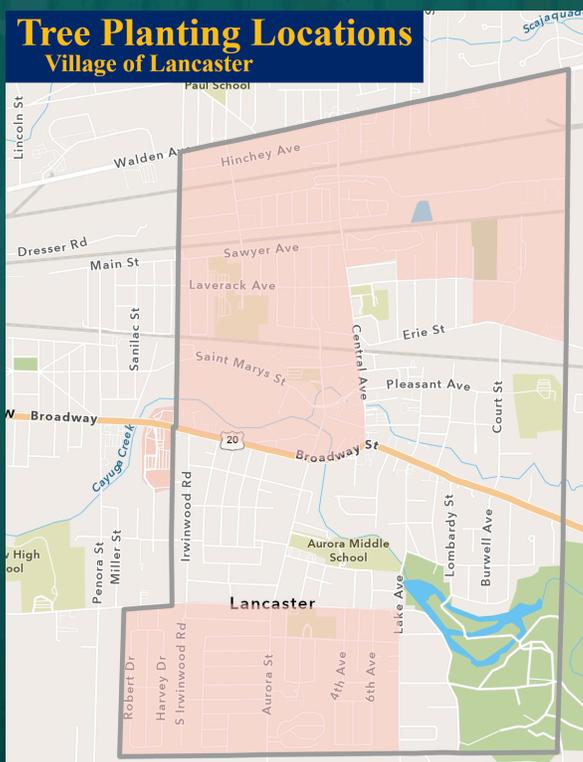
Regular maintenance such as watering, mulching, and protection from pests will be carried out by the Village and community volunteers to ensure the trees' survival and growth. Residents are invited to take part in tree care efforts and will be provided with guidance on proper maintenance techniques.

How can I volunteer for the tree planting project?

Residents in the selected neighborhoods will be informed as to how they can actively participate in the project.

Who do I contact for more information?

For more information, contact sustainability@lancastervillageny.gov or visit our website at www.lancastervillageny.gov



Funding for this project provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with American Forests.

These institutions are equal opportunity providers.