



Haddonfield Shade Tree Commission START Program

The Haddonfield Shade Tree Commission (STC) is committed to expanding the Borough's tree canopy and has created a pilot program called "Shade Tree Approved Resident Tree," or **START**.

START is explicitly designed for Borough residents who do not have a park strip, or sidewalk. OR homes without a quality park strip, like a narrow width or uneven grade.

If a homeowner meets specific criteria, the Borough will purchase and plant a tree in the resident's front yard.

- Eligibility is determined based on the absence of a park strip (i.e., no sidewalk) or the quality of the park strip (i.e., narrow width or uneven grade) adjacent to resident's property.
- Homeowners must sign an agreement that confirms their commitment and formally transfers the Borough tree asset (and related liability) to the resident.
- The Haddonfield Branch Managers (HBM) tree pruning training course must be completed BEFORE tree installation. There is a \$10 charge per resident to attend this training.
- Borough will purchase and partner with the resident for the preferred species on a best-efforts basis (constrained by tree stock availability at nurseries).
- Borough will plant on residents' private property, specifically within the frontage. Backyards cannot be accommodated, nor can side yards (unless a corner property where the side yard is adjacent to the public right of way).
- Residents receiving a tree must commit to three (3) years of watering to maximize the tree's chances of surviving and establishing roots.
 - DPW will gift residents a tree watering "Gator Bag," and the STC will gift the ISA (International Society of Arborists) *Proper Mulching Techniques* brochure.
 - Beginning with the year a tree is planted, HBM volunteers will visually inspect and photograph the tree's health and maintenance. The inspection process will continue each Spring for three (3) years. If needed, suggestions regarding tree care will be offered to residents.
 - There is no warranty/tree replacement program.

Contact DPW at 856-429-0183 to receive an application or email snelson@haddonfield-nj.gov