

City Offers Assistance with Dead or Dangerous Street Trees

October 2020

Trees add so much to our quality of life-- beautifying our homes and streets, cooling and cleansing the air, producing life-sustaining oxygen, and intercepting and slowing stormwater runoff. But like all living things, trees require care to thrive, and eventually they die and need to be removed. While the City maintains the trees in our parks and playgrounds, responsibility for the care of street trees falls to the property owner.

Recognizing that tree care can be costly, this fall FOR A LIMITED TIME, the City is offering STREET TREE removal and pruning assistance to low income property owners. The primary purpose of the program is to address street trees that pose an imminent threat to public safety. This would include the removal of dead standing or structurally unsound trees, large dead limbs, and limbs that block traffic signals and street lights. Trees that are healthy and not as described will generally not qualify for assistance. **Property owners with a household income at or below established thresholds or that are otherwise approved by the Parks Department, will be eligible for assistance as long as funding is available.**

PLEASE NOTE: THIS PROGRAM PERTAINS TO STREET TREES ONLY, AND THE TREE MUST BE ON THE PROPERTY OWNED AND OCCUPIED BY THE APPLICANT.

HOW TO APPLY:

- (1) Check your 2019 IRS Form 1040 US Individual Income Tax Return to verify that the adjusted gross income of your household (line 8B) is within the income limits below.

HOUSEHOLD FAMILY SIZE	ANNUAL ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME	MONTHLY ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME
1	\$31,900	\$2,658
2	\$43,100	\$3,592
3	\$54,300	\$4,525
4	\$65,500	\$5,458
5	\$76,700	\$6,392
6	\$87,900	\$7,325
7	\$99,100	\$8,258
8	\$110,300	\$9,192
9	\$121,500	\$10,125
10	\$132,700	\$11,058

*Subject to change depending on availability

- (2) If you meet the income requirements, complete a Tree Inspection and Permit Request form at <http://harrisburgpa.gov/trees/> . Select "Low-Income Property Owner" as the individual requesting the inspection.
- (3) Provide a copy of your 2019 IRS Form 1040 to the Parks Department. BE SURE TO BLACK OUT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS BEFORE SUBMITTING. Send via email or US Mail.
 - Via email – Entitle the email "Low-Income Tree Assistance." Write the property owner name, address, and phone number in the body of the email and attach the form and send it to citytree@harrisburgpa.gov

- Via US Mail – Write the property owner name and phone number at the top of the form. Mail to:

Harrisburg Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Low Income Street Tree Assistance Program
123 Walnut Street, Suite 317
Harrisburg, PA 17101

- (4) If current household income is less than that reported on your 2019 tax return, please provide paperwork that explains the reduced income.
- (5) Once income documentation is received, the City Forester will inspect the tree and determine the work needed, and the report will be returned to the applicant. The work will then be scheduled for completion under City contract at no cost to the property owner. Property owner will be notified at least a week in advance when the work is to be done.