

South Nyack Tree Committee
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the mission of the Tree Committee?

The committee is composed of South Nyack residents whose interest and expertise focus on planting of trees, shrubs and perennial plants on village property. It also addresses dead, fallen, or diseased trees while maintaining a comprehensive tree inventory, established in 2009, and updated in 2019, of trees on village property.

Who serves on the Tree Committee?

Catherine McCue, chair, Diana Kesselschmidt, Kevin Van Hise

What is considered village property?

Parks, verge (strip of land between the road and sidewalk) and land surrounding properties like Village Hall

Where are South Nyack Parks?

Refer to the easy to understand descriptions on this page. Locations are included.

What do I do when I am concerned about my neighbors' tree?

Use the Tree Reporting form on this page

How do I address a concerning tree on Village property?

Use the Tree Reporting form on this page

What do I do to manage or remove a tree on my private property?

Tress on private property are the homeowner's responsibility. For services, Google a local Arborist. Removing trees on private property requires a permit from the village. Contact Village Hall for instructions. Failure to get a permit is a violation of village code. Fines can be applied for failure to follow the process.

How do I request a tree from the village on village land adjacent to my property or elsewhere?

Use the tree Reporting form on this page

What does the Dept. of Public Works (DPW) have to do with trees?

The DPW is the lead department for landscaping of the Village. They will assess unhealthy trees on village property, remove dead or diseased trees and replant trees on village property. The Tree Committee will act as consultants to the DPW, who ultimately have the final word.

Why undertake planting more trees?

Scientists assure the public there are multiple proven benefits tree planting. Economically they enhance property values, reduce cooling costs for

homeowners, improve air quality by reducing carbon in the air, and add to the biodiversity of the environment.

What is the status of Village Trees?

In 2009 Cornell Cooperative Extension completed an extensive inventory of all village trees on public streets. Additionally, the report indicated baron sites where trees could be planted. The inventory was updated in 2019 by the Dept. of Public Works (DPW). During this ten-year period the following occurred:

- 92 trees were removed
- 02 trees were planted
- 165 tree baron sites were identified for planting yet to be addressed
- 06 trees are recommended to be removed in the near future

Has the village inventory been prioritized to create a tree replacement schedule?

No. The Tree Committee has yet to establish a replacement schedule. Without sufficient funds to purchase trees, shrubs and perennial plants a process cannot be implemented. The committee is working on funding ideas. You can contribute. Go to the funding page.

What is the Tree Committee working on?

- The interfacing with the Thruway Authority on their plans for plantings all works projects linked to the village. Kevin van Hise provided a detailed review before the Village board of the landscaping plans provided to the village by the Thruway Authority. The Tree Committee continues to actively review the plans, plan changes, and plant selections as the projects proceed.

- The Tree Committee plans to develop landscaping suggestions for each of the village parks and has joined efforts with other village parties to secure fencing, signage and plantings for Franklin Street Park.

- Create a user-friendly web link to the Village of South Nyack website keeping the public apprised of Tree Committee projects and status of those projects

- Work with the Dept. of Public Works (DPW) in setting priority locations for new tree plantings on village streets

- Generate for the Village Board suggestions to create revenue streams to fund all recommendations made by the Tree Committee. These include, but not limited to seeking grant sources, local budget allocations, private donations and fundraising ideas.

What are the landscaping plans for the Shared Use Path? (SUP)

Improvements to the Esposito Trail are proposed as part of the SUP connection to the village. A robust planting of native trees, shrubs and perennial plants have been provided the village in plans by the Thruway. Seating and way finding signs are proposed.

What are the landscaping plans for the Esposito Trail?

A robust plan has been provided to the village by the Thruway Authority. It provides a mix of native trees, shrubs and perennials that will separate the trail from the adjacent properties and roadway. Additional seating options and wayfaring signs are proposed. See renderings on website link

What are the landscaping plans for Elizabeth Place Park?

Significant landscape plantings consisting of trees, shrubs, and perennials similar to the plant palette proposed for the Shared Use Path will be added to Elizabeth Place Park. Proposed plantings will provide visual screening of the new sound walls for park users. There is also improved vehicle access for maintenance proposed by the Thruway.

What is happening to the Franklin Street Park?

During the spring of 2019 the following improvements will be started, installation of a shade awning for the children's playground area, refurbishing of the tennis courts (new surface, nets, surrounding fence), perimeter fencing of the park, signage and modest landscaping where feasible.

How do I contribute time or money to South Nyack Tree Committee?

The Village is working to create a process for steps to follow to do this. Watch for updates on the village web site.