



**Mission:** To Motivate people to improve the quality of life and create a sense of community through horticulture.

**Programs:**

- ∞ **Philadelphia Green** – The nation’s most comprehensive urban greening program. It supports the development and care of community gardens, neighborhood parks, and high profile public green spaces in Philadelphia.
- ∞ **Donate Trees** – A gift of \$25 plants a small (3-4 foot) native tree along streams in Fairmount Park, and public lands or private protected lands in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties. A gift of \$200 supports the purchase of a large (8-10 foot) tree that will be planted in a Philadelphia neighborhood park.

For more information on the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and their programs, visit [www.pennsylvani horticultural society.org](http://www.pennsylvani horticultural society.org).



**Mission:** To Preserve Philadelphia’s Park System.

**Programs:**

- ∞ **Stewardship** – Fairmount Park offers several volunteer opportunities for events such as park clean-ups, plantings and repair.
- ∞ **Friends Groups** – The Fairmount Park Commission partners with several volunteer friends groups committed to preserving Fairmount Park.
- ∞ **Preserve Your Park** – This program calls on volunteers to “adopt” a small, manageable slice of park. Side benefits include learning more about plants, animals and ecology, plus proper techniques for environmental restoration.

For more information, call the Stewardship Office at 215-683-0219 or visit [www.fairmountpark.org](http://www.fairmountpark.org).



# MARC

MAJOR ARTERY REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE



## URBAN TREE PROGRAMS

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**An American Forests Urban Ecosystem Study recommends a minimum of 40% tree coverage in urban areas. Most of Philadelphia has less than 10% coverage.**

**Trees increase property value, lower utility costs and improve the quality of life for a community.**

- ∞ Trees in commercial areas have higher occupancy and rental/ lease rates than identical properties that lack landscaping
- ∞ Trees act as natural air filters by trapping dust particles, absorbing carbon monoxide and other harmful pollutants, while producing oxygen
- ∞ Trees improve the appearance of a neighborhood, bringing pride, beauty, and character. They also promote community interactions
- ∞ Trees improve people’s health and help reduce stress
- ∞ Trees reduce heating and cooling costs of homes and businesses by shielding winter winds and providing shade from the summer sun.

- ∞ Studies have proven trees to have reduced the amount of crime and violence within a community
- ∞ Serenity and relaxation are products of greener landscaping
- ∞ Trees help improve water quality by reducing erosion, runoff and sedimentation
- ∞ Tree roots filter harmful chemicals and toxic waste from our soil
- ∞ Storm water run-off is reduced by the implementation of trees
- ∞ Trees act as a buffer to decrease noise

**With these benefits in mind, MARC provides the following information regarding the various **Tree Planting Programs** available in Philadelphia.**

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**Mission: To develop public private partnership, through regional collaboration, to address the loss of tree cover in the five-county Southeastern Pennsylvania region.**

**Programs:**

- ∞ **TreeVitalize Neighborhoods** – Improve the quality of life in neighborhoods through community-assisted tree planting projects.
- ∞ **TreeVitalize Watersheds** – Improve water quality and natural resources stewardship through community-assisted volunteer plantings of native trees and shrubs to create forested riparian buffers.
- ∞ **TreeVitalize Tree Tenders** – A tree education program for community residents who want to become urban forestry leaders.
- ∞ **25% Tree Rebate** – Plant a tree before June 30, 2007 and you could receive a rebate of up to \$25.

**For more information on TreeVitalize, visit [www.treevitalize.net](http://www.treevitalize.net).**