About Us

The Committee

The First Selectman, Tree Warden, and Suffield Garden Club president are members as directed by the Helena Bailey Spencer Tree Fund, which provided the original funding for the Tree Committee (1961), and the Valyn Gallivan Fund (1984). Additional members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Our job is to plant shade trees along the roadways of Suffield, and our ultimate mission is the preservation of the character of our Town.

The Future

Trees can live for a long time, but they do not live forever, even when given the best care. Continuity relies on replacement of the old with new young trees. Without consistant effort to *Plant for Tomorrow*, our graceful, tree-lined historic district will cease to be the shaded and beautiful scenic roadway we know today.

The Tree Inventory

In 2013 the location and condition of roughly 476 trees along Suffield's Main Street was documented, including genus, diameter, structural stability and recommended care. In 2020, the Inventory was updated to include GIS-based online access. Trees of note include 140 dogwoods planted and maintained by the Suffield Garden Club; two CT Notable Trees, the Burbank Sycamore located at the Phelps-Hatheway House, a Sweetgum just a few houses south, and a Dawn Redwood on the North Green.

The 10-Year Planting Plan

An extensive plan, designed by Landscape Architects, and funded by the Suffield Greater Together Community Fund (SGTCF), is intended to provide a flexible strategy for replenishing and enhancing the tree canopy along Suffield's Historic Main Street. Preliminary approvals were obtained from CT DOT, CT Scenic Road Advisory, Eversource, and Town of Suffield department heads.

Why Give

We encourage participation from all residents. Funds are needed for the ongoing inventory, maintenance, pruning, planting and watering of trees. All donations to the Trees for Suffield Fund are tax deductible.

Brief History

1900's Trees already line roadways. In 1931 Mapleton Avenue gets its name from the trees planted there.

1940's Dogwoods gain significance as a tribute to veterans and the sacrifices made during World War II. The Suffield Garden Club (SGC) begins planting and caring for Dogwoods on Main Street and continues today.

1961 The Helena Bailey Spencer Tree Fund is created *for the planting and care of shade trees along highways*. A new Town Tree Committee is created and administers the funds.

1984 Valyn Gallivan Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving (HFPG) is created and supplements the Tree Committee's funding.

2010's Severe storms cause significant tree loss. SGC applies for grants on behalf of the Tree Committee and a Main Street Tree Inventory is completed with a grant from the Amiel P. Zak Fund. 80 new trees are planted but during that same period, 95 mature trees are lost. 50 young trees recieve pruning, disease treatment and root care with multiple grants from the HFPG.

2020's The Inventory is updated with GIS-based online access and Landscape Architects are hired to create a 10-yr. Planting Plan. Trees for Suffield Fund at HFPG is created by SGC with an initial fundraising goal of $100,000 and implementation of the 10-yr. Plan begins.

A town-wide *Trees for Free* program for roadside trees is piloted with a grant from SGTCF and 10 residents recieve free trees. School playgrounds and Sunrise Park get new trees. Fundraising and planting are ongoing.

Connect With Us

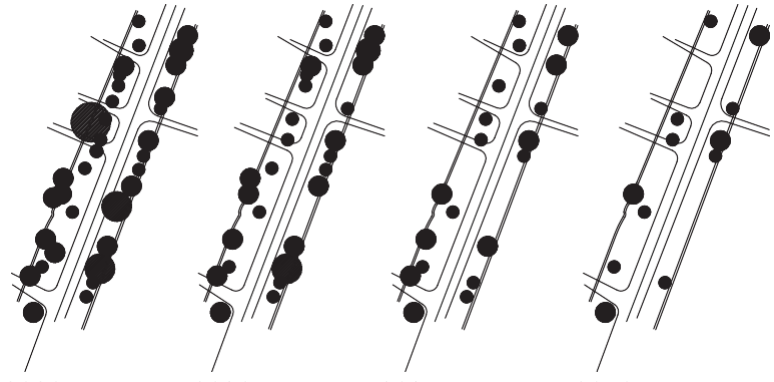
Email us at TreesForSuffield@gmail.com
or scan the QR code for more information.

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HELENA BAILEY SPENCER TREE FUND COMMITTEE

PROJECTED TREE CANOPY DECLINE



REPL A CEMENT OF OLD GRO WTH TREES - 10 YR PL AN







PL ANNING FOR THE FUTURE IN 1900
OUR FOREBEARERS PLANTED TREES

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE TODAY: BALANCING NATIVES, DIVERSITY, CLIMATE



RESTORED TREE CANOPY GRACES SUFFIELD FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Help Us Grow

No donation is too small, anyone can contribute. Funds are needed for ongoing inventory, maintenance, and planting of trees.



Donation Levels

- ◯ **SEEDLING $25**
  Will help water new trees
- ◯ **SAPLING $50**
  Will provide mulch to protect new trees
- ◯ **DOGWOOD $100**
  Will provide structural pruning for young trees
- ◯ **MAPLE $250**
  Will purchase an ornamental tree
- ◯ **CHESTNUT $500**
  Will purchase a shade tree
- ◯ **CHARTER OAK $1,000 or more**
  Honor someone with a living tribute by endowing a tree

I would like to make a tax deductible donation of $_____to the TREES FOR SUFFIELD FUND

Make check payable to:

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
10 Columbus Blvd., 8th Floor, Hartford, CT 06106

Include **Trees for Suffield Fund** *on your check along with:*

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Email _____
Phone _____

Or use the QR code to donate online. Credit card donations incur a fee of approximately 3% charged to the fund.

For information about other types of donations, including gifts of stock and wire transfers, please contact Pam Dawkins Pieper at the Hartford Foundation at pdawkinspieper@hfpg.org or at 860-548-3105.