

Long Hill Property Owners Can Buy Trees through Grant

Submitted by Susan Jeans

Home or property owners in Long Hill Township can apply to purchase up to two deciduous shade trees for \$175 through a Challenge Grant offered through the Shade Tree Commission (STC). Through this program, property owners may purchase a tree for about half the retail value with the Township paying the balance with Grant funds. Installation is free and arranged by the Township, resulting in substantial savings for property owners. Business owners are also encouraged to apply, particularly those businesses along the Valley Road corridor.

The Challenge Grant tree may be used to replace an ailing Ash tree which may have been affected by the Emerald Ash Borer. We have seen the hazards of planting too many trees of one species such as the Ash tree. This year therefore, we are expanding our species list to include some new exciting choices.

Those interested in participating must complete an application available from Town Hall or on the Township website accompanied by a check for \$175 per tree with a two-tree limit. Only 20 applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis and the cut-off date for accepting applications is April 15, 2019. The Forms on the website are located either on the STC page or on the Forms and Permits tab. Please be advised that all trees planted in a location near the street or driveway to permit for easy planting by our DPW.

A member of the Shade Tree Commission will contact the property owner and schedule a visit to approve the location of the tree(s) on the property. The STC reserves the right to make the final decision on the location of the tree(s) and on the arrangements for installation. Once installed, the property owner becomes responsible for the watering and maintenance of the tree as prescribed by the Commission.

Long Hill Township Shade Tree Commission

Challenge Grant Program Application

Applicant's Name _____

Applicant's Address _____

Lot and Block Number of the Property _____

Applicants Phone Number _____

Number of trees Requested _____

Amount of Check (\$175 / Tree) \$ _____
(maximum of two trees per property)

Checks should be made out to: Long Hill Township
Add notation on the check: Challenge Grant Program.

A member of the Shade Tree Commission will contact the applicant to schedule a time to meet the homeowner and locate the tree on the property. The Shade Tree Commission reserves the right to make the final decision on location.

The property owner will:

- Be responsible for watering, general maintenance and care of the tree(s).

THE PROPERTY OWNER DOES HEREBY RELEASE THE TOWNSHIP, ITS AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, FROM ALL LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH ANY CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE ARISING OUT OF THE PLANTING OF ANY TREES BY THE TOWNSHIP. THE TOWNSHIP DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND THE TREES ARE SOLD "AS IS".

Applicants Signature: _____ Date _____