



# Heartwood Ecological Consulting

## Five-Year Community Forestry Management Plan (2014-2019)

-for-

### Township of Brick, Ocean County, New Jersey

#### Mayor & Council:

<i>The Honorable John G. Ducey.....</i>	<i>Mayor</i>
<i>Susan Lydecker.....</i>	<i>Council President</i>
<i>Jim Fozman.....</i>	<i>Council Vice-President</i>
<i>Bob Moore.....</i>	<i>Councilman</i>
<i>Paul Mummolo.....</i>	<i>Councilman</i>
<i>Heather deJong.....</i>	<i>Councilwoman</i>
<i>Marianna Pontoriero.....</i>	<i>Councilwoman</i>
<i>Andrea Zapcic.....</i>	<i>Councilwoman</i>

Forester Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Michael LaMana, For Heartwood Consulting Services, LLC)

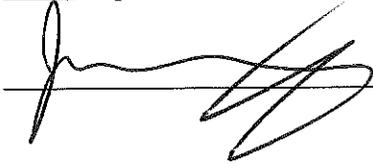
Date:

**Township of Brick**  
**Third 5-Year Community Forestry Management Plan**  
**For Calendar Period 2014-2019**

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**1. Municipal /County Information Form**

Municipality Township of Brick  
County Ocean  
Address 401 Chambers Bridge Rd., Brick NJ 08723  
Contact Name and Title April Richards, Secretary, Shade Tree Commission  
Phone # (732) 262-1022  
Fax # and E-mail (732) 477-3746; arichards@twp.brick.nj.us  
Organization Name Township of Brick  
Mayor/County Freeholder's Signature   
Date of Management Plan Submission May 2, 2014  
Time Period Covered in Management Plan 2014 - 2019

- Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Practices Identified in Management Plan
- CSIP #1 Training
  - CSIP #2 Community Forestry Ordinance Establishment
  - CSIP #3 Public Education and Awareness
  - CSIP #4 Arbor Day
  - CSIP #5 Tree Inventory
  - CSIP #6 Hazard Tree Assessment
  - CSIP #7 Storm Damage Assessment
  - CSIP #8 Tree Maintenance and Removals
  - CSIP #9 Insect and Disease Management
  - CSIP #10 Wildfire Protection
  - CSIP #11 Tree Planting
  - CSIP #12 Tree Recycling
  - CSIP #13 Sidewalk Maintenance Program
  - CSIP #14 Storm Water Management
  - CSIP #15 Other

*Official Use Only Certification*

The above named municipality/county has made formal application to the New Jersey Forest Service. I am pleased to advise you that after our review, the NJ Forest Service has concluded that this plan meets the standards set forth by the State and the NJ Community Forestry Council and is approved for the period covered.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ State Forester  
Approved date \_\_\_\_\_

## **2. Introduction**

### **2.A. Scope**

Recognizing the inherent value of the urban tree canopy to the quality of life of its residents, the Township of Brick seeks to protect and promote this important element of its infrastructure. The tree cover in Brick provides multiple environmental, economic, and psychological benefits that accrue directly to the citizens of the Township. The Township also understands that trees are dynamic living organisms subject to changes in structural and biological condition as they mature and eventually decline. As such, the Township is committed to exercising reasonable care in the management and maintenance of this resource.

In accordance with this awareness of the value of municipal tree cover, the Township of Brick has undertaken the development of this Community Forestry Management Plan. It follows the New Jersey Community Forestry Program guidelines, and will serve as a strategic map to vegetation management within the Township. As the new Community Forestry Management Plan (“CFMP”) for Township of Brick is due for submission during 2014, this document is designed to set specific goals and objectives for the period of 2014 through 12/31/2018. The Township anticipates benefits accruing to all of its residents through proactive management of their community Forest.

### **2.B. Mission Statement**

The mission of the Township of Brick Community Forest Program is to continue to promote and cost-effectively maintain an appropriate level of shade tree coverage within the Township, consistent with available resources and such that all community members enjoy the full benefits provided by a healthy tree canopy.

### **2.C. Goals and Objectives – 2014-2019**

In keeping with the mission statement of the forestry program, Township of Brick has identified the following goals and objectives for the five year timeframe covered by this plan. The fulfillment of these continues to be the focus of the Township of Brick, while simultaneously complying with all municipal ordinances and requirements of this CFMP, which remain as follows:

2.C.1. Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree loss and mortality; to reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and to achieve a sustainable mix of age classes in the tree population via the following protocols:

- a. In coordination of local utilities / infrastructure authorities, replace removed, declining and dying trees with restricted – space, utility-compatible tree species where applicable; for example, due to the loss of trees during the Garden State Parkway project, the New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation program<sup>1</sup> (NNL) will be utilized to address the deforestation;
- b. On individual projects assure no single species represents more than 10% of the planting where feasible. When deviations to this goal are made for landscape function reasons, should

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<sup>1</sup>No Net Loss, see laws at N.J.S.A. 13:1L-14.1

require clear justification;

- c. The Township shall seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Township parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs;
- d. Solicit help of the Public Works Department, Department of Parks and Recreation and the public in aftercare of new tree plantings;
- e. Seek out and apply for other potential tree planting grants;
- f. Modify planting plans based upon results of tree inventory wherever practical, and;
- g. Increase public-tree stocking over reasonable timeframe.

2.C.2. Establish a rotational tree-pruning program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources. This might include:

- a. Seeking cooperation from Ocean County regarding a rotational pruning cycle in the Township of Brick;
- b. Applying for tree maintenance grants if available;
- c. Partition the Township into management zones based upon distribution of the public-tree population;
- d. Allocate resources for structural pruning of young trees when resources permit, and;
- e. Implement leaf and woody debris collection and composting program.

2.C.3. When funding becomes available, develop a comprehensive inventory of tree resources currently located on Township property. The Township intends to:

- a. Solicit a qualified arboricultural consultant skilled in volunteer training and inventory compilation;
- b. Retain a consultant to develop inventory protocols;
- c. Perform inventory of municipal landscape trees using consultant supervised volunteer labor; use retained consultant to analyze inventory data, develop management recommendations and integrate into software database;
- d. Maintain inventory data, track all tree removals and maintenance actions, and;
- e. Modify planting, hazard, and maintenance programs based upon developed inventory data.

2.C.4. Maintain enforcement and compliance with existing tree-related ordinances, and evaluate ordinance needs in response to new technical and logistical information. The Township intends to:

- a. Enforce existing tree-related ordinances<sup>2</sup>;
- b. Monitor for new arboricultural threats and management information;

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<sup>2</sup> Chapter 245 (Land use) and Chapter 318 (Parks and Rec) refer to section 453 (Trees)

2.C.5. Continue to educate Township citizens regarding the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship thereof. The Township plans to:

- a. Maintain and publicize *Tree City USA* status which has been maintained for 7 consecutive years;
- b. Continue to promote and expand the highly successful “*Trash Bash*” program;
- c. Continue *Arbor Day* celebrations and activities;
- d. Provide access to this Community Forestry Management Plan on the Township website and in local library for the benefit of the public;
- e. Adhere to the Sunshine Law<sup>3</sup> by notifying public and local newspapers of meetings as required;
- f. Continue to offer outreach and partnering opportunities to local garden clubs, environmental groups, youth organizations and the like, and;
- g. Publish at least two tree-related articles per year in local paper and / or on the Township website.

2.C.6. Advance proactive, flexible management of the Township’s community forest and:

- a. Apply for urban forestry management grants where available;
- b. Contact neighboring municipalities and evaluate possibility of cost-sharing for a municipal forester position;
- c. Have inspections of commercial properties and major subdivisions performed by a qualified Certified Forester, -Arborist or NJ Certified Tree Expert.

2.C.7. Conduct annual hazard identification and implement hazard mitigation as needed and appropriate to resource availability. The Township will strive to:

- a. Provide or facilitate yearly hazard tree evaluation training for those municipal employees with tree identification and / or maintenance responsibilities;
- b. Maintain professional urban forester oversight of yearly assessment of hazard trees where possible;
- c. Conduct annual hazard tree assessment of public properties during the late fall / early winter period (leaf-off conditions). Operation to be conducted as a visual survey from a vehicle (e.g. along ROW) or on foot (within parkland and other municipal properties) as resources allow;
- d. Continue to encourage all volunteers and municipal employees to immediately report any observed hazardous conditions, and;
- e. Develop a hazard remediation prioritization based upon- for example- available budget resources, any observed conditions, and tree inventory data, etc.

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<sup>3</sup>Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A 10:4-6

2.C.8. Continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and training. At minimum:

- a. Maintain a minimum of two (2) municipal employees / shade tree commission volunteers in the Township with CORE training;
- b. Provide for a yearly minimum of 8 CEU<sup>4</sup> training credits within the total community forestry program;
- c. Ensure additional training in the assessment of trees;
- d. Encourage education through the use of on-line arboricultural resources by both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members

## **2.D. Liability Statement**

The Township of Brick recognizes the risk inherent in urban trees due to the frequency and density of potential targets when a tree failure occurs. The Township also recognizes that this risk can be reduced, although not eliminated, through a proactive program of hazard identification and remediation. A premise of this management plan is that urban forest benefits can be maximized, and liabilities minimized, for the citizens of Township of Brick through a proactive approach to vegetation management. All of the goals and objectives in this plan support this concept. From identification of current hazards, to engaging and educating the public and encouraging appropriate replacement plantings, each goal works to reduce the exposure of the residents of Township of Brick to tree-related risks.

## **3. Community Overview / CFMP Progress Review**

This is the third CFMP prepared for the Township of Brick. Under the previous Plan, the five year period of 2009 to 2013 was one of both challenge and progress for the Township community forestry program. Using the CFMP developed in 2009 as a guiding document, the Township pursued and / or achieved many of the goals and objectives that had been identified as priorities therein. Other objectives of the plan proved more elusive yet are still viewed as critical to the long term community forestry vision of the Township of Brick. Thus, these pending objectives have been reintegrated into this current iteration of the CFMP with the expectation that they will be achieved within the next five years.

### **3.A. Community Forestry Program Achievements**

Substantial progress has occurred pursuant to the goals and objectives elaborated in the 2009 Plan, elaborated as follows:

*2009 Goal: "Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree mortality, reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and achieve a sustainable mix of age classes in the tree population."*

Progress: Between 2009 and 2013, the Township of Brick was able to efficiently utilize

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<sup>4</sup> Continuing Education Units as defined under the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act.

grant monies received from the State through No Net Loss Program<sup>5</sup> to reforest neighborhood parks and school playgrounds, as well as major roadways. For example from 2009 to 2010, 126 trees were planted on the grounds of Emma Havens Young Elementary School<sup>6</sup>, where there were no previous plantings. Also during this span of time, 161 more trees were planted on the grounds of Arrowhead Park and Frede Park, to redevelop the landscape, and an additional 149 trees at Windward Beach and two other regional parks. From 2011 to 2012, the Township continued to plant additional plantings at other local schools and parks. In this time, 100 trees were planted at Traders Cove and Marina. Thus, in the five year period encompassed by the last CFMP, approximately 550 trees were installed in public parks and school grounds.

In 2013, with the help of additional grant money from No Net Loss, the Township created a plan to plant up to 2,200 new trees at Angela Hibbard Park, Windward Beach Park, Colorado Park, and Lake Riviera Park over the next three years.

Throughout all of the planning and preparation of plantings, the Township worked closely with a Certified Landscape Architect, as well as the NJDEP State Forestry Service to ensure the tree species selected for plantings were chosen with the enrichment of ecological diversity in mind to achieve goals set by the previous Plan.

The Township has also been active in developing NJDOT road widening projects covered under State No Net Loss regulations. In 2009, the Township received approval to begin the Streetscape Ordinance<sup>7</sup> that was previously adopted in 2007 and the first complying project was constructed along Chambers Bridge Road. The Streetscape Ordinance requires the planting of street trees and landscaped areas to help define streets and pedestrian corridors.

Of particular and gratifying significance was the continuation of the achievement of Tree City USA. This achievement was repeated annually and is proudly continuing the participation in program emphasis in the Township of Brick.

*2009 Goal: "The Township shall seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Township parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs."*

Progress: The Township of Brick received grant money from various sources by adhering to all ordinances relevant to this CFMP and used all grant money to fund any reforestation projects;

2009-2010: The Township was approved for two awards of \$65,000 and \$35,000, which was used to renovate two neighborhood parks.

2013: The Township received three grant awards relating to tree planting and stewardship; Two No Net Loss Grants in the amounts of \$675,000 and \$511,000 as a result of the Garden State Parkway construction and a Community Forestry Plan Grant of \$3,000 to write the next five year plan. The Township will use the No Net

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<sup>5</sup> No Net Loss, see rules at N.J.S.A. 13:1L-14.1

<sup>6</sup> 43 Drum Point Rd, Brick, NJ 08723

<sup>7</sup> Township of Brick, Municipal Ordinances, Chapter 245-356.1

Loss Grants to assist in the continuation of the redevelopment of the Township's parks.

*2009 Goal: "Establish a rotational pruning and maintenance program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources."*

Progress: The Township has continued to work closely with JCP&L, Verizon, and Comcast to maintain, or remove and replace if necessary, trees located on public grounds. The Township Public Works Department diligently continued, in conformance with the previous CFMP, to maintain public lands through hazardous tree removal, leaf pick-up and composting, and tree replacement on Township lands. In 2009, three trucks were rented to increase efficiency in leaf pick up services.

Brick Township's Parks Division also continued to conduct and maintain tree plantings at parks, a pruning program, and tree identification and maintenance.

*2009 Goal: "Continue to educate the citizens of Township of Brick as to the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship."*

Progress: Meeting this goal has been part of a continuous and evolving effort by the Township. During the five year timeframe of the previous plan, a number of different initiatives have occurred on an annual basis. For instance, the SummerFest Concert Series continues to provide a venue for the dissemination of information regarding trees and the Community Forestry Plan. Starting in 2005 Arbor Day observances were officially celebrated and recognized with a mayoral proclamation. The Shade Tree Commission is reaching out to the youngest members of the community by distributing tree care coloring books to kindergarten students. In addition, since 2006 the Community Forestry Management Plan has been freely available to the general public at both the library. From 2009-2013, Arbor Day activities continued to be incorporated into local elementary schools. The Township's Shade Tree Commission provided trees that were grown locally specifically to be planted on Arbor Day.

Additionally, in 2012 the Shade Tree Commission held a contest throughout the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes amongst 6 local schools, which included approximately 700 students. The students were required to submit a report or a slideshow presentation that expressed the importance of trees. The project occurred again in 2013, with both years being a huge success!

During the time that the previous CFMP was implemented, the Township initiated a large outreach and educational program called the "Trash Bash". This program mobilizes local children's community groups, such as the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, to work in Township parks for a total of six hours per child. Each year approximately 100 children have participated in cleaning trash, planting trees, landscaping and maintaining park areas. This

program continued to be practiced during the 2009-2013 timeframe and is held in April of each year in honor of Earth Day.

*2009 Goal: "Advance proactive, adaptive management of the community forest."*

Progress: From 2009-2013, the Township's Environmental Commission and Shade Tree Commission continued to meet bi-monthly to review all site plans to ensure the compliance to the Shade Tree Ordinance and to meet goals set in the previous Plan. Input was provided through reports to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment. Any reports associated with proposed clearings, landscaping and irrigation planning, or tree plantings on public grounds were submitted to ensure the appropriate establishment and maintenance of a healthy biological network in the community prior to project initiation.

*2009 Goal: "Conduct systematic, yearly hazard-tree identification and implement hazard mitigation response strategies."*

Progress: As time and resources have allowed, the Parks & Recreation Department conducted winter reviews of the Township parks in an effort to visually identify obvious dead and hazardous trees. This work still is being undertaken by in-house crew members, each of whom reportedly attended training sessions provided by the Ocean County forester<sup>8</sup>.

The Township of Brick typically budgets between \$2,000 to \$4,000 each year to retain private contractors skilled in the removal of hazardous trees, but as a result of Super Storm Sandy during October, 2012, the expenditures for tree removal and tree replacement were significantly higher. More than \$15,000 was budgeted for hazardous tree removal during 2013 alone. In addition, the amount typically budgeted (approximately \$45,000) for tree planting and initial care was doubled (approximately \$91,000 in 2013), in order to manage the vegetation safety post-Storm.

There is an ongoing agreement with local utilities for the proactive removal and replacement of hazardous trees near distribution lines and other infrastructure. This program reportedly has been operational for the entire five year time frame of the original forestry plan.

*2009 Goal: "Continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and training opportunities."*

Progress: While the Township was unable to meet the objective of maintaining a minimum of three CORE annually trained municipal employees/volunteers, they did have at least two members annually trained throughout the 2009-2013 timeframe. In 2009, a total of 6 members were trained and Ms. April Richard was trained as the new appointed Secretary.

Through annual attendance to the Shade Tree Federation<sup>9</sup> meetings, between nine (9) and

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<sup>8</sup> Richard Reenstra, Ocean Co. Forester

<sup>9</sup> Shade Tree Federation, Blake Hall, 93 Lipman Dr. New Brunswick, NJ 08901

twenty (20) CEU's were awarded each year in response to ongoing training and development. Additionally, members also gained CEU's from attendance to the Monmouth County Spring Forum in 2011. However, this objective was not entirely met during the 2009-2013 timeframe, as the minimum goal of 15 CEU's a year was set in the last CFMP. The Township, though, was able to accumulate a total of 87.5 CEU's by 2013 in addition to the previous 49 CEU's that had been accomplished by 2008.

### **3.B. Community Forestry Program Challenges during 2009-2013,**

While the Township is proud of the accomplishments realized through the Community Forestry Program under the previous CFMPs, it recognizes that progress has been stalled on certain of its objectives. Super Storm Sandy did have a major impact on the ability to accomplish certain objectives set in the previous CFMP. Certain objectives were not met, or met in their entirety, further described as follows:

*2009 Goal: "Establish an ongoing maintenance program on a five year cycle for the trees along Township rights-of-way and coordinate with county, state and utility company maintenance divisions to ensure that their procedures are compatible with ours."*

Progress: The original intent of this goal was to develop a rotational pruning cycle whereby 20% of the young trees on public property would receive structural pruning in any given year, but this goal was not met by the Township of Brick. Limitations in funding resources have precluded the pursuit of the objectives supporting this goal, therefore this goal was not attained but it is re-written into this CFMP in hopes that the Township will achieve this unrealized goal.

*Goal: "Develop a comprehensive inventory of tree resources currently located on Township property."*

Progress: A tree inventory was not created during the time period of the previous CFMP. An inventory would supply the baseline data that would drive management interventions and inform budgetary requests. While it was an unrealized goal of the previous plan, it is anticipated that it will be a priority item early in the implementation of the current Plan.

*2009 Goal: Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree mortality, reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and achieve a sustainable mix of age classes in the tree population.*

Progress: This objective was also not met by the Township at any point during the previous Plan. This goal has been incorporated again into the current plan, as it is the intent of the Township of Brick to create a diverse community forest.

*2009 Goal: Establish a rotational pruning and maintenance program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources.*

Progress: The Township of Brick did not implement a rotational period on the pruning

program that was developed during the previous CFMP. This goal, however, is written into the current CFMP as a priority item.

Careful analysis of the achievements and remaining challenges from the previous CFMP indicate that fiscal constraints and the destruction that was caused by Super Storm Sandy contributed to any impediments that may have prevented the full realization of the previous goals.

The Township recognizes that the community forest is a tangible economic asset and a vital part of the municipal infrastructure. Proactive maintenance and protection of this resource will require a full understanding of the extent, current condition, and future trajectory of the tree canopy. It is the expectation of the Township that through the implementation of the goals and objectives in the current plan, a greater level of recognition for the net value inherent in the tree cover will become widespread.

Implementation of this third five-year CFMP will further advance the achievements realized during the 2008 to 2013 timeframe and will help assure that the current, and future, citizens of Township of Brick continue to enjoy the full range of benefits provided by the municipal tree cover. It is the intent of the Township to pursue these unrealized goals and objectives during the new five year management cycle covered in this CFMP, with the continued understanding that the road to recovery from the Storm will alter the time period in which some objectives may be accomplished.

#### ***4. Community Forestry Program Administration 2014-2019***

While the Township Shade Tree Commission is the entity charged with overseeing the care of the Township's tree resource the effort is, in reality, a cooperative effort of the Mayor, Council, Department of Public Works, Department of Parks & Recreation, along with other boards, agencies and various citizens.

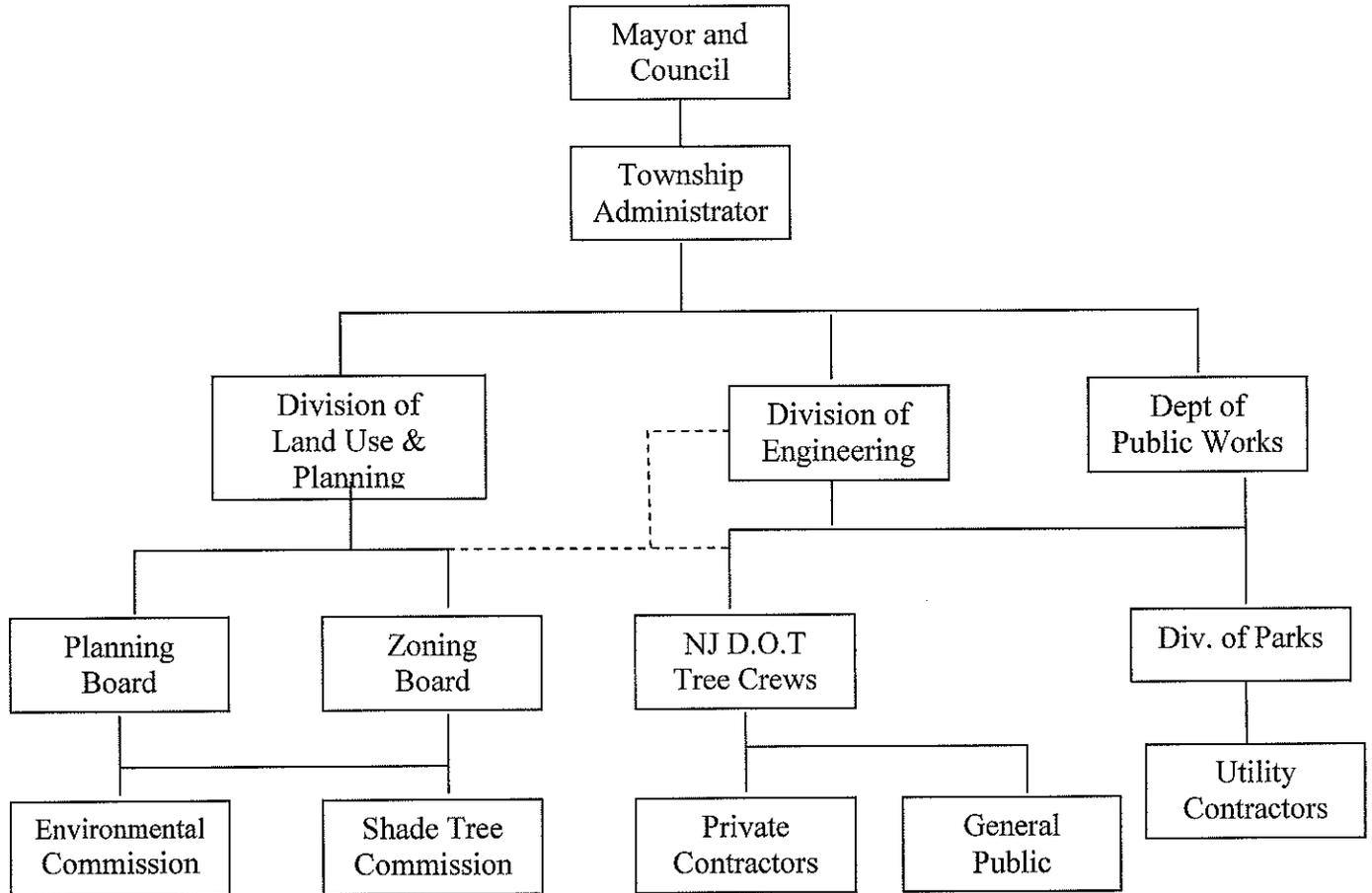
The continuing implementation of the Riparian Buffer Ordinance<sup>10</sup> and the Streetscaping Ordinance has enhanced the interaction between the Shade Tree Commission and the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments. The riparian ordinance requires the protection from clearing of any vegetation within 300 feet of any waterway in the Township, while the Streetscaping ordinance requires the planting of street trees and landscaped areas to help define streets and pedestrian corridors. The Shade Tree Commission is issuing reports on each site plan application submitted to the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment. This helps assure that any proposed clearing and landscaping compliances with these new requirements.

The following chart depicts those involved in the oversight and management of the community forest in Township of Brick.

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<sup>10</sup> Flood Hazard Control Act Rules [NJAC 7:13]

#### 4.A. Organizational Chart



#### 4.B. Organizational Responsibilities & Relationships

##### 4.B.1 The Mayor and Council

- a. The Mayor is responsible for appointing the members of the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission;
- b. The Mayor and Administration review the policies and plans of the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission;
- c. The Mayor and Council approve annual budgets for the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission, the Department of Public Works, and the Division of Parks.

##### 4.B.2. Township Administrator

- a. Reviews plans and policies submitted by the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission and makes recommendations to the Mayor and Council;

- b. Recommends the annual budget of the Shade Tree Commission to the Mayor and Council.

4.B.3 Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission. The Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission is a five (5) member volunteer board appointed by the Mayor. They are the advisory agency for all community trees on municipal streets, rights-of-way, parks, or other properties. Their duties include:

- a. Provide advice regarding the planting, removal and general maintenance of Township trees;
- b. Develop and recommend the policies and goals that will preserve and develop Township of Brick's tree resource;
- c. Perform public outreach to foster better understanding and care for trees on both public and private properties in the Township;
- d. Propose tree related items for inclusion in the annual Township budget.

#### 4.B.4 Department of Public Works

- a. Reviews any requests for tree planting, removal or maintenance and makes the necessary inspections;
- b. Performs tree planting and smaller pruning and removal operations;
- c. Inspects work performed by private contractors for the Township;
- d. Develops annual plans and budget requests for tree maintenance;
- e. Maintains through public employees and private contractors all trees on public property.

#### 4.B.5. Division of Land Use & Planning

- a. Advise the Township Administrator on tree issues;
- b. Manage the street tree planting program;
- c. Serve as staff liaison to Shade Tree Commission;
- d. Handle inquiries from the public regarding trees;
- e. Write grants for tree purposes.

#### 4.B.6. Engineering Division

- a. Oversee landscape plans and suggestions submitted by developers and the Shade Tree Commission;
- b. Inspect plantings for bond release Inspects all work performed by the utility contractors on Township of Brick properties;
- c. Helps review and revise all ordinances pertaining to Township trees.

#### 4.B.7. Division of Parks

- a. Responsible for the upkeep of newly planted and young trees in Township parks and at other public facilities, (ex - watering, mulching, fertilizing, pruning).

#### 4.B.8. Planning Board

- a. Reviews all landscape plans before the Township.

#### 4.B.9 Zoning Board of Adjustment

- a. Determines if landscape plans comply with current ordinances.

#### 4.B.10 Environmental Commission

- a. Cooperates with the Shade Tree Commission in tree related projects.

4.B.11 Private Tree Contractors. Generally, most tree care and maintenance activities are done in-house by Road Department and Parks and Recreation Tree Crews or by county tree crews but when difficult or large climbing jobs arise, private contractors may be deemed necessary on a case-by-case basis. Private contractors are responsible for the following:

- a. Provide proof of appropriate insurance, certifications and licenses as necessary to the appropriate department heads;
- b. Report prior to and following all work performed to the appropriate department supervisor;
- c. Complete all work in a safe and timely manner according to all applicable safety standards set by OSHA or ANSI, as they pertain to tree care operations;
- d. Follow all current arboricultural practices and recommendations;
- e. Report all hazards or problems directly to appropriate department head immediately.

#### 4.B.12 Utility Contractors

- a. Must notify the Township of Brick Director of Public Works or Engineering Department prior to the start of any non-emergency work in the Township;
- b. Must follow all current arboricultural practices and recommendations;
- c. May assist Public Works Department Tree Crews in clearing trees to a safe distance from their facilities when necessary.

#### 4.B.13 General Public

- a. Continue to report all requests for planting, removal or maintenance to the appropriate municipal department;
- b. Assist in follow-up care to the newly planted trees on adjacent properties or in county or Township rights-of-way.

#### 4.B.14 Ocean County Tree Crews

- a. Responsible for maintaining trees on county roadways.

#### 4.B.15 NJ DOT Tree Crews

- a. Responsible for maintaining trees on state roadways.

#### 4.C. Township Service Request Process for Tree Work

Planting, removal, or pruning requests can be made by any department or individual residing in Township of Brick so long as the property in question is one owned and maintained by Township of Brick. All requests must follow this procedure.

- a. All requests must be mailed or called in to the Township of Brick Department of Public Works, Engineering Department or Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission;
- b. All information pertinent to the request should be sent to the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission prior to action, except in the ease of emergencies -which will be sent directly to the Director of Public Works to be handled in an expeditious manner;
- c. All non-emergency work will be inspected by the Engineering or Land Use Departments and then prioritized and referred to the appropriate department, Ocean County, State D.O.T. or private contractors;
- d. Work requests will be completed in the order in which they were received (excluding emergency or priority work) and will be completed in a reasonable time period;
- e. All property owners adjacent to the requested work and/or those making the request will be notified of any action to be taken, even if no action is deemed necessary at that time.

#### 4.D. Shade Tree Commission Members

Dorothy LaPosa - Chairwoman

Violet LaGrotteria - Member

Delores Henry - Member

Susanne Dyer - Member

Garitt Kono - Member

April Richards - Secretary

## **5. Community Map**

No significant changes have occurred to the community map subsequent to the submission of the previous community forestry plan (see Appendix.)

## **6. Training Plan -- 2014-2019**

Continuing education and training is and has been vital to the success of the Township's community forestry program. As discussed, the Township was able to maintain a minimum of two CORE trained individuals on staff during the entire 2008 to 2013 timeframe, although, the previous CFMP had set out to train at least 3 individuals annually.

This training objective is carried forward into the present plan to ensure proper training and education of the Shade Tree Commission's members and certain municipal employees. The Township also was successful in pursuing other continuing education opportunities for both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members during the term of the previous CFMP. Between nine (9) to twenty (20) CEU's were awarded to the Township of Brick each year in response to ongoing training and development in urban forestry. It was a Township objective under the previous Plan to attain a minimum of 8 CEU's a year.

While training opportunities are evaluated based upon subject, location, and fee, the Township has typically allocated between \$200 to \$400 yearly for professional membership, conference travel and miscellaneous educational expenses. It is anticipated that this funding level will continue. A major decrease did occur in the amount of money allocated for the use of the Shade Tree Commission during the term of the last CFMP. Perhaps with more funding, the objectives that were not realized in the previous timeframe could be attained during the timeframe of the current CFMP.

The Township training goal in this CFMP is to continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and related training opportunities. In support of this goal the following objectives have been identified:

- a. Maintain a minimum of two (2) municipal employees / Shade Tree Commission volunteers in the Township with CORE training
- b. Provide for a yearly minimum of eight (8) CEU training credits within the total community forestry program
- c. Address additional training needs for municipal employees in the identification of hazardous trees
- d. Encourage professional development through use of free on-line arboricultural resources by both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members

**7. Public Education/Awareness/Outreach – 2014-2019**

Because a sustainable community forestry program is heavily predicated upon strong public support, the Township of Brick views public outreach as vital to achieving success. In the past, the Shade Tree Commission has provided community forestry education through a number of effective public outreach methods. It is expected that these efforts will continue and that the Township outreach goal for the current plan shall remain:

*Continue to educate the citizens of Township of Brick as to the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship.*

In support of this goal the following objectives have been identified:

1. Maintain and publicize Tree City USA status
2. Continue to promote and expand the highly successful “Trash Bash” program
3. Continue Arbor Day celebrations and activities
4. Provide access to full Community Forestry Management Plan on Township website and in local library
5. Adhere to Sunshine Law by notifying public and local newspapers of all meetings
6. Continue to offer outreach and partnering opportunities to local garden clubs, environmental groups and youth organizations
7. Publish two tree-related articles a year in local paper and on Township website

**8. Statement of Tree Budget – 2013**

The latest figures available for the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission tree budget (2013) are listed below. This statement includes both direct cash outlays and in-kind services. The Township anticipates annual budgets for 2014-2019 will be analogous:

**Shade Tree Commission**

Annual Budget (2013) allocated for the following:

Secretary’s Salary	\$2,140.00
Shade Tree Federation dues	\$ 210.00
Materials & miscellaneous	\$ 200.00
	<u>\$2,550.00</u>
 5 members x 8 meetings x 2 hours = 80 hours @ \$15.39/hour =	 <u>\$1,231.20</u>
 <b>Total Budget for Shade Tree Commission =</b>	 <b>\$3,781.00</b>

**Planning Department:** Annual In-kind services for the administration of grants and plans related to Tree Maintenance and Planning

Community Forestry Management Plan	50 hours	@\$16.00/hour =	\$ 800.00
No Net Loss Grant	20 hours	@\$16.00/hour =	\$ 320.00
Tree City USA	10 hours	@\$16.00/hour =	\$ 160.00
Park Planning/Maintenance	300 hours	@\$16.00/hour =	<u>\$ 4,800.00</u>

**Total Budget for Planning Department = \$ 6,080.00**

**Department of Public Works Tree Budget**

Leaf & Christmas Tree Recycling Program

Activities include curbside pick up of leaves and Christmas trees for recycling and chipping

2013 Budget: **\$180,000.00**

Tree Planting & Initial Care

Pruning & Planting of trees, shrubs & ornamentals

2013 Budget: **\$90,900.00**

Tree purchases & Planting materials = \$84,000.00

Planting & Landscaping: 300 hours @ \$23.00/hour = \$ 6,900.00

Tree Maintenance

Pruning & Tree maintenance (Township property & ROW)

2013 Budget: **\$69,690.00**

Pruning & maintenance: 3,000 hours @ \$23.00/hour = \$69,000.00

Hazardous Tree Identification: 30 hours @ 23.00/hour = \$ 690.00

Tree Removal

2013 Budget: **\$15,275.00**

Hazardous Tree Removal: 665 hours @ \$23.00/hour = \$15,275.00

Total Budget for Dept.'s of Parks and Recreation and Public Works = **\$355,865.00**

**Total 2013 Township of Brick Tree Budget = \$365,725.00**

**9. Statement of Plan Implementation 2014-2019**

**9.A. First Year – 2014**

9.A.1. Goal Number 1. *Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree mortality, reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and achieve a sustainable mix of age classes in the tree population.*

It is the desire of the Township to systematically address anticipated tree mortality and decline. While efforts have been made to diversify both the species and age classifications within the Brick community forest, the continuation of working towards this objective will allow for clear measurement of progress and success. However, it is expected that the programmatic improvements achieved during the previous five year plan will continue to be implemented.

First Year Objectives:

- a. In coordination of the utility company, replace declining and dying trees with restricted – space, utility-compatible tree species.
- b. On individual projects assure no single species represents more than 10% of the planting. Where deviations to this goal are made for landscape function reasons, require clear justification
- c. Seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Township parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs
- d. Solicit help of the Public Works Department, ~~Department~~ <sup>Division</sup> of Parks and Recreation and the public in aftercare new tree plantings
- e. Seek out and apply for potential tree planting grants

9.A.2. Goal Number 2. *Establish a rotational pruning and maintenance program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources.*

The Township of Brick recognizes that a proactive program of tree pruning and removal will reduce both the long term liability associated with catastrophic tree failure and the life cycle costs that accrue if maintenance is deferred. In particular, structural pruning to train young trees will help minimize the development of potential defects in the tree canopy. A rotational cycle based upon geographic area will ensure that adequate attention is being provided to the entire community forest and that crew resources are not expended in needless travel between diverse job locations.

First Year Objectives:

- a. Seek cooperation from Ocean County tree crews in to coordinate a rotational pruning cycle in Brick
- b. Seek out and apply for potential tree pruning and maintenance grants
- c. Divide Township into 5 management zones based upon anticipated distribution of public tree population and allocate resources to address structural pruning of young trees over the winter months (pruning to be initiated in year two)
- d. Continue to implement leaf and woody debris collection and composting program

9.A.3. Goal Number 3. *Develop a comprehensive inventory of tree resources currently located on Township property.*

A significant portion of the community forest on public property within the Township of Brick is anticipated to consist of naturalized oak and pitch pine forest not subject to traditional arboricultural

interventions. An inventory assessment of the landscape trees would be critical to implementing proactive management. As such, the development of an inventory will continue to be a focus of the Township of Brick forestry plan during 2014-2019, pending availability of funding. Characterization of both the spatial and attribute components of the community tree cover would allow the Township to accurately determine the level of resources required to perpetuate and maximize the benefits associated with the community forest resource.

First Year Objectives:

- a. Solicit for a qualified arboricultural consultant skilled in volunteer training and inventory compilation;
- b. Retain consultant to develop inventory protocols (field data collection and volunteer labor to be utilized during spring / summer season of third plan year);
- c. Research and identify software options for inventory database management;
- d. Allocate resources (if available) for software purchase and training.

9.A.4. Goal Number 4. *Maintain enforcement and compliance with existing ordinances and evaluate ordinance needs in response to new technical and logistical information.*

Routine and consistent enforcement and oversight of the pertinent ordinances will continue during each year of the plan. Should new technical information regarding the proper care of trees or emerging pathogens become available, it is the intent of the Township to evaluate the necessity of modified ordinances in response to these new variables.

9.A.5. Goal Number 5. *Continue to educate the citizens of Township of Brick as to the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship.*

First Year Objectives:

- a. Maintain and publicize Tree City USA status;
- b. Continue Arbor Day celebrations and activities;
- c. Provide access to full Community Forestry Management Plan on Township website and in local library;
- d. Adhere to Sunshine Law by notifying public and local newspapers of all meetings;
- e. Continue to offer outreach and partnering opportunities to local garden clubs, environmental groups and youth organizations;
- f. Publish two tree-related articles per year in local paper and / or on Township website.

9.A.6. Goal Number 6. *Advance proactive and adaptive management of the community forest.*

Maintaining the more cost-effective and proactive community forestry program that the Township of Brick has adapted from the previous CFMP will require retaining a professional individual to oversee and coordinate operations. Realizing this goal during the current plan period is a priority for the Township.

First Year Objectives:

- a. Seek out and apply for urban forestry management grant opportunities;
- b. Evaluate local opportunities to develop funding for a forester consultant;
- c. Make preliminary inquiries as to the availability and rate structure of local and regional arboricultural and urban forestry consultants;
- d. Contact neighboring municipalities and evaluate receptiveness to cost-sharing of a joint municipal-forester position.

9.A.7. Goal Number 7. *Conduct hazard identification assessments and implement hazard mitigation response strategies.*

Township of Brick is dedicated to reducing the inherent risk of injury and property damage associated with the presence of mature trees in close proximity to people. Public safety is of the highest concern and a fundamental driving component of the community forestry program. Hazard reduction is an ongoing process that requires systematic detection and prioritized intervention in order to be effective. The Township recognizes that risk can not be eliminated but it can be minimized through an approach that demonstrates reasonable care. This goal and the accompanying objectives are designed to address risk reduction.

In lieu of Super Storm Sandy that occurred in October 2012, the hazard assessments and mitigation evolved accordingly. Risk reduction and public safety has been a main focus of the Township since the storm and they will continue to work with the public and any impediments caused by the storm the best they can under the current circumstances.

First Year Objectives:

- a. Provide yearly hazard tree evaluation training for all Shade Tree Commission members and municipal employees with tree maintenance responsibilities;
- b. Conduct an annual hazard tree reconnaissance during the late fall / early winter period (leaf-off conditions). Operation to be conducted as a visual survey along public rights-of-way and within parkland;
- c. Encourage all volunteers and municipal employees to immediately report suspected hazardous tree conditions;
- d. Develop a hazard remediation prioritization schedule based upon these reconnaissance results and available budget resources. Divert funding from other initiatives when required to maintain a hazard remediation program;
- e. Evaluate the feasibility of developing a tree care disaster plan based upon hazard reconnaissance.

9.A.8. Goal Number 8. *Continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and training opportunities.*

First Year Objectives:

- a. Evaluate CORE training needs based upon maintenance of a minimum of three municipal employees / shade tree commission volunteers in the Township with CORE training. Arrange CORE training if needed;
- b. Identify available programs and provide for a minimum of 8 CEU training credits within the total community forestry program;
- c. Ensure additional training emphasis occurs for municipal employees in the identification and assessment of potential hazard trees;
- d. Encourage knowledge acquisition through the use of free on-line arboricultural resources by both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members.

**9.B. Year Two through Year Four – 2015-2018**

9.B.1. Goal Number 1. *Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree mortality, reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and achieve a sustainable mix of age classes in the tree population.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. In coordination of the utility company, replace declining and dying trees with restricted – space, utility-compatible tree species;
- b. Utilize the results of the tree inventory to develop goals for species diversification and a recommended planting list;
- c. Seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Township parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs;
- d. Solicit help of the Public Works Department, Department of Parks and Recreation and the public in aftercare new tree plantings; *DISIN*
- e. Seek out and apply for potential tree planting grants;
- f. Utilize the results of the tree inventory to project maximum municipal stocking levels and model yearly planting goals based upon achieving full stocking within a reasonable timeframe.

9.B.2. Goal Number 2. *Establish a pruning and maintenance program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources.*

Second-thru-Fourth-Year Objectives:

- a. Seek cooperation from Ocean County tree crews in coordinating a rotational pruning cycle in Brick;
- b. Seek out and apply for potential tree pruning and maintenance grants;

- c. Modify Township geography of 5 management zones based upon the results of the tree inventory;
- d. Continue to implement leaf and woody debris collection and composting program;
- e. Perform pruning as needed.

9.B.3. Goal Number 3. *Develop a comprehensive inventory of public tree resources currently located on Township property.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. Perform inventory of municipal landscape trees using volunteer labor, preferably in concert with trained arbor-consultant(s);
- b. Retain consultant to analyze inventory data, develop management recommendations and integrate into software database;
- c. Acquire selected software system for retaining and updating a tree-database as resources permit;
- d. Evaluate need for insect & disease interventions based upon inventory data.

9.B.4. Goal Number 4. *Maintain enforcement and compliance with existing ordinances and evaluate ordinance needs in response to new technical and logistical information.*

Routine and consistent enforcement and oversight of the pertinent ordinances will continue during each year of the plan. Should new technical information regarding the proper care of trees or emerging pathogens become available, it is the intent of the Township to evaluate the necessity of modified ordinances in response to these new variables.

9.B.5. Goal Number 5. *Continue to educate the citizens of Township of Brick as to the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. Maintain and publicize Tree City USA status;
- b. Continue Arbor Day celebrations and activities;
- c. Provide access to full Community Forestry Management Plan on Township website and in local library;
- d. Adhere to Sunshine Law by notifying public and local newspapers of all meetings;
- e. Continue to offer outreach and partnering opportunities to local garden clubs, environmental groups and youth organizations;
- f. Publish two tree-related articles a year in local paper and on Township website.

9.B.6. Goal Number 6. *Advance proactive and adaptive management of the community forest.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. Have inspections of public trees on commercial properties and major subdivisions performed by a qualified forester;
- b. Investigate feasibility of appointing a municipal forester, and vesting this professional with responsibility for hazard tree, pruning, and planting program oversight, as well as with responsibility for public-tree inventory database management.

9.B.7. Goal Number 7. *Conduct systematic, yearly hazard identification assessments and implement hazard mitigation response strategies.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. Provide yearly hazard tree evaluation training for all Shade Tree Commission members and municipal employees with tree maintenance responsibilities;
- b. Vest newly retained professional urban forester with responsibility for yearly assessment of hazard trees;
- c. Conduct annual hazard tree reconnaissance during the late fall / early winter period (leaf-off conditions). Operation to be conducted as a visual survey from a vehicle (along ROW) and on foot (within parkland and other municipal properties);
- d. Continue to encourage all volunteers and municipal employees to immediately report suspected hazardous tree conditions;
- e. Develop a hazard remediation prioritization schedule based upon the reconnaissance results, available budget resources and inventory data. Divert funding from other initiatives when required to maintain a systematic hazard remediation schedule.

9.B.8. Goal Number 8. *Continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and training opportunities.*

Second-thru-Fourth Year Objectives:

- a. Maintain a minimum of three municipal employees / shade tree commission volunteers in the Township with CORE training;
- b. Provide for a yearly minimum of 8 CEU training credits within the total community forestry program;
- c. Ensure additional training emphasis occurs for municipal employees in the identification and assessment of potential hazard trees;
- d. Encourage knowledge acquisition through the use of free on-line arboricultural resources by both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members.

## 9.C. Year Five - 2019

9.C.1. Goal Number 1. *Continue to plant a diversity of trees on public property in order to offset tree mortality, reduce exposure to catastrophic tree loss, and achieve a sustainable mix of age*

*classes in the tree population.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. In coordination of the utility company, replace declining and dying trees with restricted – space, utility-compatible tree species;
- b. Continue to apply the developed goals for species diversification and the recommended planting list on all tree installation projects;
- c. Seek grants or donations to fund new plantings and beautification of Township parks, including Adopt-a-Tree and memorial garden programs;
- d. Solicit help of the Public Works Department, Department of Parks and Recreation and the public in aftercare new tree plantings;
- e. Seek out and apply for potential tree planting grants;
- f. Continue to pursue full public tree stocking within a reasonable timeframe.

9.C.2. Goal Number 2. *Establish a pruning and maintenance program for trees located on public property in order to maximize the return on limited management resources.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. Seek cooperation from Ocean County tree crews in coordinating a rotational pruning cycle in Brick;
- b. Seek out and apply for potential tree pruning and maintenance grants;
- c. Continue to implement leaf and woody debris collection and composting program;
- d. Perform the cyclical pruning in fourth management area.

9.C.3. Goal Number 3. *Develop a comprehensive inventory of tree resources currently located on Township property.*

Fifth Year Objective:

- a. Update and maintain data, record all removals and maintenance activities.

9.C.4. Goal Number 4. *Maintain enforcement and compliance with existing ordinances and evaluate ordinance needs in response to new technical and logistical information.*

Routine and consistent enforcement and oversight of the pertinent ordinances will continue during each year of the plan. Should new technical information regarding the proper care of trees or emerging pathogens become available, it is the intent of the Township to evaluate the necessity of modified ordinances in response to these new variables.

9.C.5. Goal Number 5. *Continue to educate the citizens of Township of Brick as to the benefits supplied by the community forest and the need for proper stewardship.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. Maintain and publicize Tree City USA status;
- b. Continue Arbor Day celebrations and activities;
- c. Provide access to full Community Forestry Management Plan on Township website and in local library;
- d. Adhere to Sunshine Law by notifying public and local newspapers of all meetings;
- e. Continue to offer outreach and partnering opportunities to local garden clubs, environmental groups and youth organizations;
- f. Publish two tree-related articles in local paper and on Township website.

9.C.6. Goal Number 6. *Advance proactive and adaptive management of the community forest.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. Have inspections of public trees on commercial properties and major subdivisions performed by a qualified forester;
- b. Investigate feasibility of appointing a municipal forester, and vesting this professional with responsibility for hazard tree, pruning, and planting program oversight, as well as with responsibility for public-tree inventory database management.

9.C.7. Goal Number 7. *Conduct yearly hazard identification assessment and implement hazard mitigation response strategies.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. Continue to provide yearly hazard tree evaluation training for all Shade Tree Commission members and municipal employees with tree maintenance responsibilities;
- b. Consider professional urban forester oversight of this yearly assessment of hazard trees;
- c. Conduct annual hazard tree reconnaissance during the late fall / early winter period as discussed above;
- d. Continue to encourage all volunteers and municipal employees to immediately report suspected hazardous tree conditions;
- e. Develop a hazard remediation prioritization schedule based upon the reconnaissance results, available budget resources and inventory data, as discussed above.

9.C.8. Goal Number 8. *Continue Shade Tree Commission and Township employee participation in forestry & arboricultural education and training opportunities.*

Fifth Year Objectives:

- a. Maintain a minimum of three municipal employees / shade tree commission volunteers in the Township with CORE training;
- b. Provide for a yearly minimum of 8 CEU training credits within the total community forestry program;
- c. Ensure additional training emphasis occurs for municipal employees in the identification and assessment of potential hazard trees;
- d. Encourage knowledge acquisition through the use of free on-line arboricultural resources by both municipal employees and Shade Tree Commission members.

### ***10. Community Stewardship Incentive Program Practices***

The thirteen items listed below as a part of the Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) have been identified throughout this plan with current procedures or a recommended course of action.

CSIP #1 Training Currently Township of Brick has two CORE trained personnel or volunteers, CEU training has been conducted each year and is budgeted for 2014 and beyond. It is expected that a minimum of two CORE trained personnel will be involved in the program at all times, and that at least 8 CEU credits will be achieved each year. Training opportunities with respect to hazard awareness will be emphasized. Further information can be found in Section 6.

CSIP #2 Community Forestry Ordinance Establishment The Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission was created by ordinance in 1972. The recent adoption of several new ordinances and the integration of the Community Forestry Plan into the Township Master Plan have heightened the recognition of the tree canopy during planning sessions. Continued enforcement of these initiatives is a priority. Further information can be found in Sections 3 and 9.

CSIP #3 Public Education and Awareness The Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission would like to continue its previous successful public outreach programs practiced during the previous management plan. The Commission recognizes that public education and support is vital to maintaining a sustainable community forestry program. Further information can be found in Section 7.

CSIP #4 Arbor Day Arbor Day has celebrations have been formally acknowledged and supported by the Shade Tree Commission and the Township as part of the initial management plan. The Commission would like to continue with this tradition as it is a central key to maintaining public support. Further information can be found in Sections 3, 7, and 9.

CSIP #5 Tree Inventory. The Township of Brick currently does not have a street tree inventory. The completion of this fundamental component of proactive management is viewed as a priority for the next two years. It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken utilizing the services of a paid consultant to train and supervise volunteer staff. Further information can be found in Sections 3 & 9.

CSIP #6 Hazard Tree Assessment Tree hazard identification is an area of concern for Township of Brick and is currently addressed through the use of in-house personnel. This iteration of the Brick management plan continues to place strong emphasis on the development of professional oversight of this assessment work and additional formal training of municipal staff within the constraints of budget and resources. Yearly leaf-off inspections are projected to continue along with the integration of system-wide inventory data. More information can be found in Sections 3, 6, and 9.

CSIP #7 Storm Damage Assessment At present, tree emergencies are handled by county tree crews, utility tree crews or public works tree crews for downed trees. In case of any large-scale tree emergencies, Township of Brick would follow plans developed by Ocean County or the Office of Emergency Management. No future plans are being considered at this time although the feasibility and need for such a plan will be evaluated after professional oversight of the hazard tree population.

CSIP #8 Tree Maintenance and Removal The establishment of a rotational pruning cycle to train young trees, along with the hiring of a professional forestry consultant to oversee this pruning, has been identified as another programmatic enhancement of the existing Township of Brick effort. Further information can be found in Sections 3 and 9.

CSIP #9 Insect and Disease Management No formal management plan exists for trees along Township roads or on other public properties. Any insect or disease outbreaks would be handled on a case-by-case basis. Diagnosis and consultation would be sought from NJ State Department of Agriculture, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service, or a Certified Tree Expert. In the event of an outbreak, State or Federal assistance would be requested. Following the compilation of the inventory a more accurate assessment of the potential risk will be developed.

CSIP #10 Wildfire Protection No formal Fire Management Plan exists for the Township of Brick but part of managing the Community forest is to reducing the overall fuel hazard of the Township, which will help to protect the Community from potential wildfires. With the ample amount of interface in the Township of Brick, it is important to reduce fuel loads in forested areas, which is done by the regulated maintenance that is conducted by various components of the Township.

CSIP #11 Tree Planting Achieving appropriate and sustainable stocking levels of tree canopy in the Township has been identified as an area of focus. Integration of the inventory data should provide a firmer basis for tree selection and required budget expenditures. Further information can be found in Sections 3 and 9.

CSIP #12 Tree Recycling The Township of Brick Recycling Program as it exists now consists of leaf clean ups in the spring and fall as well as chipping of Christmas trees. Some wood chips and leaves are hauled directly to an Ocean County facility in neighboring Lakewood Township. Leaves, wood, brush, and other organic materials are also taken to the Ridge Road Recycling Center, a Township facility, for further grinding and composting. All resulting materials are available to

Township residents at no cost. No further additions are planned at this time. The continuance of this successful program is addressed in Section 9.

CSIP #13 Sidewalk Maintenance Program. Sidewalk maintenance in the Township is addressed under several ordinances and protocols, addressed in the Municipal Code. Their interaction with the Community Forestry Program is incorporated by reference.

CSIP #14 Storm Water Management. Stormwater management in the Township is addressed under several State rules, as well as indirectly via various Municipal ordinances and protocols, addressed in the Municipal Code. Again, their interaction with the Community Forestry Program is incorporated by reference.

CSIP #15 Other No other management practices have been identified at the time of this writing. This Community Forestry Management Plan for Township of Brick has been funded by a New Jersey Community Forestry Management Plan Grant and completed with the cooperation of the Township of Brick Shade Tree Commission. Upon approval by the Community Forestry Council, implementation of the plan will begin and this plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary in the year 2019.

Appendix

