What is considered a Shade Tree?

Any tree, shrub, or other woody plant on any public highway in the Borough or that part of any tree, shrub, or other woody plant which extends within the lines of any public highway. As a homeowner, the shade trees on your property are your responsibility, but that responsibility is governed by the Shade Tree Commission.

Benefits of Shade Trees

If trees are properly selected, planted and maintained, they provide many valuable benefits to the community.

Trees Increase Property Values
Property with trees and other plants is more desirable than property with lower quality landscape. Mature landscaping can increase residential property value up to 15 percent. In addition, mature landscaping can increase the sale-ability of property and development of equity. In areas with denser tree canopy, apartments and offices normally rent more quickly and have higher occupancy rates.

Trees Increase Economic Stability
A community's trees usually provide the first impression a visitor has of a community. Trees attract businesses and shoppers to communities and tree-lined streets provide an atmosphere for people to linger and shop longer.

Strategically Placed Trees Save Energy
Trees can be planted as windbreaks to help reduce heating costs. By providing shade for parking lots, streets and buildings, trees help cool our communities.

Trees Reduce Air Pollution
Trees filter carbon dioxide, trap air pollutants (like sulfur dioxide, ozone, methane, nitrous oxides, etc.) and replenish the air with oxygen.

Water Conservation and Soil Preservation
Organic material from leaves and branches helps to increase soil permeability, which increases water absorption and reduces runoff.