

Final Resolution approved unanimously (7-0) at the Dec 17, 2013 meeting of the

Leesburg Tree Commission

Mayor and Council,

The Leesburg Tree Commission strongly encourages the Town Council to approve funds for the town's 2015 fiscal year budget for a tree maintenance program. Exact expenditures are to be determined by staff.

The Commission's commitment is to the continuing enhancement and sustainability of the Town's tree canopy. A large portion of our efforts are dedicated to assisting the Town staff and the public, particularly Town residents and business owners, in various efforts to further this goal. The Commission has been greatly encouraged by the renewed effort on the part of the Town, in the past few years, to install new street trees and landscaped areas along many of our major roads. Expenditures to date are over \$300,000. The recent plantings along Battlefield Parkway and South King Street are the latest example of this effort.

The planting of these trees is, however, only the first step. If they are to thrive and develop into the true community asset that they can become, it is imperative that they be adequately maintained. The scale of these recent improvements greatly expands the level of what the town traditionally has been responsible for maintaining.

The Tree Commission strongly recommends that the Town ensure the long-term viability of these assets by providing funding for their continuing maintenance. This important management concept, in part, had been highlighted and previously endorsed in the Council-approved Urban Forestry Management Plan (February 2006). Staff has developed a comprehensive street tree and landscape maintenance strategy and has submitted a request in the Town's Fiscal Year 2015 general fund operating budget to support this program. The projected annual maintenance costs amount to only a small percentage of the actual capital investment that has been made. The Commission recommends approval of the budget request so that the Town's considerable capital investment is not wasted.

As always, we offer our time and expertise in whatever way possible to assist the Town in achieving its tree canopy goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Seeman, Chair

Leesburg Tree Commission.

PROCLAMATION

10th ANNUAL KEEP LEESBURG BEAUTIFUL MONTH APRIL 2014

WHEREAS, the Town of Leesburg, Virginia, is committed to environmental stewardship and to maintaining the appearance of Town road corridors and public places; and

WHEREAS, the first “Keep Leesburg Beautiful” community clean up and beautification campaign was held on April 23, 2005; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of volunteers have come forth each April over the past nine years to clean up and beautify Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council also appreciates the fine work of the Town staff to keep the Town’s roadways, rights-of-ways and parks clean and attractive year round.

THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia hereby proclaim the month of April of the Year 2014 to be the 10th annual Keep Leesburg Beautiful Month and encourage all Leesburg residents, businesses, youth groups, churches and service organizations to participate in Keep Leesburg Beautiful during April 2014 by organizing clean up and beautification activities.

PROCLAIMED this 25th day of March 2014.

Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council