

## Summary of Urban Citizen Forestry Programs

Many communities, especially larger cities, have Citizen Forestry programs. Most of these programs are organized and operated by state or city-level urban forestry councils. Citizen Foresters are volunteers that assist municipal arborists and city government in tree planting and routine tree care projects. As such, Citizen Foresters provide a ready-made, relatively inexpensive, potentially large labor force to complete tree planting and tree care projects in a timely manner. Such programs can be cost-effective. Generally, training is required to equip Citizen Foresters with tree identification, planting, care, and monitoring knowledge so they can perform their volunteer duties safely and effectively. Some of these programs can be elaborate with different levels of training and certification required depending on the tree care and monitoring tasks. Some Citizen Forester programs can also include an element of Citizen Science, in which tree condition and health data are collected to serve as indicators of overall urban tree canopy status and trend. When done with adequate training and quality control, such data gathering programs can be a powerful and cost-effective monitoring tool to augment professional forestry monitoring programs.

This directory of Citizen Forestry programs provides a snapshot of a cross-section of representative programs across the US. In some cities, Citizen Foresters are called Community Foresters or Tree Keepers (often listed as one word - TreeKeepers). Although fairly comprehensive, it is not an exhaustive listing of all such programs, but rather serves as a guide to example programs in various cities from diverse geographic regions. A list of the programs summarized is provided in table 1. Of necessity, only those on-going programs with websites could be located and summarized for this document. For consistency, website descriptions were edited to present text in third person format rather than first person used on many sites.

The template used to summarize each program is listed below:

**Program:**

Location:

Website:

Citizen Forester Programs:

Operation Details:

Table 1. List of example Citizen Forestry programs from various geographic regions of the US.

Region	State	City	Program
Northeast	Vermont	Burlington	Branch Out Burlington Tree Keeper Program
Mid-Atlantic	New Jersey	Camden & Newark	New Jersey Tree Foundation TreeKeepers
	Maryland	Baltimore Washington, DC	Baltimore Tree Trust TreeKeepers Casey Trees Citizen Forester Program
Upper Mid-west & Great Lakes region	Illinois	Chicago	Openlands TreeKeepers Program
	Michigan	Detroit Grand Rapids	Greening of Detroit Grand Rapids Urban Forest Project
Plains states	Wisconsin	Madison	Urban Tree Alliance
	Iowa Oklahoma	Des Moines Tulsa	Trees Forever TreeKeepers Up with Trees
Atlantic Coast South and Interior South	Georgia	Atlanta	Trees Atlanta TreeKeepers
	Kentucky	Louisville	Louisville Grows and Love Louisville Trees
	Missouri	Kansas City	Heartland Tree Alliance Bridging the Gap TreeKeepers
	Missouri	Columbia	Columbia TreeKeepers
Gulf-Coast region	Louisiana	state-wide	Louisiana Urban Forestry Council Citizen Forester Program
	Texas	Dallas	City of Dallas Citizen Forester Program
	Texas	17 counties in North Central TX	Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council Citizen Forester Program
Interior West	Colorado	Midland	Keep Midland Beautiful TreeKeepers
		Denver	The Park People Community Forester Program
Pacific West	California	San Francisco	Friends of the Urban Forest
		San Joaquin Valley	San Joaquin Valley Urban Forests Council Citizen Forester Program
		Los Angeles	Tree People

**Program: Branch Out Burlington Tree Keeper Program**

Location: Burlington, VT

Website: <http://branchoutburlington.org/get-involved/burlington-tree-keeper-program/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

**What is the Tree Keeper Program?**

Every year, trees from the Branch Out Burlington!’s Community Tree Nursery are planted along Burlington’s streets. The trees need tender loving care to become established in their new locations. The first year is especially critical. Through the Tree Keeper Program, trees are matched with residents who agree to provide them with a bit of care. In addition to getting a tree, Tree Keepers receive free tree care training from local experts. With help from Tree Keepers, Community Nursery trees will thrive and provide years of neighborhood beauty.

**Why Become a Tree Keeper?**

There are many reasons why residents should want a tree to be planted where they live or work:

- Trees release oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide to freshen the air.
- Trees trap dust and dirt, and remove pollution particles from the air.
- Trees increase property values.
- Trees provide shade in the summer, protection from wind in the winter.
- Trees provide leaves to make the best compost.
- Trees provide habitat for birds.
- Trees make neighborhoods more beautiful places.
- Tree Keepers are kept up-to-date with planting techniques and proper tree care. This training can be applied to other gardening projects.

Operation Details: from the website

**Who Can Be a Tree Keeper?**

People of all ages can be Tree Keepers. No experience or tools are needed, just an interest in trees and a desire to help care for the tree. When you apply to be a Tree Keeper, the city arborist will inspect your site and decide if a tree can go there and which type of tree is best for the spot. If the greenbelt is too narrow, it may be possible to plant it on your front lawn through an easement agreement with the city. In the spring, before the trees are planted, an educational seminar is held to teach Tree Keepers how to care for the tree.

### What Does a Tree Keeper Do?

- **Plant:** Tree Keepers help plant trees along their street on the Annual Community Tree Planting Day.
- **Water:** Tree Keepers water the new trees once a week. (It only adds a few dollars to your city water bill to give a tree all the water it needs in one year.)
- **Mulch:** Weeds steal precious moisture at the tree root zone. The city spreads wood chips around the base of each newly planted tree. Tree Keepers make sure the mulch stays weed-free, and replaces the mulch in future years if possible.
- **Watch:** Tree Keepers look out for the health of trees. Early detection of injury by animals or people is critical to minimize damage. They check the crown of the tree for discolored foliage or dead branches, and look for wounds caused by lawnmowers or weed whackers. They contact the city arborist to share concerns.

Branch Out Burlington wants Tree Keepers to keep their eye on other city trees growing in their neighborhoods, and contact the city arborist when they notice a problem.

**Program: New Jersey Tree Foundation TreeKeepers**

Location: Camden and Newark, NJ

Website: <http://njtreefoundation.org/about/treekeepers/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The NJ Tree Foundation's TreeKeepers Program has trained hundreds of individuals on young tree care and benefits of trees. Combining classroom style with hands-on outdoor education, the series of workshops covers:

- Basic Tree Identification
- Tree Biology
- Proper Tree Planting
- Tree Care Techniques
- Environmental Impact of Trees
- Trees as Green Infrastructure
- Recognizing and Preventing Tree Hazards
- Environmental Issues and Your Tree

Operation Details: from the website

Attendees are provided free dinner, educational materials, and tree care tools such as hand pruners, hand saws, gator bags, or water meters. Individuals attending all sessions in the series become Certified TreeKeepers and are entered into a drawing to win a gift card to a local garden store.

TreeKeepers workshops are held annually in Camden and Newark, NJ. TreeKeepers is free to Camden and Newark residents and \$20 per session for all other individuals. Starting in 2015, each TreeKeepers session will equal two Continuing Education Units (CEUs) toward Community Forestry Management Plans.

**Program: Baltimore Tree Trust TreeKeepers**

Location: Baltimore, MD

Website: <http://baltimoretreetrust.org/treekeepers>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The **Baltimore TreeKeepers** is a city-wide tree stewardship program open to anyone interested in Baltimore's trees. TreeKeepers promotes healthy trees by educating residents and increasing their role in the care of the City's trees. Through this training, citizens can become tree advocates and share the responsibility to plant and care for trees in their neighborhood and throughout the City.

TreeKeepers includes several levels and types of classes, ranging from purely educational to hands-on training that teaches citizens to care for their trees and environment. Some of the hands-on training allows citizens to perform work on public trees that requires a permit; these classes will have a "test of competency" to certify citizens in best urban tree care practices. Certified tree planters and pruners will be encouraged to assist TreeBaltimore partners at spring and fall tree planting events.

Partners:

TreeKeepers has been developed through a partnership among Baltimore City's Department of Recreation and Parks' TreeBaltimore program, the Baltimore Tree Trust, and the Baltimore City Forestry Board with assistance from the Department of Planning's Office of Sustainability, Baltimore Green Space, Blue Water Baltimore and the Parks & People Foundation.

Operation Details: from the website

TreeKeepers Classes:

**TreeKeepers 101**

This class is an overview of how the urban forest helps Baltimore, the Chesapeake Bay, and personal health and well-being.

**TreeKeepers 102**

Learn how trees grow and how the way trees are planted and cared for affects their growth and development.

**TreeKeepers 201**

Review of key concepts; sharing field experiences; urban stresses on trees; volunteer project management, and guidelines for community forestry; and a hands-on soil testing activity.

**TreeKeepers 202**

This class is designed to teach volunteers basic on-the-ground pruning techniques for young trees that will help in developing good tree canopy structure.

**Program: Casey Trees Citizen Forester Program**

Location: Washington, DC

Website: <http://caseytrees.org/get-involved/cforester/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Citizen Foresters represent a group of over 1,400 dedicated Casey Trees volunteers who have taken at least one of our five free qualifying classes. Becoming a Citizen Forester is the first step in further volunteer and advocacy opportunities.

Qualifying Classes:

- Trees 101
- Trees 201
- Stand Up For Trees
- Pruning Workshop
- Tree Planting Workshop

These events are available seasonally and can be found on the Casey Trees event calendar. Advance registration is required

Operation Details: from the website

Team Leader:

Casey Trees Team Leaders have received additional training to lead teams of volunteers at Community Tree Planting events. Every Team Leader is given a team of 3 to 5 volunteers and is responsible for the quality of the tree planting and the safety of the team. To become a Team Leader, participants must attend the Tree Planting Workshop and work with a Team Leader Mentor at a minimum of two plantings in the same season. No prior experience is necessary.

The Tree Planting Workshop is offered twice a year at the beginning of each season. Attendance is mandatory to become a Citizen Forester Team Leader.

Lead Citizen Forester:

This group of highly skilled volunteers have attended Trees 101, Trees 201, Stand Up for Trees and the Tree Planting Workshop, have qualified as a Team Leader and have been selected by Casey Trees staff as demonstrating exemplary knowledge and leadership. Lead Citizen Foresters serve as liaisons between Casey Trees and the Community Tree Planting's Project Organizer. Lead Citizen Foresters meet with the Project Organizer early in the planning stage



and assist with tree selection, placement, community involvement and problem troubleshooting.

Tree Advocate:

This program is designed to develop a network of trained volunteers ready to stand up for trees in their neighborhood and across the city. Offering expertise and resources, Casey Trees helps volunteers connect with city leaders and other residents to push for change in their communities.

There are three steps to becoming a Tree Advocate:

- Attend the Stand Up for Trees class.
- Attend two Tree Advocates meetings.
- Participate in four advocacy actions.

Being a Tree Advocate is not required to participate in advocacy actions. For more tips on how to advocate for trees, visit the Casey Trees [Advocacy Action Center](#).

**Program: Openlands TreeKeepers Program**

Location: Chicago, IL

Website: <http://www.openlands.org/treekeepers>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Overview:

Since 1991, more than 1,500 trained volunteers have provided “eyes and ears on the ground” year round in neighborhoods all over Chicago to identify potential tree-related problems and lead neighbors in tree planting and tree care.

What do TreeKeepers do?

TreeKeepers learn how to help keep trees green and growing. TreeKeepers volunteer in a variety of situations from street tree care and tree planting to woodland stewardship.

Why do TreeKeepers do this?

TreeKeepers are passionate ambassadors who help educate their neighbors as well as their public officials about the importance of trees for the greater good. Becoming a TreeKeeper can be an entry way to:

- understand the environmental community in the region and specifically in Chicago
- meet and connect to many of the organizations doing "green" work
- join a well-respected, recognized, and frequently requested group of educated volunteers
- a new career

Operation Details: from the website

How does a volunteer become a TreeKeeper?

The Openlands TreeKeepers Program takes place twice a year in Chicago and once a year at both The Morton Arboretum and Brushwood Center in Ryerson Woods. The Chicago program is hosted at different locations each time to make our way around the city.

### What is the TreeKeepers Program?

The TreeKeepers Program is an 8-day course with classroom and field components. Lessons are taught by nationally and world-renowned experts focused on managing and reducing the threats to forest health. Some of the topics covered include tree biology, soils, tree identification, pruning, tree selection, planting and mulching, and pests and diseases. The College of Education at Aurora University will also offer two undergraduate or graduate credit hours for an additional fee.

### What does a participant need to do to become a certified TreeKeeper?

- Attend all 8 classes (missed classes may be made up at a subsequent series)
- Pass a written exam
- Complete practical exams on tree planting, mulching, and pruning
- Pledge 24 volunteer hours within the year following graduation
- Have fun while learning about the urban forest!

### How much does the course cost and what is included in the tuition?

- The Chicago-based course costs \$120. There are some scholarships available - please fill out the scholarship application to be considered.

Included in the tuition is a one-year membership to Openlands, a TreeKeepers Program Manual, Tree-ID booklet, safety glasses, and upon graduation, a TreeKeepers certificate, TreeKeepers badge, and a TreeKeepers t-shirt.

**Program: Greening of Detroit**

Location: Detroit, MI

Website: <http://www.greeningofdetroit.com/who-we-are/about-us/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Mission statement: Inspiring sustainable growth of a healthy urban community through trees, green spaces, food, education, training and job opportunities, Greening of Detroit aspires to provide a greener tomorrow for Detroit.

The Greening of Detroit is a well-established nonprofit resource agency with a long history of successful and progressive initiatives. All of their work adds economic value to the communities they serve, and focuses on using land in a way that improves quality of life, has environmental integrity, and promotes education and stewardship. Most of all, The Greening provides hope for the future of the city of Detroit.

Between 1950 and 1980, around 500,000 trees were lost in Detroit to Dutch elm disease, urban expansion and attrition. Troubled by this deforestation of a great city, Elizabeth Gordon Sachs devoted herself to reforesting the city. She played a key role in the 1989 founding of The Greening of Detroit. During that same time, economic constraints prohibited the city from replacing those trees. The Greening of Detroit was founded in 1989 with a single focus in mind – restore the city's tree infrastructure.

At The Greening, they believe in tomorrow's Detroit and expect to play a significant role in the development to this great city. The abundance of vacant land – spanning more than 20 square miles of the city – allows for a blank canvas of opportunity and new beginnings. That means more room for trees, green open spaces, prairies, urban farms and pocket parks. It also means job opportunities for city kids and adult workforce trainees. Greening of Detroit looks forward to working with their community residents to grow tomorrow's Detroit.

Operation Details: from the website

A unique feature of Greening of Detroit's programs is the special emphasis placed on job training programs for jobs and careers in urban agriculture and forestry, moving beyond simple citizen forester training. The following description of their training programs is taken from the program website.

Greening of Detroit's passion is to help Detroit grow and flourish for a greener tomorrow. By revitalizing urban gardens, restoring and beautifying local neighborhoods and providing

Detroiters with job skills through training programs, Detroit can achieve these goals. It all begins with Greening's programs and people.

Greening of Detroit takes an active role in training Detroit youth and adults for GREEN jobs in forestry, agriculture, and landscaping. Their workforce development program has provided more than 240 adult Detroiters with new job skills. Additionally, they employ more than 100 young people to work on a variety of planting projects every summer. Specific training programs include:

- **Adult Workforce Development Training:**

In some Detroit neighborhoods, the unemployment rate is well above the national average. Greening of Detroit is trying to change that by providing unemployed Detroiters with valuable job training and certification in the green industry. To date, more than 80 percent of our graduates found employment after completing our training program.

The Greening's workforce training initiative is a registered apprenticeship program through the U.S. Department of Labor. Each training session is eight weeks, 32 hours per week. Participants are trained in landscape technician and safety skills, and most become certified in CPR and first aid. Upon completion of the program, graduates have the opportunity to take The Greening of Detroit's landscape exam and earn the landscape industry certification through the state of Michigan.

Applicants must be a resident of Detroit, Hamtramck or Highland Park.

- **Green Corps Youth Employment Program:**

The Greening of Detroit has planted more than 85,000 trees since we started putting shovels in the ground back in 1989. As the scope of work increased, they needed help caring for the newly planted trees. In 1998, they created The Green Corps program, which allows them to hire high school students from Detroit each summer to help water trees and maintain city parks and greenways.

The Green Corps program has collectively employed more than 1,600 Detroit youth since its inception. By maintaining thousands of trees in 250 planting sites across the city, Corps members are investing energy and time in their communities. In 2014, the Green Corps watered more than 12,000 city trees; maintained and helped clean up green spaces like parks and greenways; and planted, weeded, and harvested crops at the Greening's farm gardens. Each tree site was visited an average of 25 times over the course of the summer.

Green Corps members also participate in experiential learning throughout the summer to enhance their knowledge and broaden their worlds. These include workshops in resume writing, financial literacy and conflict resolution, along with a green career and college fair and field trips to state parks to enjoy the great outdoors.

- Urban Agriculture Adult Apprenticeship Program:

Adults interested in learning about urban farming and managing a small-scale production farm can apply for The Greening's 22-week apprenticeship program. Apprentices learn all aspects of farming and assist at The Greening's three farm gardens with planting, weeding, harvesting, and general farm maintenance.

**Program: Grand Rapids Urban Forest Project**

Location: Grand Rapids, MI

Website: <http://www.urbanforestproject.com/citizenforester.php>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Friends of Grand Rapids Parks provides education and training to citizen volunteers to help them become knowledgeable in tree planting, maintenance, and identification. Certified Citizen Foresters are constant advocates and leaders for trees in their communities. GRUFP relies on their Citizen Foresters to help educate, advocate, and provide support for neighborhood based tree-projects.

Operation Details: from the website

To earn the Citizen Forester title, a person must attend the following classes:

- **Tree Planting:** Offers an introduction to planting, maintenance, and care of recently planted and young trees. This class covers selecting a planting location, choosing species and stock, planting a tree, and appropriate maintenance.
- **Tree Maintenance and pruning:** Is an overview of pruning, on-going watering, mulching, fertilization and other common tree maintenance issues. Specific attention is given to young tree pruning and maintenance to encourage proper tree form and structure.
- **Tree Identification:** Provides a basic foundation in recognizing tree differences and using a standard dichotomous identification key. Attention is given to common tree species in Grand Rapids.
- **The Value of Trees:** Explores why trees are important to the GR community and how GR manages the urban forest. GRUFP examines ways to communicate with neighbors, city officials, and elected representatives about trees and their benefits.

GRUFP also asks that our Citizen Foresters attend two outside volunteer opportunities: tree maintenance and tree planting. After completion of all six requirements, a participant will become an officially recognized Citizen Forester. Additionally, GRUFP offers a rotation of unique, optional or elective courses on issues that interest their Citizen Foresters.

**Program: Urban Tree Alliance**

Location: Madison, WI

Website: <http://www.urbantreealliance.org/citizen-forester-program/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

UTA calls their volunteers Citizen Foresters. Citizen Foresters can choose from a variety of volunteer opportunities related to tree planting, tree care, and urban forestry education and outreach. UTA offers all of their Citizen Foresters the chance to take part in the classes they teach on topics such as pruning, planting, and tree care at no cost. UTA welcomes all volunteers, irrespective of their level of experience with urban forestry or the amount of time they can invest in UTA.

There are four levels of Citizen Forester volunteers: Supporter, Caretaker, Steward, and Master.

- **Supporter**
  - No minimum time commitment. Most Supporters volunteer 1-3 times per year and help sustain the Madison Canopy Project by planting trees and distributing door hangers (see below).
  - No required classes. Supporters are welcome and encouraged to participate in UTA-taught classes at no cost, but it is not a requirement.
- **Caretaker**
  - Two-year commitment to watering, mulching, and winter-protecting a newly planted tree in a public area such as a school or park (see below).
  - No required classes. Caretakers are welcome and encouraged to participate in UTA-taught classes at no cost, but it is not a requirement.
- **Steward**
  - 15 or more volunteer hours per year. Stewards can participate in the same volunteer activities as Supporters and Caretakers, but they can also choose to undertake projects that require more skill, such as helping UTA prune small trees at community sites or helping lead large planting events (see below).
  - UTA requests that Stewards take at least one FREE UTA-taught class.
- **Master**
  - 20 or more volunteer hours per year. Masters can participate in the same volunteer activities as Supporters and Caretakers, but they also have the option to undertake projects that require more skill, such as helping UTA prune small trees at community sites or helping lead large planting events.



- At least one FREE UTA-taught class plus additional training on urban forestry topics such as tree identification or diagnosing common tree problems. Currently any additional training must be acquired through programs such as Master Gardeners. In future years, UTA aims to expand their class offerings and/or form partnerships with educational institutions to support their Master Citizen Foresters with a wide variety of classes.

Operation Details: from the website

- **Tree planting (2-4 hrs)** - Join UTA planting crew for a morning or afternoon as they plant trees on private property in Madison Canopy Project neighborhoods. The trees are fairly small (3-5 feet tall) and light. Help dig holes, plant the trees, and spread mulch. No previous experience required – UTA will teach you what you need to know.
- **Help us spread the word! Distribute door hangers (2 hrs)** - Spend two hours with Urban Tree Alliance staff distributing door hangers to private residences in Madison Canopy Project neighborhoods. These door hangers advertise the availability of free trees through our Madison Canopy Project. Please dress warmly and wear good shoes – will be walking a lot.
- **Adopt-a-Tree (two-year commitment)** - Water, mulch, and winter-protect a newly planted tree at a school or public park. UTA will provide supplies and teach you what you need to know. It's a two-year commitment, but volunteers make a huge difference to the Madison area urban forest! Expect to water an adopted tree once per week (April-November) for the first six months and once every two weeks for the next eighteen months. Each tree needs approximately 5-10 gallons per watering. UTA cannot plant trees in public places without volunteers committed to their care, so please consider adopting one or more trees.
- **Community tree care and outreach (for Steward and Master Citizen Foresters)** - There are many options for our expert volunteers. Here are a few possibilities:
  - Prune and care for small trees at community sites such as the Boys and Girls Club and Troy Gardens.
  - Provide 'annual check-ups' for Madison Canopy Project trees.
  - Assist the elderly and disabled in caring for their new Madison Canopy Project trees.
  - Initiate, organize, and co-lead a tree-planting project at a local school, park, apartment complex, day care, community center, etc.
  - Respond to tree-care questions from MCP program participants (perhaps serving as a neighborhood resource – you could be your neighborhood tree expert).
  - Assist with our social media feeds.
  - Take photographs or short videos at UTA events.
  - Create a UTA poster or display board for a local fair or event.

**Program: Trees Forever TreeKeepers**

Location: Des Moines, IA

Website: <http://www.treesforever.org/TreeKeepers>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The Trees Forever *TreeKeepers* program is designed for people who want to become more knowledgeable about urban tree planting and care, and who wish to become a stronger voice for trees in their neighborhoods and communities. Participants in *TreeKeepers* will take part in hands-on and classroom presentations led by experienced Trees Forever staff members and other invited tree experts. All training will incorporate opportunities for practicing skills learned. After completion of the *TreeKeepers* program, participants will be equipped with the knowledge of how to maintain urban trees and plant trees for future generations. Trained *TreeKeepers* volunteers will be additional “eyes and ears” for trees in their neighborhoods, and can share their knowledge with neighbors and key influencers.

*TreeKeepers* graduates will:

- Actively participate in tree plantings in their neighborhood and the community.
- Gain hands-on experience caring for street trees and park trees.
- Protect community trees and be a tree ambassador.

Operation Details: from the website

Specifically, *TreeKeepers* will participate in a variety of classroom and hands-on training sessions, learning about:

- Tree Identification & Biology
- Proper Planting & Maintenance
- Benefits of Trees
- Urban & Community Tree Issues
- Volunteer Recruitment & Engagement

Each class will also have a volunteer service component.

## **Up With Trees**

Location: Tulsa, OK

Website: <https://www.upwithtrees.org/get-involved/citizen-foresters/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Tulsa's top arborists – experts from Up With Trees, the City of Tulsa, Public Service Co. of Oklahoma, the OSU Extension Office and Tulsa Community College – join efforts to offer this program to Tulsans.

Citizen Foresters receive 16 hours of training, learning how to identify tree species, how to plant and maintain trees, and the value of urban forestry awareness and education.

Operation Details: from the website

THE “P’S OF TREES” CITIZEN FORESTER CLASSES: Planning, Planting, Preserving and Promoting Tulsa’s Urban Forest.

When: Classes are every February.

Where: Up With Trees building at 1102 S Boston Ave in downtown Tulsa

Cost: tax-deductible donation of \$65 (includes all materials, and scholarships are available)

Lunch will be provided after class on the last day

In addition to the training and materials, Citizen Foresters receive:

- Free admittance to continuing education courses
- Up With Trees car decal
- Up With Trees Citizen Forester shirt and hat
- Opportunities to join Tulsa tree-identification nature hikes hosted by Tulsa arborists.

After the Classes:

To become a Citizen Forester, graduates will be asked to invest 15 hours of volunteer work annually (working with a pruning team, with the Up With Trees crew, or at events) and to take 3 hours of continuing education each year.

**Program: Trees Atlanta TreeKeepers**

Location: Atlanta, GA

Website: <http://treesatlanta.org/our-programs/treekeepers/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

TreeKeepers is an opportunity for the serious tree enthusiast. The volunteer training and certification program features workshops, presentations, indoor and outdoor activities, and hands-on demonstrations. TreeKeepers graduates will be certified stewards of Atlanta's urban forest, and eligible to help lead ongoing volunteer projects.

Program Highlights:

TreeKeepers is a comprehensive program offering:

- workshops, activities, and educational training
- direct instruction with tree professionals and Trees Atlanta staff members
- certification that will allow graduates to lead future projects
- a field guide full of invaluable resources and important information for tree care
- exposure to leadership opportunities through community outreach programs

Operation Details: from the website

The program consists of seven sessions that feature indoor and outdoor activities, presentations, and hands-on demonstrations. This program gives participants an in-depth exposure to every aspect of urban forest stewardship. The TreeKeepers program is taught by community tree professionals and members of the Trees Atlanta staff. Training is suited for all levels of botanical knowledge, and the workshops include instruction on Atlanta's trees and urban forest, programs on tree planting and care, management of disease and invasive species, and project leadership through community outreach.

Upon completion of the certification program, graduates will be provided opportunities to put their new knowledge into action. All TreeKeeper graduates receive a citizen's field guide full of valuable resources and information, as well as an official TreeKeepers hat, a manual, and a native tree. Graduates also receive a signed certificate upon completion of 24 volunteer hours with tree projects through Trees Atlanta or a similar organization.

To assist with these hours, Trees Atlanta has regular planting, tree care, and forest restoration projects where TreeKeeper leadership is invaluable. TreeKeepers may also choose to work independently in their own community.



To Become a TreeKeeper:

The Trees Atlanta TreeKeepers volunteer training and certification program is our most expansive offering for the true tree enthusiast. TreeKeepers takes place each year in August and September. We will open registration for the program in June. Seven three-hour workshops include programs suited for all levels of botanical knowledge and will cover:

- Atlanta's Trees & Urban Forests
- Tree Selection, Planting, and Care
- Tree Diseases and Invasive Plants
- Proper Tree Pruning
- Project Leadership and Community Outreach

Trees Atlanta also offers pruning classes, as well as other educational opportunities including Tree Walks and Lunch & Learns, throughout the year.

**Program: Louisville Grows and Love Louisville Trees**

Location: Louisville, KY

Website: <http://www.louisvillegrows.org/what-we-do/urban-forestry/forestry-training/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Louisville Grows operates two main programs: one in urban agriculture and the other in urban forestry. As part of their urban forestry program, Louisville Grows offers Citizen Forestry 101 training. Love Louisville Trees is a companion organization that organizes tree planting events and advocates for greater tree coverage in urban areas.

Love Louisville Trees (LLT) provides urban forestry training to build community capacity in urban forest management and stewardship and organizes tree-planting events to assist with the reforestation of Louisville's neighborhoods. LLT works to educate the public on the benefits of an urban forest, helps to guide neighborhood coordinators in the development of annual tree planting and maintenance events, and provides trees to financially challenged areas in our community. Through encouragement and community engagement, citizens are trained in proper tree selection, planting and on-going maintenance. LLT understands that for an urban forestry program to be effective LLT must engage and recruit students, residents, business owners, and all members of our community to take ownership of their urban forest.

The LLT Program was created in response to recent research demonstrating that not only does Louisville have one of the fastest rising heat indices in the USA, but also has a significantly lower level of tree coverage compared to similar cities. Recent tree mortality from invasive pests, storm damage, lack of citizen forestry skills and the absence of a developed city plan has contributed to higher pollution levels, poor storm water management, and barren urban landscapes. LLT organizes tree planting events in neighborhoods near the urban core, where large trees can have the biggest impact as they cool streets by providing shade, purify air, beautify streets, and absorb and purify storm water. Trees planted on residential properties can reduce utility bills and raise the value of property, particularly important in low-income neighborhoods where canopy development has often been neglected.

Operation Details: from the website

These are the programs organized and offered by Louisville Grows:

- Urban Forestry Training: Each year, Love Louisville Trees offers a series of workshops taught by certified arborists and guest speakers to students and the general public.

- **Citizen Forestry Training:** The Citizen Forestry Training is the foundation of the Love Louisville Trees Planting Program. Through the Citizen Forestry 101 and 102 courses, participants learn how to build and maintain their neighborhood and community forests. Participants are taught basic tree anatomy and physiology, environmental stewardship, tree identification and selection, young tree pruning, and how to teach others how to properly plant and care for their trees. Citizen Foresters who have participated in 2 planting day events are eligible to become Community Foresters.
- **Community Forestry Training:** The Community Forestry Training Program is offered once per year to eligible Citizen Foresters who are interested in learning how to plan, organize, and coordinate tree planting and maintenance events in Louisville. Community Foresters will supervise Citizen Foresters and Youth Foresters during planting events, and will be on track to become Certified Arborists.
- **Youth Forestry Training:** Twice per year, high school students have the opportunity to become stewards of Louisville's urban canopy through the Youth Forester Training program (YFTP). The YFTP is designed to cultivate leadership and environmental awareness as students prepare to lead groups of volunteers during tree planting events at local schools. Youth Foresters are encouraged to continue their education through the Citizen Forestry training Program.



**Program: Heartland Tree Alliance Bridging the Gap TreeKeepers**

Location: Kansas City, MO

Website: <https://www.bridgingthegap.org/treekeepers/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The goal of Tree Keepers is to provide a corps of trained volunteers as a resource for local municipalities, school districts, and neighborhood associations in the Kansas City region. Tree Keepers lead tree planting, pruning, and maintenance projects in Missouri communities.

It has been said that it requires five years to plant a tree: one hour to actually plant it, and the remainder of the time to ensure that it becomes properly established. Research has shown that the average street tree lives less than ten years due to the harsh conditions of the urban environment.

While local municipalities are responsible for the preservation, protection and maintenance of all city trees, economic realities have limited the ability of some communities to provide adequate attention to young trees. Small and newly planted trees have the highest mortality rate and therefore need the most help; committed Tree Keepers are able to address these needs.

Tree Keepers receive training in environmental awareness and basic arboricultural principles. Through twelve hours of classroom time and six hours of outdoor training, participants learn about tree identification, site suitability, proper planting techniques, after planting care and pruning. Upon completion of the course, Tree Keepers are asked to give 24 hours of volunteer time to the Heartland Tree Alliance for municipal tree care projects around the Kansas City metropolitan region. If participants miss a class during the training, they can make it up at a later date.

Operation Details: from the website

Missouri TreeKeeper Course:

Burr Oak Woods  
1401 NW Park Rd, Blue Springs, MO 64015

\$50 pp – includes manual and handouts

In 2015, HTA is offering a condensed, day-time TreeKeepers course (perfect for City employees, landscape providers, Master Gardeners, students and retirees). All sessions will be held at Burr Oak Woods and the field sessions will take place on the same grounds (all tools will be provided). Participants will have a 30-minute lunch break in-between sessions.

**Tuesday, June 2: 9:00 – 1:30 pm**

Introduction to Trees | Urban Soils and Basic Tree Biology

Instructor: Chuck Conner, Urban Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation

**Tuesday, June 9: 9:00 – 1:30 pm**

Tree ID Field Day | Planting

Instructor: Chuck Conner, Urban Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation

**Tuesday, June 16: 9:00 – 3:30 pm**

Pruning | Tree Problems | Pruning & Planting Field Day

Instructor: Chuck Conner, Urban Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation

Class Descriptions:

The Urban Forest – an intro to trees and identification

Participants will learn about the social, environmental and economic benefits trees provide.

The class will also give an introduction to tree identification, including leaf shape and arrangements and other characteristics used to identify trees. Participants will also learn about reference books and how to use a tree identification key and get hands-on practice using the key in the field. The class includes an introduction to how people can become advocates for the community forest. Upon completing this class, participants will: 1. Understand the benefits of trees. 2. Understand how to use a tree identification key. 3. Understand tree identification characteristics, including leaf shape and arrangements, twigs, fruit, bark and form. 4. Understand the various ways to advocate for the community forest.

Urban Soils and Basic Tree Biology

Participants will learn about soils, their function, physical properties, pH, and essential elements in soils. They also learn the basic parts of the tree and their function, as well as their role in the health and survival of trees. The course includes information on biological processes in trees. Upon completing this class, participants will: 1. Understand the function and formation of soil. 2. Understand the properties and components of soil and the impact they have on tree growth. 3. Understand pH and the role it plays in nutrient availability. 4. Understand fertilizers and how they relate to soil. 5. Understand parts of a tree and their role

in the health and survival of trees. 6. Understand photosynthesis and other basic tree processes. 7. Understand how trees respond to injury.

#### Tree Planting (includes outdoor session)

Participants will learn why trees struggle in an urban environment. Participants will also learn about site characteristics and how to select the right species of tree for the right location. Proper planting techniques will be covered, as well as information on watering, mulching, fertilizing, and staking. This workshop includes an outdoor session where participants will get hand-on experience planting a tree. Upon completing this class, participants will: 1. Understand the impact the urban environment has on trees. 2. Understand site characteristics and how to select the right tree for the right location. 3. Understand proper planting technique. 4. Understand proper watering, mulching, and staking technique. 5. Understand when trees need watered and staked.

#### Tree Pruning (includes outdoor session)

Participants will learn about proper tree pruning technique. This class will also cover the appropriate times to prune and the tools you should use. This session includes an outdoor session where participants will get hands-on experience pruning trees. Upon completing this class, participants will: 1. Understand proper pruning technique. 2. Understand when it is appropriate to prune. 3. Understand the tools to use when pruning and the safe way to use them.

#### Tree Problems

Participants will learn about the various insects and diseases that affect trees. This class also covers hazard trees from an informational standpoint only, understanding that hazard trees can only be identified by a professional. Upon completing this class, participants will: 1. Understand the various diseases that affect trees. 2. Understand the various insects that affect trees. 3. Understand to whom you should report tree problems.

In addition to classroom instruction, the Tree ID and Pruning classes have two Saturday outdoor field sessions for hands-on learning. Classes are taught by trained, certified, and experienced foresters and arborists, including staff members from the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Kansas Forest Service, the Extension services of the University of Missouri and Kansas State University, local counties and municipalities and local tree care services.

Although it presents a great deal of in depth information, Tree Keepers is not intended to be a substitute for professional certification. Graduates are asked to volunteer 24 hours to HTA,

primarily in the care for young trees on public property in the Kansas City region. Those who donate 24 hours become designated as Tree Stewards.

**Program: Columbia TreeKeepers**

Location: Columbia, MO

Website: <https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Opportunities/treekeepers.php>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

TreeKeepers trains volunteers in proper care and maintenance of trees.

TreeKeepers agree to donate at least 36 volunteer hours for City of Columbia tree care projects. All projects are scheduled on Saturday mornings. Training includes the classes listed below, with Saturday labs.

Operation Details: from the website

TreeKeepers Classes:

- Tree Identification, presented by Eric Schmittel
- Bio-Diversity, Exotics & Vegetation Management, presented by Dave Dittmer
- Insects & Disease, presented by Rose-Marie Muzika
- Tree Planting, presented by Ryan Russell
- Pruning Trees, presented by Angela Belden
- City Ordinance, Landscaping & Tree Preservation, presented by Chad Herwald

Not only do participants gain book knowledge, but they also receive field training and experience to reinforce what they have learned. After completion of the course, participants are provided opportunities to put their new knowledge into action in very visible ways, making a difference in the city.

TreeKeepers receive an official TreeKeepers polo shirt and a certificate when they have fulfilled 36 hours of volunteer service to tree projects.

TreeKeepers volunteers:

- Complete the TreeKeepers course.
- Agree to assist the City in organized tree care projects when available, donating at least 36 hours of volunteer time. Projects take place on Saturday mornings. Projects include a variety of activities including planting, pruning, mulching, invasives removal & general maintenance under supervision of the Forester.

- Use standard hand tools and equipment to plant, prune, remove, water, fertilize, and mulch trees.
- Perform manual labor, including bending, stooping, digging, reaching, and lifting.
- Work cooperatively with City staff, volunteers, and general public.
- Work outdoors, often during varied weather conditions (heat, cold, rain, etc.)

**Program: Louisiana Urban Forestry Council Citizen Forester Program**

Location: Louisiana

Website: <http://www.louisianaurbanforestry.org/content.cfm?id=591>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The goal of the Citizen Forester Program is to provide a pool of volunteers for local municipalities, school districts and neighborhood associations throughout Louisiana. Modeled off Missouri ForestReleaf's "Tree Keepers," the Citizen Forester Program provides trained volunteers to lead tree planting, pruning and maintenance projects in Louisiana communities. Graduates of the program are called "Tree Troopers."

The Citizen Forester Program first started in Louisiana in 2003 by Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful in Metairie, LA, through the implementation of an "Urban and Community Forestry" grant. Since then, a number of Citizen Forester Programs have been held again in Metairie, as well as in New Orleans, Covington, Pineville, the Bayou Region (Terrebonne/Lafourche/St. Mary Parish); and, in Ville Platte. The Louisiana Urban Forestry Council fully supports the program through partial funding and organizational techniques. It is the goal of the LUFC to have three Citizen Forester Programs held in Louisiana each year.

Local municipalities are responsible for the preservation, protection and maintenance of all city trees. Unfortunately, economic realities have limited the ability of some communities to provide enough attention to young trees. Research has shown that the average street-tree lives less than ten years due to the harsh conditions of the urban environment. Small and newly planted trees have the highest mortality rate and, therefore, need the most help. The committed volunteers of the Citizen Forester Program are able to address these needs. Since it does not take a college degree in forestry to make a difference, anyone can prune dead or broken branches, water during dry periods, mulch around trees and monitor urban forest health. Addressing these basic needs during the early years in the life of a tree increases the odds that it will survive and thrive.

Operation Details:

Tree Troopers receive training in environmental awareness and basic arboricultural principals. Through nine hours of classroom and three hours of outdoor training, participants learn about tree identification, site suitability, proper planting techniques, after planting care and pruning. Upon graduating from the program, Tree Troopers commit to 20 hours of volunteer work on municipal- or public-related projects in their home area.





**Program: City of Dallas Citizen Forester Program**

Location: Dallas, TX

Website: [http://dallastrees.org/?page\\_id=91](http://dallastrees.org/?page_id=91) and [http://dallastrees.org/?page\\_id=99](http://dallastrees.org/?page_id=99)

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The Citizen Forester program is a community volunteer opportunity for Dallas residents who want to help restore, enhance and conserve their urban forest.

Sponsored by UFAC and Dallas' Parks Department, the program is a combination of classroom instruction and actual field training. This training regimen enables citizens to learn basic tree skills that promote tree plantings in their neighborhood while also advocating the importance of Dallas' urban forests. Implemented in 2007, the program has already graduated over 50 citizen foresters.

Operation Details: from the website

- Program - Classes typically are held once a month over a 5-month period, and are generally 2-3 hours in length followed by 1-2 hours of field training. Evening and weekend classes are occasionally scheduled but future schedule formats are subject to change. The classes are organized and led by Dallas City Forester Karen Woodard. Past speakers included members of the Committee, City of Dallas staff, Agrilife Extension Experts and other arborists and forestry professionals/experts. To graduate, continuous attendance is required.
- Curriculum:
  - Tree identification
  - Planting and pruning skills
  - Benefits of trees
  - Tree diseases and pathogens
- Cost and availability - The forester program is open to all area residents, no experience is required and the cost is \$75.00 per person. Please note, space is limited but the committee will do its best to accommodate interested residents.
- Post-graduation volunteer requirements - Upon graduation, citizen foresters are required to return fifteen volunteer hours annually back to the city by assisting with a variety of city tree plantings and various tree related projects. They become the eyes, ears and hands for the City Arborists on tree safety and hazards issues. Moreover, Citizen Foresters are taking a greater role in public education about trees.



**Program: Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council Citizen Forester Program**

Location: 17 counties (Archer, Clay, Cooke, Denton, Erath, Hood, Jack, Johnson, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker Somerville, Stevens, Tarrant, Wichita, Wise and Young) in north Central Texas

Website: <http://www.ctufc.org/citizenforester.htm>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Entering its 9th year, the Citizen Forester program presents a wonderful opportunity for individuals to become skilled at planting, pruning, and maintaining trees in an urban environment. It also provides interested persons with the chance to get involved with local city and county agencies and help their community take care of its public trees.

Operation Details: from the website

Participants receive 36 combined hours of classroom instruction and “hands-on” field training. Training sessions will be held in Denton from 9 am to 4 pm on one Wednesday each month from September to January. Topics include identification of recommended native and adapted trees, proper hands-on planting and pruning experience, benefits of trees, tree risk assessment, conducting tree inventories, common insect and disease pests of trees, and other relevant urban forestry topics.

With the skills acquired through the program and through the guidance of parks and recreation professionals, Citizen Foresters are making lasting contributions to community forests throughout North Texas. In exchange for their training, Citizen Forester volunteers provide a minimum of 25 hours of community service to their local town, city or county during the first year, and 20 hours of community service annually, towards projects that involve trees on public property. In addition, volunteers are required to earn 5 hours of continuing education each year, which also count towards the 20 hours of community service.

Since the program’s inception in 2006, Citizen Foresters have proven to be an invaluable resource to municipalities striving to stay abreast of public tree management. In a relatively short time period, these dedicated volunteers have provided thousands of volunteer hours towards:

- o Planting trees
- o Conducting tree inventories of local parks
- o Maintaining the tree inventory of a municipal tree farm which is used for neighborhood tree planting programs

- o Pruning trees growing in street medians and along major commercial corridors managed by park and recreation professionals
- o Staffing educational outreach and tree give-away events
- o Completing urban forestry filing and data entry projects
- o Inspecting parade routes for low limbs overhanging the street.

The training class is limited, with each county in the 17-county Cross Timbers region guaranteed at least one slot. There is \$50 registration fee upon acceptance into the program to help pay for related program expenses. Limited scholarships are available. Participants are also responsible for out-of-pocket travel and lunch expenses.

**Program: Keep Midland Beautiful TreeKeepers**

Location: Midland, TX

Website: <http://keepmidlandbeautiful.org/programs/treekeepers>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Started by KMB in 1996, this organization of volunteers continues to provide education and resources for tree planting and care in Midland.

Midland TreeKeepers is a group of volunteers affiliated with Keep Midland Beautiful who love trees and are dedicated to maintaining the health and beauty of trees in Midland, Texas. From professional arborists to the lay tree-lover, the TreeKeepers are a diverse group with a common interest: keeping Midland's urban forest alive and well. Members participate in educational and community events centered around tree care. Members plant trees, prune them and arm others with the knowledge they need to see their trees thrive.

Operation Details: from the website

Midland TreeKeepers works in partnership with the City of Midland Parks Department with support from the Texas Forest Service and Texas Cooperative Extension. Membership is open to anyone willing to volunteer their time in support of the group's activities. Training in basic horticultural principles and tree maintenance techniques will be provided to members by experienced professionals. Funds for equipment, administrative and other group expenses are generated through grants and donations obtained by Keep Midland Beautiful.

Keep Midland Beautiful invites everyone between the ages of 16 and 100 with an interest in Midland's urban forests to join TreeKeepers. Individuals needing community service hours are encouraged to join. TreeKeepers meet from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM on the first Thursday of the month at Midland Shared Spaces.

**Program: The Park People Community Forester Program**

Location: Denver, CO

Website: <http://www.theparkpeople.org/programs/communityforester.aspx>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

A partnership between The Park People and Denver Parks & Recreation, the *Community Forester Program* empowers individuals to lead tree planting and care activities within the community.

Once trained, Community Foresters can lead and participate in tree planting and care projects in their neighborhoods as well as activities for The Park People, the Denver Forestry Office, and The Mile High Million tree initiative. This is a great opportunity to support the environment, urban greening, community health, and quality of life in Denver.

Operation Details: from the website

**Attendance in Trees 101 is required prior to participation in other workshops.** To become a Community Forester, participants must complete all five workshops. Individuals who do not attend the full workshop series receive the title "Tree Steward" and are able to volunteer in support roles.

**Workshop Descriptions:****Trees 101** *prerequisite for all other workshops* - \$20

Trees 101 teaches the important basics from which other workshops will draw. Hence, participants must attend this workshop before all other workshops. Instructors will cover tree biology and the environmental factors that impact tree growth as well as discuss the benefits of trees and common myths. Participants will also learn what it means to be a Community Forester or a Tree Steward. Participants learn what the program entails and about the various activities that require highly-skilled volunteers and team leaders.

**Tree Planting & Health** - \$20

In this class, participants learn to properly plant balled and burlapped, bare root, and container trees in a safe manner using the concepts of Right Tree, Right Place, Right Way. Participants also become familiar with common tree health issues, disease and pest management, and tree health resources. *Field component included.*

**Tree Pruning - \$20**

By the end of Tree Pruning, participants know why, what, when, and how to properly prune a young tree to promote right-of-way clearance, strong structure, and long-term health. Instructors will also address pruning safety and specialized, outcome-oriented pruning techniques. *Field component included.*

**Tree Identification & Inventory - \$20**

This workshop will provide a brief historic context of Denver's forest, familiarize participants with tree classification and identification methods, and introduce common trees in Denver as well as these trees' characteristics, requirements, and uses. Instructors will also introduce basic tree inventory concepts and tree measurement techniques. *Field component included.*

**Volunteer Leadership & Management - free with registration for the other four courses**

Take volunteerism to the next level... Build leadership and management skills... After attending this workshop, participants will be able to lead and manage community members and other volunteers in activities in which they have been trained during organized Park People and City events. Participants will also be empowered to facilitate effective urban forestry activities in their communities.

**Program: Friends of the Urban Forest**

Location: San Francisco, CA

Website: <http://www.fuf.net/programs-services/community-engagement-education/community-forester-training/>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

Each year, Friends of the Urban Forest offers a series of classes taught by staff and premier guest speakers. Whether prospective citizen foresters are experienced FUF volunteers, or are new to FUF's programs, this is an opportunity to deepen knowledge and experience with trees.

Operation Details: from the website

What is a Community Forester?

Simply put, Community Foresters are FUF's elite "Tree Corps." With their experience in the field, and premier training in many areas of San Francisco Urban Forestry, Community Foresters are leaders in the FUF volunteer community.

How does a resident become a Community Forester?

By signing up for upcoming Community Forester training. Each year the training is taught by premier guest speakers and FUF staff members, and consists of Thursday evening lectures, each followed by a Saturday morning field day.

How much will it cost?

The cost of the entire training is \$250. FUF will waive this fee for any volunteer who commits to spending 40 hours (about a half-day per month for a year) volunteering in a leadership position with FUF — FUF wants volunteers to put new skills to work.

Otherwise, if someone just wants to take an individual class (Thursday/Saturday combo), the cost is \$45.



**Program: San Joaquin Valley Urban Forests Council Citizen Forester Program**

Location: San Joaquin Valley and Fresno, CA

Website: <http://www.caufc.org/sjvufc>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

The San Joaquin Valley Urban Forests Council, TreeFresno, the City of Clovis, CalFire, PG&E, and the Fresno County Master Gardeners have collaborated to create and implement a program to train citizens in the greater Fresno/Clovis area in Urban Forestry Practices.

Operation Details:

The program will train participants in tree biology, tree and site selection, species identification, proper planting and pruning techniques and basic tree care.

The program will consist of 4 classes that will combine both classroom presentations and hands-on experience.

**Program: Tree People**

Location: Coldwater Canyon Park, Los Angeles, CA

Website: <http://www.oak.treepeople.net/citizen-forester-program>

Citizen Forester Programs: from the website

- Urban Forestry – Oriented toward tree planting and follow-up tree care.
- Park Forestry
- Campus Forestry
- Citizen Forester en Español – Spanish language version
- Geographic area specific Citizen Forester programs:
  - Northeast San Fernando Valley
  - South LA

Operation Details: from the website

Tree People provides this detailed action list for an effective citizen forester project:

1. Organize

You will need to build a “Green Team” for your project consisting of several volunteers who will take on leadership roles to help vision, design, organize and implement your greening plan.

2. Assess

Your Green Team will assess, map & record information about your project site.

3. Design

Your Green Team members will create a greening plan that merges their vision with what was learned during the site assessment.

4. Learn

Your Green Team and other community members who are interested in supporting the project will take part in a variety of workshops including volunteer supervision, planting, tree care and pruning, and more.

5. Do

Your Green Team will follow your greening plan that culminates in your Event Day!

6. Maintain

Your Green Team will monitor project health and coordinates care events – a great opportunity for your community to come back together. TreePeople provides FREE training on care and pruning, watering and other hands-on maintenance issues.

#### 7. Acknowledge

Celebrate your accomplishments with your Green Team and community!