

HELP US TRACK THE CHANGE IN OUR CITY'S TREE CANOPY COVER

We have beautiful trees here in Jefferson!

In the last 3 years the City of Jefferson has gathered a lot of useful information about our city's valuable trees and expansive tree canopy. According to a tree inventory completed last year there are 1,081 street trees, 448 park trees, 130 trees around city offices and facilities, and 659 trees on city school campuses. During this inventory we also found that we have 1,491 vacant planting sites on city property!

A measurement of land cover completed in 2010 showed that 56% of the city is covered by tree canopy and 11% is impervious surfaces (pavement and buildings) without tree cover. Another 29% of land is covered by low vegetation, and the remaining 4% is covered in water and bare soil.

We want to keep at least this amount of tree cover as our city grows. This goal of no net loss of tree canopy cover has been officially adopted by the City. In addition, a Sustainable Community Forest Master Plan has been implemented to guide the city in maintaining no net loss and achieving other community forest goals.

But... we don't yet know how our tree canopy, especially the canopy located on private property, is changing on a day-to-day basis. If we are to maintain no net loss, then tree canopy has to be replaced as trees decline, die, or are removed.

You... can help us keep track of the changes in our tree canopy by letting us know about the changes in trees on your property. Let us know if you've planted or removed a tree and give us a little information about those trees.

To do so, download, print, fill out, and return the *tree canopy cover change tracking form* available at www.cityofjeffersonga.com. The information you, your fellow citizens and business owners provide will be summarized annually and used for planning city tree planting activities.

And...keep planting trees! Every tree you plant will help us reach this goal of maintaining our tree canopy and keeping Jefferson growing greener!

For more information on the city's tree canopy, the tracking program, or the *Sustainable Community Forest Management Program*, contact Connie Head, City Forester, at 706.202.5279 or tfshead@aol.com.

CITY OF JEFFERSON, GEORGIA
TREE CANOPY COVER CHANGE REPORT

Report Date _____

Month/Year _____ *to* _____ **Month/Year**

Report Period (month/year) _____

Participant's Name _____

E-mail Address _____

Primary Phone Number _____

Report is for trees on--

(check all that apply)

<i>Private Property</i>	<i>Public Property</i>
Residential Use _____	Street Right-of-Way _____
Commercial Use _____	City Office/Facility _____
Office Use _____	Park _____
Industrial Use _____	School Campus _____

Tree Removal	Trunk DBH*	# Trees	Average Crown Width	# Trees
	<i>1 to 5 inches</i>	_____	<i>1 to 9 feet</i>	_____
	<i>6 to 10 inches</i>	_____	<i>11 to 20 feet</i>	_____
Please indicate the number of trees removed in each category. The total number of trees should be the same in each column.	<i>11 to 15 inches</i>	_____	<i>21 to 30 feet</i>	_____
	<i>16 to 20 inches</i>	_____	<i>31 to 40 feet</i>	_____
	<i>21 to 25 inches</i>	_____	<i>41 to 50 feet</i>	_____
	<i>26 to 30 inches</i>	_____	<i>Greater than 50 feet</i>	_____
	<i>More than 30 inches</i>	_____		_____
	TOTAL	_____	TOTAL	_____

*Trunk diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground; also equivalent to the circumference divided by 3.14

Tree Planting	Type of Trees	# Trees	Trunk Caliper at Time of Planting**	# Trees
Please indicate the number of trees planted in each category. The total number of trees should be the same in each column.	Oaks	_____	1 inch or less	_____
	Maples	_____	2 inches	_____
	Elms	_____	3 inches	_____
	Pine	_____	4 inches	_____
	Magnolias	_____	5 inches	_____
	Dogwoods	_____	6 inches	_____
	Crapemyrtles	_____		_____
	Flowering Pear	_____		_____
	<i>Other (describe)</i>	_____		_____
	_____			_____
	_____			_____
	TOTAL	_____	TOTAL	_____

**Trunk caliper of newly planted trees is measured as the trunk diameter at 6 inches above the ground up to a 4 inch caliper, and 12 inches above the ground for larger trees

Did you know...?
 The City of Jefferson's tree canopy cover as of February 2009 was estimated to be 55.8 percent. The amount of impervious surface in the city was estimated to be 11.3 percent. Because trees provide us with many environmental, social, and economic benefits, the City has adopted a goal of no net loss of tree canopy cover. The information you provide in this tree canopy cover change report will help the city determine how much tree planting is needed each year to offset tree removals and canopy loss. Thank you for your help in this endeavor!

Do you like trees?

Do you want to learn more about how to care for your trees?

Do you have some time to donate to help maintain your city's trees?

**IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO THESE QUESTIONS, THEN YOU
MIGHT BE A BUDDING**

Jefferson Tree Steward

Jefferson's City Forester is signing up people interested in becoming **Jefferson Tree Stewards**.

Tree Stewards will be trained to properly mulch, prune, and inspect small and newly planted trees growing along city streets, in parks, and on city school campuses. With a goal of no net loss of trees, the City is fully implementing an annual tree planting program and could use help with basic maintenance of these new trees. **Tree Stewards** will free up Street Department staff time, save the city money, and ensure that routine maintenance on new trees is completed in a timely and quality manner.

To become a **Tree Steward**, you must:

- Have an interest in trees and their care
- Have the ability to donate at least 16 hours per year (in 2-4 hour blocks and including training) to the city's maintenance program
- Attend a basic tree maintenance workshop
- Complete and pass a short test to become certified to work on city trees
- Be physically able to work outside at least 2 hours at a time, and be on your feet bending to spread pine straw and reaching up to prune trees
- Agree to follow all safety and procedural rules



Jefferson Tree Stewards will receive training, a completion certificate, and discounts on registration fees for any future city tree education programs and on the *2011 Heritage Tree Calendar*. The city will supply all the materials and equipment necessary to complete the tree maintenance tasks in a safe and effective manner.



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROGRAM, call or e-mail Connie Head, Jefferson City Forester, at 706.202.5279 or ifshead@aol.com. I'll send you more information about the program, and then we can get to work keeping Jefferson growing greener!