

REPORT OF THE TREE PLANTING COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

Jodie Bauer
Sandy Hering, *Treasurer*
Leo LaMontagne
Susan Perkins
Betty Jean Rocha
Nancy Souza
Deborah Smiley
Ed Walsh
Roland Cote, *Tree Warden Ex Officio Member*
Ray Andrews, *Chairman*

The Tree Committee would like to thank and recognize the tireless efforts of our outgoing Chairwoman Elaine Botelho. Elaine's hard work and guidance over the past years have steered our committee through the challenges of not only the day-to-day work of the Tree Committee, but also in seeing Mattapoisett receive ***Tree City USA*** recognition.

The tree Committee continues with its mission of selecting and planting trees in town. In 2010, we planted two trees, including locations at the Town Landing and on a scenic street. We are always seeking new sites and donations for our spring tree planting.

We would like to thank the McCrakin family for their generous donation of a ***Crimson King Maple*** at the Town Landing in memory of David Westgate, as well as Mrs. Ann Briggs for her generous donation of a tree for Mattapoisett.

We appreciate NStar's continuing efforts in donating and planting trees to replace those removed due to disease or proximity to electrical lines. Thank you, Tom May of NStar and Paul Sellars, NStar's Arborist. We appreciate and wish to thank all those who have donated tree or funds to the Tree Committee of Mattapoisett.

Nancy Souza, Deborah Smiley, Sandy Hering along with our Tree Warden, Roland Cote, have spent many hours in the continuing effort required to in maintain Mattapoisett's ***Tree City USA*** status. Having been accepted for this recognition, the Tree Committee wishes to thank Mr. Alan Snow of the Department of Conservation and Recreation [Bureau of Forestry, Urban & Community Forestry Program] for his continued guidance in helping Mattapoisett retain this prestigious recognition. Mattapoisett is one of only 87 Massachusetts communities to be so recognized. Being a ***Tree City USA*** offers a certain prestige and prominence for homeowners and businesses. Once again, in the spring, Arbor Day is recognized as a tribute of our town's dedication to our tree canopy of the urban forest. According to Tree City USA, which is supported by the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program, "*Tree City USA programs provide direction, assistance and national recognition to our community by supporting the framework for a sustainable urban forest.*"

This year, the Tree Committee joined with the Center School Sustainability Club in April to offer an evening of education to the students and residents of Mattapoisett in honor of Arbor Day 2010. The event was well attended, and a joy to see all the young students taking an avid interest in our forests and trees.

Planting and caring for trees helps increase energy saving, cleans the air and water and beautifies the entire community and state. Our committee continues to be committed to the beautification of our hometown. Please consider planting a tree next spring or fall at your home or donate a tree to be dedicated on town property. We appreciate donations to plant and preserve our town's trees. For further information, you may contact Sandy Hering at 758-3008 or Ray Andrews at 758-3001

Respectfully submitted

Ray Andrews, Chairman Mattapoisett Tree Committee