



Criteria for City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County TreeVitalize Applicants

Location:

Street trees:

1. Must be planted on land that will be publically accessible for at least 25 years
2. When appropriate, property owner permission to plant has been given in writing
3. Priority to increase the ratio of trees/per person
4. Preference for low/moderate income communities (median household income <\$62,500)
5. Preference for areas identified as having a low tree canopy cover
6. Preference for areas targeted for additional green infrastructure improvements, such as additional tree plantings, green roofs, permeable pavement, or other stormwater remediation projects. .
7. Preference for areas targeted for other types of community improvements, including residential redevelopment, business district reinvestment, and beautification.

Parks/Riverfronts/Natural Areas:

1. Must be planted on land that will be publically accessible for at least 25 years
2. Must be situated near roads or trails to provide access for stewardship
3. Preference for low/moderate income communities (median household income <\$62,500)
4. Preference for areas targeted for additional environmental improvements, including invasive species removal, riparian and forest restoration plantings, habitat improvement, storm water capture and erosion control.
5. Preference for areas with environmental, historical, or cultural significance

Care:

1. Minimum 2 year commitment for tree care including the following:
 - a. Watering at a specified schedule and quantity
 - b. Removing tree stakes 1 year after planting
 - c. Light pruning
 - d. Trash removal if needed
 - e. Monitoring for signs of stress or disease
 - f. Mulching or other ground care if specified
2. Minimum of 1 certified Tree Tender per 10 trees planted



Preferred Indicators of Local Capacity: (*City of Pittsburgh meets Municipal requirements*)

1. Municipalities with a tree ordinance
2. Municipalities with an active shade tree commission/committee, an environmental advisory committee, or other comparable environmentally focused, municipally authorized group
3. Applicant has moderate to high capacity for open space and tree management and maintenance
4. Municipality has an ISA certified arborist under contract or on staff
5. Applicant demonstrates ability to recruit and manage volunteers and coordinate planting and maintenance activities.

Municipal Commitment: (*City of Pittsburgh meets Municipal requirements*)

1. Letter of support from the municipal government (Required)
2. Urban forestry practices are consistent with widely accepted best management practices (Required)
3. Preference will be given when there is an existing municipal or neighborhood tree inventory
4. Preference will be given when there is an existing municipal maintenance plan
5. Preference will be given when there is an existing public education component to urban forestry efforts
6. Preference will be given when municipality expends \$2/capita on urban forestry based on the minimum standard set by TreeCity USA

Species selection:

1. Tree species will be selected based on site conditions, such as power lines, adequate space for curb cuts of 30 square feet (minimum), and other factors specific to the site or context
2. Street tree species will be selected to meet the needs of individual sites with an emphasis on species diversity and shade trees wherever possible
3. Parks, riverfronts, and natural area tree species will be selected to meet the needs of individual sites with an emphasis on native species unless historical or cultural features justify an exception to this