



Hayes Park, Clifton Park, New York

## Wait! Don't Cut Down That Tree!

One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for four people.

Trees lower surface and air temperatures. Shaded surfaces can be 20-45 degrees cooler than the peak surfaces of unshaded materials.

During one year, a mature tree will absorb more than 48 pounds of carbon dioxide.

Trees provide a vital habitat for much wildlife

Carefully positioned trees can reduce a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling by 25%.

Every dollar spent on planting and caring for trees yields benefits that are 2 to 5 times the investment.

Trees increase residential home values!

Source: Arbor Day Foundation

## Who We Are

### About Us

We are an energetic team of concerned residents who have a passion for trees and our town's community forest. We were established by the Town Board in 2021. We are a young committee, and we have a lot of work to do!

### Get in Touch!

We are always interested in new members who are willing to contribute their time to make a difference. We meet at Town Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Please join us!

Contact:

#### Clifton Park Tree Committee

<cliftonpark.tree.committee@gmail.com>

***Please pass on this brochure to a friend. And then, kindly recycle it!***



**TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK  
1 TOWN HALL PLAZA  
CLIFTON PARK, NY 12065  
518.371.6561**

# Clifton Park Tree Committee



***Clifton Park, New York  
Proudly Designated a  
Tree City USA***



Clifton Park was named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in 2022 and has maintained the designation ever since.

## Our Mission

As the steward of Clifton Park's community forest, the Tree Committee works to preserve, protect, and maintain the town's public trees and shrubs to benefit the community now and for generations to come. Current goals:

**Advise** the Town Supervisor, Town Board, and other governing bodies regarding the selection, planting, care, and preservation of public trees and shrubs.

**Serve** as an informational and educational resource for citizens to encourage the planting and preservation of trees on private land that will enhance property values and add to the town's Tree Canopy.

**Maintain** Clifton Park's status as a Tree City USA. Celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees and sponsoring activities and educational programs in coordination with Open Spaces, Shenendehowa schools, the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library, and other organizations.

## Tree Selection & Placement

We want you to plant trees! One of the most common tree questions is: "Which kind of tree should I plant?"

- A deciduous tree that loses its leaves in the fall will provide cooling in the summer while allowing the winter sun to warm a home. An evergreen with dense foliage will provide a windbreak or a screen for privacy. And an ornamental tree will provide beautiful flowers, leaves, or fruit.
- Some trees are considered "invasive species" (e.g., Bradford Pear or Black Locust) and should not be planted in Clifton Park.

---

*"I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues."*

*—From The Lorax*

---

- Consider soil conditions, exposure to wind and sun, drainage, insect and disease susceptibility, and hardiness zone. (We're in Zone 5a.)
- Space constraints are also critical. Check for underground utilities, and plant small trees under power lines. Also, know that some trees have root systems that will grow a lot and may not be good to place near driveways.
- Maintenance of newly planted trees is essential. Who will water, fertilize, and prune the new trees? You will need to water them once a week if there is no rain.

Source: [TreesAreGood.org](https://www.treesaregood.org)



A forest's canopy is the highest layer of the vertical structure

## Tips for Healthy, Happy Trees

Plant trees during the dormant season—in the fall after leaf drop or in early spring before bud break.

Mulch the base of trees to hold moisture, but do it properly: no more than 2"-4" high. Also, have a mulch-free area (1"-2") at the base of the tree. Piling mulch right up against the tree could cause the bark to decay!

Pruning newly planted trees should only be done to remove dead branches; defer other pruning for 2 or 3 years. Check our web page (coming soon!) for tips on proper pruning.

Inspect trees every year for tree vitality: new leaf formation, twig growth, and absence of crown dieback (gradual death of top of tree). Contact an ISA Certified Arborist if needed.

Remember, mature trees do enjoy an occasional hug. 😊

Source: (except the hug) [TreesAreGood.org](https://www.treesaregood.org)