



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NEW JERSEY FOREST SERVICE
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

CATHERINE R. MCCABE
Commissioner

February 20, 2020

Thomas Sears
350 Hudson Ave
Washington, NJ 07676

Dear Mr. Sears:

Congratulations! On behalf of New Jersey Forest Service, I am pleased to inform you that Washington Township's Community Forestry Management Plan is approved for 2020-2024.

A major goal of the state's Community Forestry Program is to educate all municipalities and counties in the state about the benefits of developing their own distinctive Community Forestry Management Plan. As these plans develop, the health of the tree cover will improve, the number of trees will increase and the awareness of our state's residents will rise.

A management plan is an essential guide to successfully achieving a healthy and safe community forest. One of the major points of the Shade Tree and Community Forestry Act is to enable New Jersey's communities to reduce or eliminate their exposure to litigation due to the drastic decline and poor condition of the community tree resource. The basis for this protection is a properly planned local community forestry program implemented through a state approved management plan – as well as a municipal or county participation in the Training skills and Accreditation Program.

If you are a participant in the Green Communities grant program, NJFS will follow-up with you on the documentation required for the reimbursement request.

Please find the enclosed certificate of approval and a signed certification by the State Forester within your management plan.

Sincerely,

Carrie A. Sargeant
Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator

Encl. (2)

eCC: Kris Hasbrouck; Carrie Sargeant, NJFS; Patricia Shapella, NJFS