Street Trees

Why Street Trees?

- Street trees provide natural shade and cool nearby buildings and hot sidewalks
- Trees act as noise reducers and wind blockers
- Trees filter the air of dust and pollution making it cleaner and more breathable
- Healthy trees add beauty! Tree lined streets are a desirable place to live

Soil Improvement for Existing Trees:

- ✓ Adding compost, peat moss and rotted manure can offer much needed nutrition to street trees that are growing in very small spaces in a sidewalk

- ✓ Add soil amendments twice a year in spring and fall to give your trees added nutrients

Watering:

- ✓ Trees will flourish with regular watering during dry spells, especially during hot summer months

- ✓ Water trees at the base slowly and thoroughly – less frequent but deep watering is much more beneficial than frequent but light watering

- ✓ Early morning is the best time to water

Gardening Around Trees:

- ✓ When planting around street trees be careful when digging so as not to damage the tree roots

- ✓ There are many choices for planting under trees including spring flowering bulbs, annual flowering plants such as impatiens and begonias and fragrant herbs – Choose plants that can flourish considering the amount of sunlight they will get

- ✓ When mulching around trees, be careful not to pile the mulch to high around the tree trunk, 2-3 inches maximum

Other Considerations:

Dogs – dog urine is toxic to plants and trees – if dog walkers do not seem to be aware of this, post a sign politely saying "Please curb your dog to preserve the health of this tree"

Theft – Signs explaining that the trees and surrounding plants are cared for by the neighborhood do wonders to deter theft or vandalism – "Welcome to Our Block! Help us be kind to our trees and flowers. Please do not litter, discourage your dog, and enjoy the beauty!" or "These plants are lovingly cared for by our Garden Block Club. If you live on the block and would like to help out …." (contact info of some kind, a person, local store that will provide information, etc.)