

Value of trees

The value of trees in our community is often overlooked but trees make our region more liveable. As we busily go about our days, we don't always stop to think about how trees soften the many harsh aspects of our environment.

Economic Benefits

- Trees attract people and businesses to town.
- Trees absorb carbon – a tradeable commodity.
- Trees add to property values, especially mature trees and fruit trees.

Environmental Benefits

- Trees sustain the long-term environmental health of the community.
- Trees help moderate the effects of our area's harsh climate. They help filter the intensity of the sun and they regulate temperature, wind, snow and rain.
- Forested areas have less water runoff and erosion.
- Trees provide a natural filter to storm water and reduce flooding.
- Groundwater recharge is enhanced in forested areas.
- Trees improve air quality by absorbing carbon and producing oxygen. Trees also filter pollutants and dust from the air.
- Trees provide habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Community Benefits

- Trees provide screening and privacy.
- Trees reduce glare and reflection.
- Trees buffer sound, reducing noise pollution.

Aesthetic Benefits

- Trees add to the beauty and peacefulness of our surroundings.
- Trees contribute positively to our quality of life.
- Trees can serve as a source of community pride.

Health Benefits

- Studies have shown that forested areas like parks can reduce blood pressure and benefit the overall emotional and psychological health of individuals.
- Trees help create recreational areas that can be enjoyed by walkers, runners, cyclists, and more.

Historic Value

- Trees associated with important events create living memorials.
- Old trees may be regarded as important simply because they have lived through eras with which we have few other connections.

