



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
December 9, 2024

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: 10-2025 | A Resolution to Adopt the Tree City USA Principles and Tree Care Standards in the Town of Bladensburg

A Resolution to Adopt the Tree City USA Principles and Tree Care Standards in the Town of Bladensburg

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
Resolution

Recommended Action:

Approval for the Town Administrator to join Tree City USA and for the Town of Bladensburg to adopt Tree City USA Principles.

Item Summary: Resolution 10-2025 affirms the Town's commitment to environmental sustainability, urban forestry, and the overall enhancement of the community's quality of life. By becoming a designated Tree City USA, the Town seeks to align itself with national urban tree care and management standards.

Key Provisions:

Commitment to Tree Management: Establishes the Town's dedication to its urban tree canopy's care, maintenance, and expansion. Recognizes the importance of trees in improving air quality, reducing urban heat, enhancing aesthetics, and providing environmental and social benefits to residents.

Designation of a Tree Board or Department:

- Formalizes the responsibility for overseeing urban forestry efforts within the Town.
- Ensures proper planning, management, and advocacy for tree-related initiatives.

Annual Community Tree Budget: Commits to allocating a portion of the Town's budget to tree care, maintenance, planting, and education. Meets or exceeds the minimum per capita funding requirement to maintain Tree City USA designation.

Tree Care Ordinance Compliance:

- Supports the enforcement of the Town's tree maintenance ordinance to guide the planting, removal, and protection of trees on public property.
- Establishes guidelines for maintaining tree health and public safety.

Arbor Day Observance: Commits the Town to celebrate Arbor Day annually, engaging the community in tree planting events, educational activities, and awareness campaigns.

Impact and Vision:

- **Environmental Stewardship:** Positions Bladensburg as a leader in sustainability and green initiatives within Prince George's County.

- **Community Engagement:** Encourages residents, businesses, and organizations to participate in urban forestry efforts.
- **Long-term Planning:** Ensures the Town's tree canopy continues to grow and thrive, benefiting future generations.

Conclusion: Resolution 10-2025 demonstrates the Town of Bladensburg's proactive approach to urban forestry and environmental sustainability, solidifying its commitment to maintaining a healthy, vibrant, and green community.

The Town Administrator will be available to answer any questions about this matter.

Budgeted Item: Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Budgeted Amount: \$ TBD One-Time Cost: Yes Ongoing Cost:	Continued Date:
Council Priority: Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>]	Approved Date: