

HERITAGE TREE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

As a Tree City, the Village of Plainfield recognizes that trees are a valuable community resource and that effective forestry management results in lasting and continuous benefits to our residents. Trees provide aesthetic value, help with erosion, reduce air pollution, lower heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, produce oxygen, and provide countless health benefits to residents. As such, the Village established a Heritage Tree Recognition Program to promote tree conservation by recognizing trees that add to the value, aesthetics, and character of the Village of Plainfield.

WHAT IS A HERITAGE TREE?

To be considered for recognition as a Heritage Tree, a tree must be at least 50 years old and meet minimum size requirements for its species. A tree can be nominated based on its size, beauty, historical significance, or any quality that makes the tree special. For example, the tree may be listed on the state or national registries, associated with a historic event or person, planted for Arbor Day or in memory of an individual or event, provide a unique habitat for wildlife, be of a unique or rare species, or simply be a tree or grove of trees with aesthetic qualities.

HOW IT WORKS:

- 1** The Plainfield Historic Preservation Commission will nominate a tree (or trees) each year for recognition through the Heritage Tree Program. Nominations may also be accepted from the community.
- 2** The Public Works Department will inspect the nominated trees and consult with the property owner, if applicable, and determine if the tree fits the Village's criteria for recognition.
- 3** If approved, the Public Works Department will notify the property owner of the recognition and provide information on the tree which will be entered into the Heritage Tree Registry that is published on the Village's web site.
- 4** Recognition of the trees will take place in conjunction with the Village's annual celebrations for Arbor Day in April and Preservation Month in May.
- 5** Please note: this program is voluntary, non-binding, and there are no additional requirements for the preservation of trees on the registry.