

PARK PICKS
by
FRIENDS OF THE ALLENTOWN PARKS

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Image Erv Evans
NC State University

Red Maple Tree—Red Sunset
(*Acer Rubrum*)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Street trees to be planted on Gordon Street, Allentown between 6th and 9th Streets

For 33 years (and counting) Allentown has had the honor of being designated a **Tree City USA** community. That designation comes partially from the city's various tree planting initiatives including implementation of a TreeVitalize program, a public-private partnership to help restore tree cover in Pennsylvania's metropolitan areas.

The Allentown Dept. of Parks and Recreation in collaboration with the Allentown Shade Tree Commission, 7th Street Development Committee, Old Allentown Preservation Association and Friends of the Allentown Parks will bring the benefit of 37 beautiful trees to the 600, 700 and 800 blocks of Gordon Street. Preparatory work for this public improvement project will likely begin the week of April 4 and culminate with tree plantings on April 16. The Red Sunset red maple tree (see inset) and the London Planetree will be the predominant trees.

If you would like to volunteer for the April 16 tree planting please contact the 7th Street Development Committee at 610-433-5703.

Owners of property which abut a public right of way that has a shade tree growing in the public right of way may wish to become familiar with Ordinance Number 14863 Article 911 which advises public responsibilities once the trees are planted. Questions and requests for assistance may be made of the 7th Street Development Committee at 610-433-5703 or the Old Allentown Preservation Association at 610-740-9919.

Partial funding for this tree planting initiative comes from a TreeVitalize grant provided by the County of Lehigh.

The Benefits of Trees

The following poem provides more pleasurable reading than mere text regarding the importance and true benefit of trees.

"Trees of the Fragrant Forest" - excerpt from a poem by Henry Cuyler Bunner

Trees of the fragrant forest,
With leaves of green unfurled,
Through summer's heat, through winter's cold,
What do you do for our world?

Our green leaves catch the raindrops
That fall with soothing sound.
Then drop them slowly, slowly down,
Tis better for the ground.

When, rushing down the hillside,
A mighty fresher foams,
Our giants trunks and spreading roots
Defend your happy homes.

From burning heat in summer
We offer cool retreat,
Protect the land in winter storm
From cold, and wind and sleet.

Our falling leaves in autumn
By breezes turned and tossed,
Will rake a deep sponge-carpet warm,
Which saves the ground from frost.

We give you pulp for paper,
Our fuel gives you heat;
We furnish lumber for your homes,
And nuts and fruit to eat.

With strong and graceful outline,
With branches green and bare,
We fill the land through all the year,
With beauty everywhere.



Last vestiges of winter - Cedar Creek Parkway

Park visitors
Mary
&
Bindy



Magnolia tree with snow

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