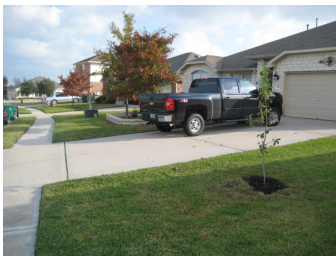


Neighborhoods were often planted with a large percentage of one or two types of fast growing and short lived trees such as Arizona ash and Bradford pear or with 90% live oak trees. Either of these scenarios is a recipe for trouble when examining the health of the urban forest. The urban forest is comprised of all the trees in a community on both public and private property. A healthy urban forest has a wide diversity of age and species so that no more than 10% of any given species make up its composition. This protects a community from suffering catastrophic losses due to species specific insect or disease infestation such as Dutch elm disease or oak wilt.

To diversify the age and species of the urban forest, the City of Pflugerville has implemented the NeighborWoods program to offer 800 free street trees to residents each year. In addition to improving the diversity of the urban forest, street trees reduce the urban heat-island effect, increase storm water infiltration, improve air quality, provide wildlife habitat, and improve the quality of life for all citizens by providing peaceful, shaded streets. In exchange for free tree(s), recipients are required to plant and water their tree for the next two years and in periods of drought. Planting locations and the quantity offered are based on criteria including minimum distances from sidewalks, driveways, streets, utilities, other trees, street signs, intersections and storm sewers. Shade trees offered include chinquapin oak, live oak, cedar elm, and lacey oak. Small trees offered include mountain laurel, flameleaf sumac, American smoketree, Mexican plum.



NeighborWoods is a partnership between neighborhood residents, the City of Pflugerville's forestry program, the Tree Care Advisory Board, the non-profit group TreeFolks, Discover Green, and individual volunteers. The NeighborWoods program will be presented at the Heatherwilde HOA meeting on June 9, 2010 at 7 pm at the Heatherwilde clubhouse at 16800 Cactus Blossom Drive.



NeighborWoods needs volunteer help to be successful! Attend one of the three NeighborWoods trainings to help your neighborhood benefit from this program. Volunteer opportunities include canvassing the neighborhood, delivering trees, data entry, or helping homeowner's plant trees. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer, please call the city arborist, April Rose at 512-990-6328 or email at: trees@cityofpflugerville.com.

Tentative Timeline:

- 🌳 Heatherwilde HOA Meeting: June 9, 2010 at 7 pm
- 🌳 Volunteer training @ Heatherwilde Clubhouse:
 - Wednesday July 7, 6:00 pm
 - Saturday July 31, 10 am
 - Thursday August 12, 7 pm
- 🌳 Neighborhood canvassing: August 1 - 27
- 🌳 Data entry: As received through September 17
- 🌳 Residents receive order confirmation postcard: Week of September 27
- 🌳 Residents receive tree(s) and planting instructions: Week of October 11

