

The Benefits of Healthy Urban Forests

Pam Hemminger
Mayor, Chapel Hill



Peace & Justice Plaza,
Franklin Street

Downtown Chapel Hill



West Franklin toward Carrboro



140 West Plaza



West Rosemary
Street

Land Use Management Ordinance Section 5.7

Effective Date: March 1, 2011

Tree Canopy Coverage Standards: Under Section 5.7.2 Tree Canopy Coverage Standards, (a) Minimum Canopy Coverage Standards, the Ordinance states that the Town desires to maintain the maximum practical tree canopy cover across all land uses within the Town's jurisdiction.

When tree canopy is subject to provisions of this Section, the following minimum tree canopy coverage percentages are required within the zoning lot boundaries exclusive of public right-of-way:

Minimum Tree Canopy Coverage Standards	
Land Use	Minimum Canopy Coverage
Multi-Family Residential	30%
Commercial (Use Group C and Business, Office; Clinic; Funeral Home; and Hotel/Motel)	30%
Institutional (Use Group B)	40%
Mixed Use, Other	40%

Chapel Hill Public Library



EXPLORE MORE at Pritchard Park

- Outdoor nature play areas
- Nature backpacks for kids & families
- Environmental, science-based programs
- Tools and resources for citizen science projects





Chapel Hill Library

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Tell you what, Eagle Scouts get stuff done. Christopher built this bench for skywatching. It's going up on the hill in the park.

[#ExploreMore](#)





Town Website – Tree Protection webpage

Rosemary Street Public Improvement Project

► Coal Ash Disposal Site Remediation Project

Community Broadband

Legislative Updates

Community Survey

Construction Around Chapel Hill

Coyotes

Deer in Chapel Hill

Our Muslim Neighbors

When It Floods in Chapel Hill

Homelessness

BREATHE Chapel Hill! Our Smoke-free Community

Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Options

Toward a Sustainable Community

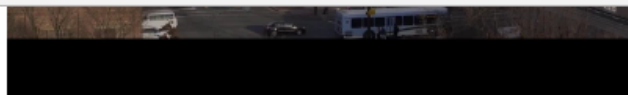
Towing From Private Lots

► TREE PROTECTION

Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Report to the Community

Rosemary Street Public Improvement Project (copy)



Arbor Day Celebrations

Arbor Day was set by the Chapel Hill Town Council in 2000 as the first Friday after Nov. 15.

Each year the Town celebrates trees at its Arbor Day ceremony by planting one or more trees at a Town-owned facility such as a park or entryway. Its recognition as being a Tree City USA is presented from the North Carolina Forest Service's Orange County Office.

The first Arbor Day in the United States took place in April 1872 in Nebraska where it is said that an estimated one million trees were planted. Each state now chooses its own date on which to observe the holiday. North Carolina celebrates on the first Friday following March 15, but Chapel Hill doesn't follow the rest of the state.

Tree City USA

To be named a Tree City, a town or city must meet four core standards set by the National Arbor Day Foundation: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day.



(Nov. 18, 2016) Mayor Pam Hemminger reads a proclamation to a second-grade class from Scroggs Elementary School.

Tree Protection

The Tree Protection Ordinance is part of a continued commitment to sustainability with the potential to reduce carbon emissions and decrease the urban "heat-island" effect. The Town Council adopted a Tree Protection Ordinance that identified tree canopy as a resource to be considered during development applications in Chapel Hill. The ordinance calls for a balanced approach to protecting trees without over regulation of residential properties and property owners.

To access the Tree Protection Ordinance, see Appendix A, Article 5.7 in of the [Chapel Hill Code of Ordinances Tree Protection Ordinance](#)

Two support documents that assist with measuring and calculating tree canopy:

- [Tree Canopy Measurement Template](#) (for the Design Manual)
- [Steps for Measuring Canopy](#) (for the Design Manual)

Communicating about tree removal

Tree Replacement: 175 E. Franklin St.

A pistachio tree near Four Corners restaurant (175 E. Franklin St.) is in poor health and is scheduled to be replaced.

Post Date: 08/13/2018 1:53 PM

A pistachio tree near Four Corners restaurant (175 E. Franklin St.) is in poor health and is scheduled to be replaced.

The Town's arborist has been closely monitoring the tree for two years and has found that the tree's health will not improve, posing a potential hazard to people in the area if it's not removed.

Town crews are scheduled to remove the tree on Wednesday, Sept. 5. The parking spaces near the removal will be closed as well as the sidewalk and alleyway. The work will take place from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The replacement tree will be a species native to North Carolina. It will be planted in the fall, giving it the greatest chance to thrive.

Tree City

The Town of Chapel Hill, which has a strong commitment to sustainability and interest in decreasing the urban "heat-island" effect, regrets when trees must be replaced. Our Tree Protection Ordinance identifies tree canopy as an important community value. We are proud that this year marks our 18th year as a Tree City, a designation from the national Arbor Day Foundation. Visit our Trees webpage at townofchapelhill.org/trees.

More Information

For more information, contact Park Maintenance Superintendent Kevin Robinson at 919-969-5104 or krobinson@townofchapelhill.org.
