

## TREE PRESERVATION & REGULATIONS

In 2007, Mayor Holtzinger committed the City of Frederick to participate in the Maryland Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) Initiative, whereby the State has recommended an average of 40% canopy coverage for municipalities. Our City's tree canopy is estimated at only 20%.

On April 15, 2010, the City of Frederick Mayor and Board of Aldermen adopted the 2010 City of Frederick Urban Forestry Management Plan (Plan), with the vision statement for the City of Frederick to *"have a safe, healthy, and diverse tree canopy by promoting tree preservation and planting."*



### **Passed in 1914, the Maryland Roadside Tree Law**

was developed to protect roadside trees. A "roadside tree" is any tree that grows, all or in part, within the public right-of-way of a street. A Tree Care Permit must be obtained from the Maryland State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Service prior to any trimming or removal of a roadside tree.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.sha.maryland.gov/index.aspx?PageId=221>.

The City's Arborist, Josh Dunk, can also assist in determining if a tree is subject to these requirements. Please feel free to call for assistance (301-600-1233).

### **Penalty in accordance with Subtitle 4 Section 5.406(e)** –

A person who trims, cuts, removes, or injures a roadside tree in violation of a regulation adopted under Section 5-402 of the Annotated Code of Maryland or a permit issued under this section of the Code or who fails to obtain a permit as required by this section is liable for the imposition of a penalty:

- (1) Not exceeding \$2,000 for a first offense; and
- (2) Not exceeding \$5,000 for a second or subsequent offense.



The benefits of planting trees and forested areas are not immediately recognizable; however, by planting trees today, we take steps towards assuring that these benefits will be enjoyed by generations of City residents to come.

Trees:

- increase property values;
- remove air pollutants and improve air quality;
- make parks more desirable;
- restore rivers and streams; and
- are a valuable tool for wastewater treatment.

For assistance in planting a tree, you can visit the DNR website:

<http://www.trees.maryland.gov/> or consult with our City Arborist, Tom Rippeon, in selecting the appropriate type of tree for the desired location.

*Thank you for keeping our City green.*