

You can find more information about the Fund and our activities on our website:

www.cobblehilltreefund.org

You will find information on:

- How to order a tree from the Cobble Hill Tree Fund
- The Benefit of Urban Trees
- Fund events, including the Winter holiday tree chipping and the Spring Plant Sale.
- How you can volunteer and get involved in Fund projects or events
- How you can make a contribution to the Fund

Contributions of any size are greatly appreciated and, best of all, are tax deductible.

If you would like to make a contribution you may contact us at: chtf@cobblehilltreefund.org

Or by phone: Dick Van Bolt (718.625.2929)

Or send a check to:

The Cobble Hill Tree Fund
238 Baltic Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Become a Citizen Tree Pruner.

To obtain further information about the course registration, call the New York City Tree Consortium at 212.227.1887.

How to keep your tree healthy and happy all year round.

To stay healthy and growing, street trees need people. Here are some ways you can help.

Water regularly (once or twice in the Spring, 2-3 times a week during hot, dry weather) using 6 to 8 gallons of water at a time. Buckets of water are best as they allow you to gauge the amount of water you are using. Good soaking also allow the water to reach the roots where it does the most good.

Fertilizer and lime may be helpful. Please contact the Fund for assistance on the correct amounts as over-doing it is harmful to the tree. Loosen the top 2 inches of the soil around your tree on a regular basis. This is done with a rake or a garden claw and allows air and water to reach the roots of your tree more easily.

Salt will kill trees. In winter, use cat litter, sand or commercial non-salt de-icer instead of salt on sidewalks.

Pruning Trees for proper shaping and for preventing broken, diseased or dead branches from causing decay is very important. However, healthy pruning takes some expertise which the Fund can provide for young trees only.

Put a **tree guard** around the tree to protect the tree from car and other damage.

Plant shallow-rooted plants such as impatiens, wax begonias, English and Baltic ivy around your established tree.

Once or twice a year, turn several trowels of peat, moss, compost and dehydrated cow manure into the tree pit to create a more spongy growing medium.

Cover Illustration: Leo & Diane Dillon, LLC.



Q: What is the Cobble Hill Tree Fund?

The Cobble Hill Tree Fund is a charitable trust established by the Cobble Hill Association to plant and maintain trees in the neighborhood of Cobble Hill. It is a group of volunteers who oversee the raising of money and assist in the planting of trees throughout the Cobble Hill neighborhood.

Evolving from the work of George Polimeros, the first “Johnny Appleseed” of Cobble Hill, the Fund, with the help of generous contributions from the residents of Cobble Hill, has planted over 200 trees since 1981. The Fund also undertakes special projects such as the planters at 250 Baltic Street.

Each Spring, the Fund holds a plant sale at the Cobble Hill Park to raise money for tree plantings and tree care. Here, you will find annuals, herbs and perennials to brighten your garden or window boxes. Donations from generous citizens make up the remainder of the Fund.

Q: Who benefits from the Fund?

Everyone does. Trees provide beauty in each of the seasons, homes for birds and small animals, and a source of oxygen - a rare commodity in a city as large as New York City.

Each Fall and Spring, neighborhood residents may buy tax deductible street trees through the Cobble Hill Tree Fund.

The Fund also provides assistance to Block Associations in the form of matching grants for trees and/or tree guards, depending on the availability of funds.

Q: How much does a tree cost?

In 2008, the average cost of a street tree was \$750.00 and included the tree, its planting and a one year guarantee. Additional expenses might include the digging of a tree pit or a wrought iron tree guard should you desire one.

The Fund will make arrangements for the pit and the tree guard and will supervise the work. These costs are also tax deductible.

Q: How does a tree get planted?

Please contact Tom Synnott (718.834.9083), Georgia Willett (718. 237.1585) or Dick Van Bolt (718.625.2929), or go to our website CHTreefund.org, for details.

By New York City law, trees may not be planted in the following locations:

- within 25 feet of another tree
- within 5 feet of a fire hydrant
- within 2 feet of a gas line
- within 20 feet of a corner
- within a bus stop

If you are unsure about the site, the Fund will be pleased to help you. By the end of November the new trees will have been planted.

Q: How do you care for a tree the first year after its planting?

Give your tree 6 to 8 gallons of water each week until the first hard frost (less than 20 degrees for 8 hours). It is helpful to put 3 inches or so of mulch around the tree. This will protect the tender surface roots and get the tree off to a good start. Further information on general street tree care is provided on the back of this brochure.

Q: What kinds of tree will survive in New York City?

Some recommendations by the Forestry Division of the Department of Parks and recreation are:

- Silver Linden
- Honey Locust
- Columnar Oak
- Japanese Zelkova
- Callery Pear
- Pagoda Tree
- Dawn Redwood
- Pin Oak
- Ginkgo

These trees can withstand the rigors of city life.

Remember, all contributions to the Cobble Hill Tree Fund are tax deductible!

Q: Are there any other Fund events I should know about?

Yes, each Winter the Fund sponsors a Holiday Tree-chipping at Cobble Hill Park in conjunction with the Department of Parks and Recreation. Volunteers are most welcome! Please check our website for details.

Q: Who should I contact if I would like to get involved with the Fund?

We hope you will consider getting involved in our all-volunteer organization. We have several on-going projects. Please feel free to contact either Tom Synnott (718.834.9083) or Georgia Willett (718. 237.1585).