



## What is Tree City USA®?

The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation® in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities that more than 120 million Americans call home.

For more information, visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).



## Why are trees important to our community?

- They provide shade.
- They help keep the air clean of pollutants.
- They reduce energy costs.
- They provide resting places and shelter for local wildlife.
- They are unique living resources.
- They are beautiful!



Norway spruces at East Ridge and McDowell Streets.

This brochure was produced by Kevin Carden, Harpers Ferry Tree Committee.

Photographs by Christy Huddle (Norway spruces) and Bob Dawson (all others). Used with permission.

Published January 2011.

*Publication TC-2011-01*



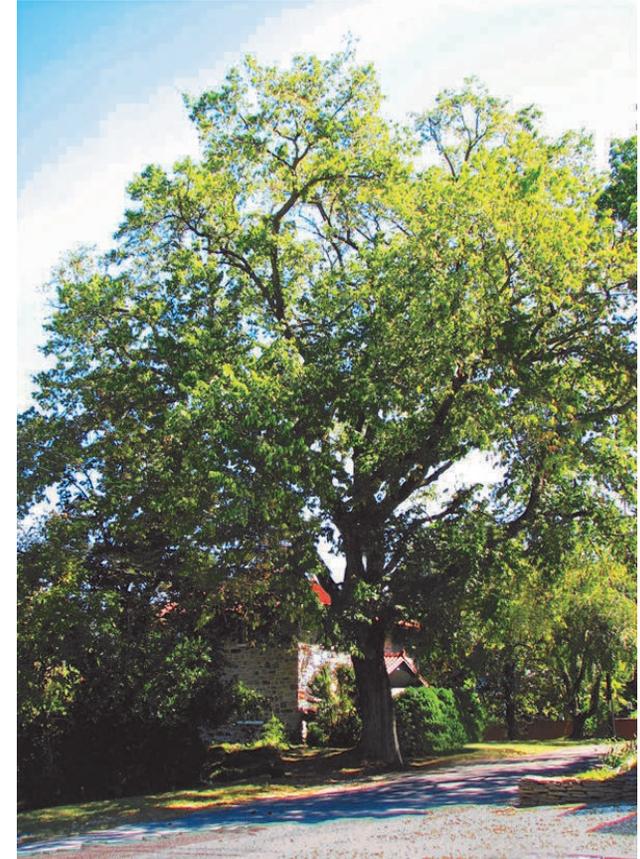
### Harpers Ferry Tree Committee

Corporation of Harpers Ferry

1000 Washington Street  
PO Box 217

Harpers Ferry WV 25425  
Telephone 304-535-2206  
[www.hftrees.org](http://www.hftrees.org)

# Landmark Tree Program



## Recognizing the Notable Trees of Our Community



### Harpers Ferry Tree Committee

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

## Introduction to the Landmark Tree Program

The Landmark Tree Program, adopted by the Harpers Ferry Tree Committee, supports the preservation and awareness of notable trees within our community. Landmark Trees, whether on public or private property, are distinct and unique living resources.

As stated in the Harpers Ferry Tree Conservation Ordinance, the Landmark Tree Program allows citizens to nominate trees for recognition by the Tree Committee based on any of the following criteria:

- A. The tree is an outstanding specimen of a desirable species;
- B. The tree is one of the largest or oldest in our community;
- C. The tree is of historical interest;
- D. The tree is of distinctive form; or
- E. The tree is an unusual species or otherwise unique.



**Above:** Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), 499 Washington Street.  
**Opposite page:** Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), 500 Washington Street.  
**Cover:** American elm (*Ulmus americana*), 800 block of East Ridge Street.

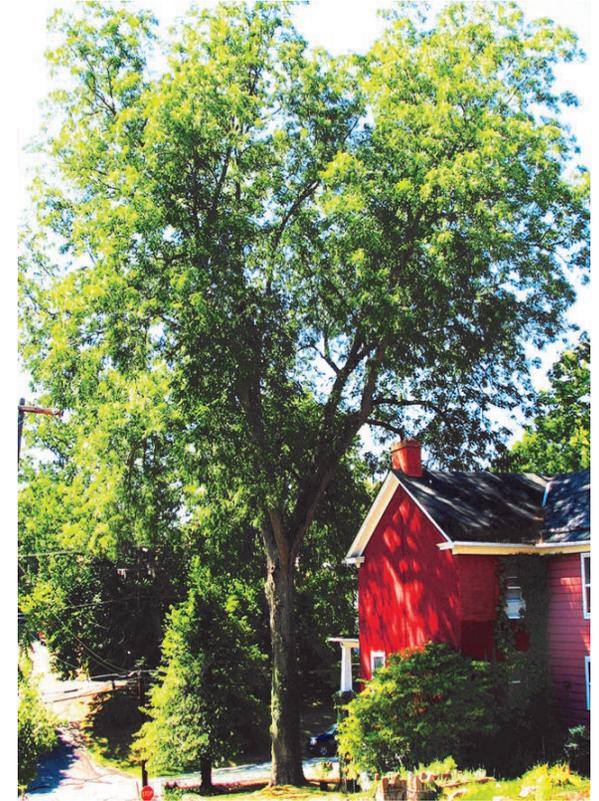


## What is the process?

The procedure for Landmark Tree designation is:

1. A written proposal is submitted to the Tree Committee nominating a potential Landmark Tree. Any member of the community may nominate any tree in Harpers Ferry, public or private. The proposal should state the genus, species, and common name of the tree (if known), along with the criteria met for nomination.
2. If the tree is located on private property, the Tree Committee notifies the property owner of the nomination. Tree owners have the opportunity to be fully involved in the designation process. If the tree is located along a property line, adjacent property owners are also notified.
3. Proposals are reviewed and discussed by the Tree Committee at a regular meeting. The Committee then votes for or against nomination.
4. The nomination is forwarded to the Historic Landmarks Commission for its consideration, if the tree is of historical value.
5. The nomination is then sent to the Town Council for its approval.
6. If the Landmark Tree nomination is approved by the Town Council, the Tree Committee Chairman will send an official Landmark Tree Letter of Recognition to the property owner (if on private property), and a copy will be sent to the person who submitted the proposal.

The official list of Landmark Trees is continuously updated and is provided annually to the Historic Landmarks and Planning Commissions.



## Why should my tree be a Landmark Tree?

Mature trees beautify our neighborhoods. They also provide environmental and economic benefits, such as helping to clean the air, reducing stormwater runoff, minimizing energy costs, cooling the urban environment, and raising property values. Protecting our Landmark Trees ensures they can be enjoyed by future generations.

Since 2008, Harpers Ferry has been certified as a Tree City USA community. Recognizing the distinct trees in our town helps to maintain and preserve the spirit of this important designation.