

# Wilmington Tree Press



If not for its wide spreading network of roots, a tree would not stand. The health of the entire tree depends most heavily on the critical functions provided by the trees roots. The same is true for the vitality of the community's tree management program. Without a solid network of Wilmington Neighborhood Tree Stewards, the survival of truly effective management of the City's trees would be impossible, and in turn, the survival of trees in the city would also be doomed.

## Wilmington's Neighborhood Tree Stewards—A Vital Contingent

Fortunately, Wilmington has Tree Stewards interspersed in neighborhoods across the city. Tree management in the city is built on this reality; tree stewards are educating their neighbors on tree care and maintenance, they are working to secure funding for tree projects in their neighborhoods, they are coordinating neighborhood projects, all as a volunteer service to the community!

The meeting of Neighborhood Tree Stewards held at DCH in early October is reflective of the involvement and dedication of these people. We asked the Tree Stewards to help us come

up with ideas to strengthen the Tree Program and not only did nearly every tree steward show up, but they came with ideas, energy, and inspiration! And those who couldn't make it submitted their ideas and inquired about what they missed. Thank you all! (See summary of ideas and issues on page 3.)

It is important to acknowledge, however, that as the tree grows, it can remain sturdy only by developing more roots. As the city ages and expands, more community members are needed to help join the network and support the health of our trees.

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### Inside this issue:

William Marriott Canby Tree Steward Award	2
The Alliance for Community Trees National Neighborhoods Network	2
October 10th Tree Steward Meeting Summary	3
November and December Calendar	3

## Introducing the WILMINGTON TREE PRESS!

This inaugural issue of the provisionally named *Wilmington Tree Press* was created to serve as a form of communication for Wilmington's Tree Stewards. The idea of a newsletter was suggested by many of you specifically as a way to facilitate communication with the rest of the Wilmington community regarding trees—through civic association newsletters, e-mails, and meetings. This first issue has been printed to be distributed at the Trees for Wilmington Open House and Public Forum taking place October 30, 2006. Subsequent issues will be distributed via e-mail. Please let us know if you would like to receive this issue and/or other issues electronically.

This newsletter will not only be a way for the DCH tree program to disperse information and education to Neighborhood Tree Stewards, but also an avenue of communication between Tree Stewards. Accordingly, articles, events, projects, ideas, concerns, etc. that are relevant to the goal of improving our urban forest will be accepted and printed in subsequent issues. We hope that the newsletter will assist you in your role as a Tree Steward and we appreciate your input as we develop the publication.

Please e-mail your creative ideas for a newsletter title, or your support for the current title to [amosher@dehort.org](mailto:amosher@dehort.org)