

1998 USDA URBAN FORESTRY

New Hampshire

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The New Hampshire Urban and Community Forestry Program works with communities to raise awareness about the importance of community trees and forests and their care and maintenance. The State Program assists community officials, businesses, and residents in planning cooperatively to derive the economic, social, and environmental benefits from the proper management of the urban forest.

Program Components

Technical Assistance

Education

Land Management

Volunteer Training

Highlights

With the assistance of Master Gardeners and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension staff, over 40 participants from the school community and the neighborhood turned the grounds of the sparsely landscaped **Ledge Street School** into a welcoming green space. They created planting beds, installed shrubs, perennials, and annuals, mulched, and improved eroded paths. The project has been incorporated into the school curriculum, and the teachers and students are excited to continue improving the school's landscaping.

This year 40 **New Hampshire Community Tree Stewards** volunteered a total of 1,455 hours. They assisted more than 30 New Hampshire communities by serving on tree committees, working on landscape projects, evaluating and inventorying trees, and fundraising.

The **Cedar Street Family Park in Manchester**, on the site of a former crack house, continued to provide a community space for families to recreate and celebrate holidays. The community has shown its pride and ownership of this park by weeding, watering, planting, and reseeding it with minimal assistance from the Manchester Neighborhood Housing Services and the Community Tree Steward Program. The efforts to maintain the park have been a catalyst for the neighbors to work in their own yards planting gardens and adding trees and shrubs.

Anne Krantz and Joan Pushy have worked with many organizations in the **Town of Amherst** to maintain and improve the town's natural resources. They organized a townwide cleanup and assisted with many beautification projects in the town center with the Amherst Gardeners, the Conservation Commission, and the local scout troops. As a result, Amherst was recognized by the New Hampshire Arborists Association at a State House gathering. Governor Shaheen presented the town with a New Hampshire Community Beautification Award for outstanding efforts at public landscaping.

STATE ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

The Portsmouth Garden Club and the Urban Forestry Center of the Division of Forests and Land cosponsored a **Festival of Trees** benefitting local historic gardens and conservation programs. Approximately 2,500 people participated in this two-day event at the Urban Forestry Center in **Portsmouth**. This family event provided a medium to educate people of all ages about the importance of trees in their lives.

Approximately 125 fourth grade students from the Strafford Elementary School and Northwood Elementary School attended a **Forest Field Day** at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy in Northwood. High school students in the forestry course at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy served as instructors. The event served as an educational excursion to a forest for elementary school students to learn about wildlife, forests, tree growth, soils, and other natural resources.



Students learning about forests and other natural resources at the Forest Field Day at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy

Federal Program Support		<i>Dollars in thousands</i>		
The State Program	<u>FY 1995</u>	<u>FY 1996</u>	<u>FY 1997</u>	<u>FY 1998</u>
	195.9	196.5	208.7	977.1*

*Includes \$793,000 in Ice Storm funds