

ALPINE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORK SHEET – 2014

Alpine remains committed to tree preservation

The Alpine Environmental Commission remains exceedingly active and meets on the 4th Thursday of every month for formal meetings and/or Site inspections when multiple trees are requested to be removed. We remain committed to promoting tree preservation and the very natural wooded atmosphere of our community. The properties in our town are large, most being 1 to 2 acres, our goal is to keep a treed side and back buffer around each property in accordance with our existing ordinances.

Our community maintains a strong reputation regarding the preservation of our trees. Local contractors, builders and professional tree removal companies are very aware of the Alpine Tree Ordinance and respect EC recommendations to save trees on sites when possible. The EC is supported by the Alpine Mayor and Council, the DPW, as well as all other Borough Officials and staff.

The EC reaches out to all Alpine residents by displaying notices, posters and events in the lobby of Borough Hall where all residents visit daily to pick up their mail since we do not have mail delivery.

Alpine celebrated Arbor Day on April 26, 2014 by:

- Mayor Tomasko issuing a proclamation
- Announcing the Arbor Day celebration in the town wide newsletter
- Displaying a poster in Borough Hall promoting the celebration
- Exhibiting the Tree City Flag in Borough Hall
- Displaying posters created by the Alpine School children with the theme “The Benefit of Trees” in Borough Hall and also on the EC. Website
- Distributing tree seedlings along with book marks on how to plant a seedling to the Alpine School children and Alpine residents.

The Alpine EC:

- Held 9 formal meetings in 2014
- Visited 9 sites requesting tree removal which usually requires about 1 ½ hours each
- Reviewed 4 proposed landscape plans where extensive tree removal was requested to assure tree replacement conforming with our existing Tree Ordinance replacement formula
- Signed off on the return of 2 Tree Bonds when tree replacement was completed in accordance with the Tree Ordinance
- Coordinated with the DPW to replace 3 of the original 6 Landmark trees along Monument Lane which were removed due to declining health
- A town wide newsletter was sent out to the entire community announcing the EC achieving Tree City USA. designation for the 13th year as well as the Extra Growth award
- Displayed a poster depicting the “Mile a Minute Vine” to educate the public on the vines destruction of trees and shrubs and how to eliminate it. The EC. equally provided links on our Web site for additional information on this nuisance.

The EC continues to monitor all tree removal applications submitted to the building department and continues to enjoy the full cooperation it has in maintaining a Treed Community.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Mattes
Chair, Environmental Commission