On June 20th, 2015, members of the Swissvale Shade Tree Committee attended the Swissvale Farmers Market to survey residents about trees. The survey was developed with the help of Jared Manzo, the Greenlinks Coordinator from the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association.

25 homeowners were surveyed.

Less than half surveyed have street trees but about half indicated an interest in getting a street tree. More than half surveyed have private trees on their property. Residents saw benefits from trees including:

- increasing their property value
- improving air quality
- providing shade and decreasing utility bills
- reducing storm water runoff.

About half of the residents feel the borough needs more trees.

The biggest challenges indicated by residents were:

- sidewalk damage
- interfering with overhead utility lines
- tree pruning and maintenance

There seemed to be a willingness from residents to get involved with tree plantings and care.

From the results of the survey the SSTAC would like to:

- Educate residents about the benefits of an urban canopy-shade, beauty, storm water control, utility bills, increase in property value, health benefits
- Work to insure that proper trees are planted as street trees
- Promote tree care through advocacy, outreach, and education
- Work closely with the DPW insure care and maintenance of street trees
- Develop a current inventory of Swissvale Borough trees
- Identify institutions from which grants may be obtained to help to finance the needs of trees in Swissvale

Resident Survey

Swissvale Shade Tree Committee Resident Survey

Please help the Committee to determine the needs and hopes of the Swissvale Community.

What is your age?

____Under 18
____18-24
____25-34
____35-50
____51-65
____Over 65

What is your connection to Swissvale's urban forest? (Mark any that apply.)

____I have a street tree in front of my house (between sidewalk and curb)
____I have a private tree (in front/back/side of yard)
____I have planted a tree in the past year
____I have watered a tree in the past year
____I have mulched/weeded a tree in the past year
____I am a certified Tree Tender
____None of the above
____Other: _____

Regarding trees, what benefits do you think are important to your neighborhood? *Choose top 3*

____Increase property value
____Improve air quality
____Increase business sales
____Provide shade during summer heat
____Reduce utility bills
____Reduce stormwater runoff
____Reduce crime rates
____None of the above
____Other: _____

(Please go to the other side)

What are the challenges you notice about street trees (trees between sidewalk and curb)? *Please rank, with "1" being the greatest challenge.*

____Sidewalk damage

____Interfering with overhead utility lines

____Tree pruning maintenance

____Prompt tree removal

____Tree pit maintenance (weed removal/mulch)

____Trash in tree pits

What does Swissvale's tree canopy need most? *Please rank, with "1" as the most important.*

____More trees

      Where specifically?_____

____Fewer trees

____Better maintenance and care

____To be protected for future generations

____More community education about trees

In what tree related activities would you like to participate?*Choose all that apply*

____Plant a tree

____Attend a tree care event

____Attend a tree identification walk

____Become a tree tender

____Other:

If you would like to be contacted about future volunteer activities, please enter your contact information below:

Name: _____

Street/Apt: _____

City/State/Zip   _____

e-mail: _____

SSTAC Survey Results

SSTAC resident survey results

age:

Streets:

age		total
under 18		total
18-24	1	1
25-34	1	1
35-50	8	8
51-65	11	11
over 65	4	4
		25

Street		Street	
Lafayette		Belmar Pl.	
Noble		Monongahala	2
Burton		Delaware	
Park Ave.		Lloyd	
Shoyer	2	Columbia	
Church		Duquesne	2
Whipple		Washington	
Mansion		Harrison	
Tonette		Fleming	
McClure	4		

What is your connection to Swissvale's urban forest? (Mark any that apply.)

____I have a street tree in front of my house (between sidewalk and curb)							10
____I have a private tree (in front/back/side of yard)							16
____I have planted a tree in the past year							9
____I have watered a tree in the past year							10
____I have mulched/weeded a tree in the past year							6
____I am a certified Tree Tender							2
____None of the above							5
____Other: _____	LEED-AP						1
Regarding trees, what benefits do you think are							

important to your neighborhood? *Choose top 3*									
____Increase property value									15
____Improve air quality									21
____Increase business sales									7
____Provide shade during summer heat									21
____Reduce utility bills									16
____Reduce stormwater runoff									15
____Reduce crime rates									4
____None of the above									0
____Other: _____ _									0

(Please go to the other side)

What are the challenges you notice about street trees (trees between sidewalk and curb)? *Please rank, with "1" being the greatest challenge.*

____Sidewalk damage									21
____Interfering with overhead utility lines									18
____Tree pruning maintenance									16
____Prompt tree removal									3
____Tree pit maintenance (weed removal/mulch)									4
____Trash in tree pits									5

What does Swissvale's tree canopy need most? *Please rank, with "1" as the most important.*									
____More trees									17
Where specifically?_____				Monongahala, Tonette, everywhere					
____Fewer trees									1
____Better maintenance and care									14
____To be protected for future generations									12
____More community education about trees									9

In what tree related activities would you like to participate?*Choose all that apply*									
____Plant a tree									1

										2
										1
____Attend a tree care event										1
										1
____Attend a tree identification walk										1
____Become a tree tender										4
____Other:										