



CITY OF KETTERING

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Purpose: To honor exceptional Kettering trees and to promote their appreciation & preservation.

- Inform & educate the community about noteworthy trees
- Encourage proper care & protection of Kettering's Heritage Trees
- Increase public awareness of the ecological benefits of having diversity

Heritage Tree Award:

- Up to 10 trees each year will be awarded throughout the community (residential, commercial, &/or public park)
- A program nomination form—can be submitted by owner or neighboring property owner.
 - After submission, City of Kettering staff will confirm tree details & get owner permission for nomination
- If awarded, applicants will be provided a plaque to display within the given property for a period of time Labor Day ➡ Halloween (Approximately 8 weeks)
- Applicants who are awarded will be recognized within city publications and social media posts.
- Awarded trees will be added to the City of Kettering Heritage Tree Program database to remain recognized for future years.

Tree Definition: A tree is defined as a perennial plant having a single woody main trunk usually characterized by the ability to grow to considerable size & the development of woody branches.

*Shrubs, bushes, ornamentals & fruit trees NOT included

Criteria: Tree must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- **Extraordinary** size & or age
 - This criteria is relative to the species of tree being assessed. If given recognition the tree must measure and score at or above the 50th percentile for trees identified by the Native and Non-Native Ohio Big Tree Champions Program within its given species. Additionally, the tree will be assessed for its significance due to size and age based on the ecological benefits it provides the community. Specifically, the Arbor Day Foundation-National Tree Benefit Calculator will be used to identify a score that is directly connected to positive impacts to stormwater/property value/energy reduction/air quality and CO2.ased on size
- **Exceptional** form, beauty, rarity, etc
 - This criteria will be assessed based on the general health and overall aesthetic value that the tree provides the community. Additionally, tree diversity data from the City of Kettering's current inventory will be reviewed to consider if the tree is rare relative to the surrounding urban canopy tree diversity.
- **Notable** origin (historical, cultural, or special significance, community connection)
 - This criteria will be assessed based on the narrative provided by the applicant. Understanding the history of a tree based on the context of the property and or the applicant will allow for committee members to properly assess a trees significance to the community based on this information.

*Excludes City of Kettering's Citizen Tree and Living Tree Program and must be visible from a publicly accessible location.

Application Information:

Contact information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Tree Information:

Species: _____

Approximate Height: _____

Relative location on
property: _____

Anecdotes, comments, stories, etc: _____

Program Timeline:

- Application Process: Arbor Day ➡ July 4th (Approximately 8 weeks)
- Tree Committee Evaluation: July 4th ➡ Labor Day (Approximately 8 weeks)
- Heritage Tree Award Winners Announced: Labor Day ➡ Halloween (Approximately 8 weeks)