

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Mission and Policies

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the New Mark Commons (NMC) Landscape Committee is to advise the Board of Directors on maintenance and improvements to common areas, all trees in the community, and lake quality. The Board and the Committee work together: the Committee assists with the planning and design for the common area plantings and the Board consults with the Committee as part of their planning prior to taking action.

TREE POLICY

Trees are an integral part of the quality of life in New Mark Commons. Their natural beauty enhances our landscape, and their presence encourages beneficial wildlife. Trees contribute to keeping our neighborhood cooler in the hot summer and warmer in winter, and improve both soil and water quality. All NMC trees, whether on private property or in common areas, as well as the street trees maintained by the City of Rockville, are an important part of our community's environment.

Members of the Tree Committee will review applications for the removal of trees with the following principles in mind:

- Safety of residents and safeguard of property are the first consideration.
- Addressing an issue by pruning, trimming or other maintenance is preferable to removing a tree.
- Preserve the integrity of the New Mark Commons urban forest.

RULES AND RESOURCES

1. NMC requires a **Tree Modification Application** be submitted before removal of any tree (healthy, diseased or dead). An application form may be found on the NMC website: <http://www.newmarkcommons.net>.
2. Native trees with a caliber of at least one inch or greater are recommended for replacement of removed trees. Removed trees should be replaced to sustain our community's urban forest.
 - a) Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping (PDF) at <http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay>.
 - b) The City of Rockville Community Wildlife Habitat at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspz?nid=839>.
 - c) A number of nurseries offer a good supply of native trees. Please contact a Tree Committee member for references on local suppliers of native trees.
- 3) A homeowner concerned that a tree on Association property may pose a hazard should contract the Administrator.