

MISSION OF THE COMMITTEE

To provide a forum for discussion of ideas, concepts, and methods to preserve trees and protect the tree canopy,

To make recommendations to County Council to encourage the preservation and replacement of trees which may be lost in the process of residential and commercial real estate development and to propose minimum standards for Council to consider, and

To provide educational and other useful information about historic and significant specimen trees and tree categories and to encourage people to preserve and nurture trees so classified.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Diane Eldridge

Conservation Planning Consultant

Sandra Hamann

Greenville Council of Garden Clubs

C. Doug Harper

Commercial Developer

David Holmes, Chair

Attorney

Kim Kauffman

Landscape Architect

Tom Keith

Landscape Architect

Dan Rawls

Greenville County Planning Commission

Gordon Seay

Greenville Association of Realtors

Coleman Shouse

Home Builders Association of Greenville

Steven Smith

Forester

Todd Ward

Greenville County Planning Commission staff

Jimmy Forbes

Director of Greenville County Planning Commission, non-voting facilitator

Keeping the GREEN in GREENville

April 24 2006

Greenville County Tree Policy Advisory Committee Hard at Work

The Committee held its sixth regular biweekly meeting on April 13 with the majority of time devoted to hearing from three invited speakers who shared their expertise and perspectives about a possible county tree ordinance.

Linda Sisson, representing the Greenville Council of Garden Clubs, stated that bad choices often have unintended and devastating impacts on communities, pointing to the removal of trees and the filling of a wetland on a Poinsett Highway development site as one of the main causes of flooding in the west portion of Greenville County. She emphasized the need for a viable, sensible tree ordinance for Greenville County that will meet the needs of its residents and that requires trees in all developments. She added that trees appreciate in value as they grow and help increase property values.

Crad Jaynes, President of the South Carolina Timber Producers

Association, stated that timber is the state's number one cash crop and that foresters are performing a service to landowners who choose to remove trees from



their property. He added that preserving trees in the right situations is important, but that when land uses change, trees usually need to be removed. He cautioned the Committee to be mindful of how restrictive their recommendations concerning a tree ordinance are and stressed the importance of flexibility.

Janet Clarke of SC DHEC discussed the role trees play in improving the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and in helping reduce ambient air temperatures. Trees provide numerous services, including

reducing ground level ozone and particulate matter, storing carbon, and reducing the heat island effect as part of their normal, everyday functions. In addition, trees help reduce stormwater runoff by slowing the flow of water, helping to filter out pollutants, and reducing erosion by holding soil in place. Ms. Clarke stated that trees are part of the solution to most of the environmental problems facing our community and should be included in the Upstate's Early Air Compact, a response to the EPA's designation of the area as non-attainment for ozone and particulate matter levels.

NEXT REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING

April 27 8:00 a.m.

Greenville County Square
Conference Room B

NEXT PUBLIC HEARING

April 27 6:30 p.m.

Greenville Technical College
Greer Campus

ATTEND A PUBLIC HEARING AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

The second of five public hearings will be held at the Greer Campus of Greenville Technical College at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday April 27. These hearings are being held throughout the County to provide forums for citizens to share their thoughts and concerns about a potential tree ordinance for Greenville County. Upon the completion of all five hearings, the Committee will begin developing its recommendations for the County Council and will take into consideration all comments made by citizens at regular meetings and hearings. Please share your comments with the Committee so it can best meet the needs of Greenville County's citizens.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

April 27, 6:30 pm, Greenville Tech
Greer Campus

May 11 & 25, 6:30 pm, Location TBA

June 8, 6:30 p.m., Greenville County
Square, Council Chambers