

Trees offer many benefits to a community. There are environmental benefits; they improve local microclimates, mitigating solar heating in the summer and reducing blustery winds in the winter. Trees reduce noise and air pollution and their shade helps soils to retain moisture, making it available to other plants and soil dwelling organisms. They provide psychological and aesthetic benefits; many people feel that just being in the presence of trees lifts the spirit and scientific data is accumulating on the connection between the presence of green vegetation and improved human mental and physical health. Finally, trees have economic benefits; they increase the value of real estate and local governments capture some of this monetary value since enhanced property values increase assessed values and therefore the tax base.

To realize these benefits trees must be properly selected, planted, maintained, and ultimately, removed and replaced.

For municipalities, homeowners, estate and property managers, or anyone charged with the maintenance and risk management of trees, Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc. offers a full range of Consulting Arborist and Urban Forestry Services including:

- ✿ Tree Preservation and Retention
- ✿ Tree Risk Assessments and Surveys
- ✿ Landscape and Tree Company Supervision
- ✿ Diagnosis of Tree and Landscape Problems
- ✿ Insect and Disease Identification
- ✿ Emerald Ash Borer Management Planning and Treatment
- ✿ Tree Valuation for Insurance Claims
- ✿ Expert Opinion and Litigation Support
- ✿ Landscape and Tree Monitoring
- ✿ Writing Planting and Care Specifications
- ✿ Contract Consulting Arborist Services
- ✿ Street Tree Inventories

Tree Preservation and Retention

Construction occurring near trees must be carefully planned to limit soil compaction and root damage, as well as broken branches and trunk abrasion, if the trees on site are to be preserved. We work with developers and construction companies to determine how to best preserve desired trees during site development, working with them from the planning stage, until the project is complete.

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Tree Risk Assessments and Hazard Tree Surveys

Living with trees requires accepting a certain degree of risk. All trees will eventually fall down and both private property owners and municipal governments have a duty to act responsibly to manage this risk. Having a documented inspection program of the trees on your property, designed to identify any structural problems of the crown, trunk or roots, is a good way to help limit tree-related liability. ASGSCI has a Certified Tree Risk Assessor on staff.

Landscape and Tree Company Supervision

Care must be taken during all types of tree work to adhere to Industry standards. A single instance of improper pruning can initiate a cascade of health and structural problems that will decrease the health and increase the liability of that tree for as long as it stands. A tree that is planted incorrectly, over-mulched, or is simply the wrong species for a particular site, has a greatly reduced chance of long-term survival. Our arborists monitor tree care activities to ensure that industry standards of care and best management practices are followed.

Tree Inventories

We use GPS and GIS systems, along with physical examination, to accurately define the quantity, composition, and condition of the trees on public and private lands, allowing for management decisions to be made based on accurate and up to date information. The first step in developing any Community Forestry Management Plan is to conduct a tree inventory.

Diagnosis of Tree and Landscape Problems

When a tree shows signs of stress or decline, such as thin or off-color foliage, branch tip dieback, or early fall color, being able to quickly and accurately determine the cause is vital to increasing its chance of recovery. Whether the problem is an insect, disease, or abiotic factor, ASGECI will identify the issue and recommend effective treatments.

Tree Valuation/ Tree Appraisal

Depending on the particular situation a tree may have no value at all or it may be valued at tens of thousands of dollars. We use several recognized methods of tree appraisal, as described by the *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th ed.*, by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers, to determine the value of a tree.

Expert Opinion and Litigation Support

We assist lawyers and other parties preparing for litigation with expert opinions regarding tree issues.

Writing Planting and Care Specifications

Properly written specifications help ensure that tree planting and other work is performed in a systematic and consistent manner. We start with the ANSI A300 Standards and tailor your specifications to your individual situation.

Contract Consulting Arborist Service

We supply consulting arborist services on a long or short-term contract basis to construction companies, developers, municipalities, and other parties.

