

## PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Mayor's Office  
861-5301

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### **WOODBINE MAKES APPLICATION FOR NJDEP COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM FUNDING FOR TREE INVENTORY AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**

**Woodbine**—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that the Borough of Woodbine has made application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Community Forestry Community Stewardship Incentive Program for a project entitled “Our Populist Poplars”: Inventory of Special District with Century-Plus Tulip Poplars (with production of preliminary inventory/survey plan for entire Borough), which would focus on the tulip poplars along the two block stretch of Jefferson Avenue extending from DeHirsch Boulevard to Clay Street.

This population of historic, approximately hundred-foot tall, Tulip Poplars (*Liriodendron* sp.) were planted as a cohort when the Borough of Woodbine was founded in 1891. A survey of the placement and health of the trees is a necessary first-step towards the creation of a long-term maintenance project. This tree inventory would include a complete survey of Special District and development of management plan and also formulate a preliminary inventory/survey plan for the entire Borough, including dividing it into zones and determining the types of information needed for a complete assessment.

“This benefits the community in several ways: by allowing the Borough to maintain the shade and cooling effects large trees provide and by identifying significant structural problems which may cause tree failure or underground issues due to the extensive root systems of these trees,” added Mayor Pikolycky, “These trees, which have been mentioned in a number of publications, are also a major eco-tourist attraction for the Borough.”

The Special District survey will develop an experienced cadre of survey workers for future Borough efforts. Because the Special District is compact, fieldworkers will be able to conduct a complete survey of the several blocks included in the district. Certified Tree Expert will determine whether any immediate remediation of hazards is required and will assist in the formulation of a pro-active long-term management plan.

Woodbine has Approved Status under the Shade Tree and Community Forestry Act and is working under a third five-year Community Forestry Management Plan.