

February 29, 2020

Inspection of Trees in Wilton's Town Center

On Saturday, February 29th, members of the Tree Committee walked through town to inspect the trees in Wilton's Town Center. This was the second of two such walks. In attendance was Scott MacQuarrie, Suzanne Knutson, Peggy VanAcker, and Tree Warden Lars Cherichetti. The tree walk revealed five potential sites to plant trees and groupings of shrubs as indicated below. Note: There was some confusion during the walk as to the correct name of the street in front of the Piersall Building leading to the intersection with Route 33 (Ridgefield Road). The Wilton Center Tree Inventory list identifies this road as Old Ridgefield Road. However, a recent local map identifies it as Center Street and, in fact, there is a street sign in the center island across from The Luncheonette that identifies the street as Center Street. This discrepancy should be addressed at the next Tree Committee meeting and, if appropriate, the list should be corrected accordingly.

The following sites were identified as potential locations for future tree donations:

1. In front of the Piersall Building along Center Street, near the intersection with Route 33. It appears that there is a dead dogwood tree that could be replaced with another tree. We would suggest planting another dogwood tree for aesthetic purposes to continue the line of flowering dogwood trees along this road.
2. In front of the Piersall Building along Center Street, near the intersection with Route 33. A dogwood tree was apparently taken down a number of years ago. A new tree could be planted in this spot. We would suggest planting another dogwood tree for aesthetic purposes to continue the line of flowering dogwood trees along this road.
3. In the back corner of Town Green, adjacent to the Library parking lot, there is a small dead tree with several suckering branches growing from its base. This tree and the suckering branches should be removed and replaced with another tree. At the appropriate time, the Tree Committee should take a closer look at this sunny location to determine whether a shade tree or understory tree is more appropriate for the site.
4. Along Hubbard Road, near the intersection of Old Ridgefield Road. There is a sunny, grassy area next to the sidewalk that could support a shade tree.
5. In what is called the "Town Green (back lawn)" area along Hubbard Road (close to the white sculpture), there is a grouping of suckering Norway maple branches growing from the ground next to the CVS dumpsters that should be removed. They can be replaced with several groupings of shrubs to create a more inviting, park-like space in that area.

