



Tree Board Meeting

September 24, 2025, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Perry's Village Hall

Present: Dan Zerbe (chairman), Joel Bouchard, Jonathan Bouchard, Felisa McKay, Jules Hoepting (secretary), Robin Redding.

1. Fall Planting plan – Mulch, Flagging, Memorial Park planting? Thank you to Felisa for the memorial tree donation.
 - Trees are generally planted in early-mid November.
 - Flagging can be done on work evenings in October.
2. PoeTree 25-26
 - Kindergarten and 1st grade prompt: "If I were a bug in a tree, what would I do?"
 - 2nd and 3rd grade prompt: "If I sit by a tree, what would I see?"
 - 4th and 5th grade prompt: "Describe a tree you see on the way to school"
 - Would like to repeat the belated Arbor Day Celebration on a Saturday in June, paired with announcing the PoeTree winner in Perry Central School at an assembly the day prior.
 - "Arbor Day" and PoeTree celebration: June 13. Announcement at school assembly: June 12.
3. Annual Tree City certification
 - Joel Bouchard will reapply between school semesters.
4. Silver Lake Trail Stewards, Farmer's Market
 - Daniel Zerbe will table with the SLTS at an upcoming Perry Farmer's Market.
5. New York State Urban Forestry Council and Releaf Committee Region 9, Events
 - Membership interest- Governmental Agency (5 Designated Members) \$100.00 USD
 - NYS meeting about urban forestry will take place downstate next August, then region 8 closer to Perry in 2027. Arborist conference in Monticello all about tree assessment and care and selection will take place in January.

6. Tree Tag feedback

- Will leave all tags up throughout the winter. Will see which type of tags — in a plastic tag bag or laminated — held up better throughout the winter.

7. Tree evaluations recently – 44 Watkins tree branches near driveway and house. 6 Watkins and 24 Walnut, some deadwood.

8. October 1 National Green City Day planning. Quiz. “Could demonstrate how to measure the diameter and the height of a tree. People could explore the village looking for the biggest and tallest tree, and those who figure it out can receive a prize at the spring Arbor Day celebration.”

- Tree Board liked the idea of demonstrating how to measure trees. Could be an activity for the belated Arbor Day celebration in June.
- Tree Board liked the idea of doing a fall event, perhaps in the Hope Cemetery, around October.
- This year, October 1 is too close of a turn around time to plan an event.

9. Field Botany Class report

- Professor Eli Knapp of Houghton University brought his biology class to Perry to learn about street trees / what arborists are looking for in a town vs. a forest. Was a part of the weekly lab.

10. Work evening plans

- Continue meeting Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. into early November.

11. New Business?

- Proposed idea of planting trees that attract certain species of butterflies for future plantings.

12. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, February 4 at 7 p.m.