Appendix IV
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Implementation Item	Timing	Implementing Agency	Funding
Improve Arlington's urban forest canopy coverage			
1) Determine the best methodology for refining our GIS analysis of the tree canopy. The most appropriate imagery should also be determined. New higher resolution satellite imagery is becoming increasingly available for analysis of tree canopy coverage.	ST	DPRCR, DES (Mapping)	Already funded, Grant
2) Establish realistic tree cover goals for different land use categories using American Forest benchmarks of 40% overall, 50% for suburban residential, 25% for urban residential and 15% for central business districts. Based on the proportions of the different land use categories, achieving the goals for each would result in meeting the overall canopy cover goal.	ST	DPRCR, DCPHD	N/A
3) Implement the planting plan (Appendix II) and its recommendations.	ST	DPRCR	Already funded
Encourage the preservation and planting of trees on private property.			
4) Establish a tree fund that is dedicated to planting trees on private property and educating citizens about the value and stewardship of trees. The tree fund could be established through contributions for special exception projects that cannot meet planting requirements on-site.	ST	DPRCR, UFC	private
5) Establish a program working with Civic Associations, in cooperation with volunteers, to plant trees on private property.	ST	DPRCR	TBD, Tree fund, participating Civic Associations
6) Explore options for establishing a funded County program to plant trees on private properties that abut street ROW.	MT	DPRCR	TBD
7) Explore the options to offer incentives to preserve canopy and encourage planting on private property.	MT	DPRCR, DES	TBD
8) Explore reviewing the Tree Replacement Guidelines to ensure that the tree replacement formula better reflects an equitable calculation for the value of trees lost. This should take into consideration the weight of alternative valuation methods such as the landscape appraised value of the tree and the monetary value of the benefits the tree provides.	ST	DPRCR, DCPHD	N/A

Ensure through education and outreach that all stakeholders appreciate the value of Arlington's trees and what is necessary for their stewardship.			
9) Continue to pursue outside training and certification opportunities for staff including the most up to date training in hazard tree identification, tree preservation and plant appraisal.	ongoing	DPRCR	N/A
10) Develop a "one-stop shopping" comprehensive web site for trees. The developer and the citizen could use the site to find out how trees affect them (and how they affect trees). Access to important information regarding County regulations an programs will be available as well as read only access to the GIS tree inventory data.	ST	DPRCR, Libraries	N/A
11) Maintain a public presence at fairs, the Farmer's Markets and continue to hold events such as panel discussions and informational presentations.	ST	UFC, Tree Stewards, DPRCR	N/A
12) Continue to partner with the Urban Forestry Commission, Arlington ReLeaf and Tree Stewards and Cooperative Extension in education and outreach efforts.	ongoing	PRCR, UFC, Tree Stewards,Arl.ReLeaf	N/A
13) Expand upon and increase the availability of our urban forestry related literature.	ST	DPRCR, Coop. Ext.	N/A
Improve coordination and communication regarding County tree regulations, policies and planting and preservation standards and guidelines.			
14) Develop or use existing networks (Metropolitan Washington Council of Government Community Forestry Network and National Capital Society of American Foresters Urban Forestry Workgroup), to share our program objectives with potential partners within Arlington County and the surrounding region.	ongoing	DPRCR	N/A
15) Continue to refine partnerships with Dominion Virginia Power, Northern Virginia Regional Parks Authority and Virginia Department of Transportation and expand these partnerships to other entities.	ongoing	DPRCR, UFC	N/A
16) Proactively share our data, standards, regulations and policies with other stewards of our urban forest.	ST	DPRCR	N/A
17) Engage other property owners in Arlington County as well as surrounding urban forest managers in a cooperative effort to better steward the regions urban forest.	ST	DPRCR	N/A
18) Coordinate with other County departments and other entities, planting, planning and maintenance activities where appropriate to optimize our stewardship.	ST	DPRCR, DES, DCPHD	N/A
19) Ensure that staff review of development plans is early enough in the design process that trees may be preserved and considered equitably	ST	DPRCR, DCPHD	N/A
Ensure that tree planting and preservation are important elements of our streetscapes.			
20) Ensure that there are liaisons for each department and/or division that has any effect on our stewardship of the urban forest.	ongoing	DPRCR, DCPHD, DES	N/A
21) Create more opportunities for tree planting in the public ROW such as; tree nubs; street narrowing; larger planting strips; curb, gutter and sidewalk design and material innovations.	ongoing	DPRCR, DCPHD, DES	TBD

22) Optimize communication so that redeveloped ROW is planted as soon as possible.	ongoing	DPRCR, DES	TBD
23) Work with streetscape designers and planners to ensure tree species diversity.	ongoing	DPRCR, DCPHD	N/A
24) Implement street tree planting plan (as described in Appendix II).	ST	DPRCR	Already funded, TBD

Preserve existing wooded parks and natural areas, and plant trees in parks, natural areas and other public open spaces to improve Arlington's overall tree canopy.

25) Continue to monitor tree health, forest structure and the occurrence of invasives in Parks and naturally forested areas throughout the County	ongoing	DPRCR, Coop. Ext.	N/A
26) Begin to inventory trees in parks, natural areas and other public facilities.	ST	DPRCR, Coop. Ext.	TBD
27) Wherever possible manage forested areas on public lands so that there is adequate species diversity and size class distribution to maintain a sustainable urban forest.	ongoing	DPRCR, DCPHD	N/A
28) Control and manage invasive plant species and tree pests and diseases in an environmentally responsible manner.	ongoing	DPRCR, Coop. Ext., volunteers	TBD, grants
29) Manage and enhance areas adjacent to existing streams as riparian forest buffers wherever possible and appropriate.	ongoing	DPRCR, DES	TBD
30) Continue the partnership between PRCR and DES as well as local environmental groups to ensure that the best management practices (BMPs) are used to maximize the habitat benefits the urban forest provides.	ongoing	DPRCR, DES	N/A

Ensure that urban forest maintenance practices continue to improve the quality of tree canopy in Arlington so that potential benefits are maximized for the community.

31) Ensure that best management practices (BMPs) are used when providing tree maintenance in critical areas such as riparian stream buffers.	ongoing	DPRCR	N/A
32) Use the street tree inventory to determine conflicts with the built environment (sidewalks and tree grates) and prioritize their mitigation.	ST	DPRCR	N/A
33) Update the GIS street tree inventory with tree maintenance and removal data.	ST	DPRCR	N/A
34) Continue to systematically review potential tree hazards using the tree inventory. Consider the development of a Tree Risk Management Plan.	ST	DPRCR	TBD
35) Using the tree inventory, develop a realistic plan for a five year pruning cycle of the trees in the street ROW.	ST	DPRCR	TBD
36) Create a GIS mapping program for invasives to track progress and assist with management.	ST	DPRCR, Coop. Ext.	TBD

Planting Plan

37) Use the GIS street tree inventory to target available planting spaces in the County streets ROW. Planting levels for the ROW are based on a goal of having a full stocking level for public street trees in three years.	ST	DPRCR	Already funded
38) Plant Parks and other County facilities at the optimal level. Passive open space will be forested wherever appropriate.	ongoing	DPRCR	Already funded

39) Use the GIS to evaluate the overall urban forest canopy to determine where planting opportunities exist on public property.	MT	DPRCR	TBD
40) Continue to work with Schools to plant and maintain trees on their grounds.	ongoing	DPRCR, Schools	Already funded
41) Establish a tree fund (funds from special exception projects that can not plant required replacements on-site) that will be dedicated to planting on public and private properties.	ST	DPRCR	private
42) Develop opportunities and partnerships with environmental organizations such as Arlington ReLeaf, American Forests, and the Potomac Conservancy to plant more trees with volunteers.	ST	DPRCR	Grants

ST = short term (1-2 years),

MT = mid term (3-5 years),

DPRCR = Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources,

DES = Department of Environmental Services,

DCPHD = Department of Community Planning and Housing Development,

UFC = Urban Forestry Commission,

Coop. Ext. = Virginia Cooperative Extension Service,

TBD = to be determined.