PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

June 13, 2011 - 12:00 Noon - City Hall Conference Room - City Hall - City of Dover

Public comments are welcomed on any item and will be permitted at appropriate times. When possible, please notify the City Clerk (736-7008 or e-mail at CityClerk@dover.de.us) should you wish to be recognized.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

1. Silver Lake Revitalization - Phase III

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THE AGENDA ITEMS AS LISTED MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IN SEQUENCE. THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO INCLUDE THE ADDITION OR THE DELETION OF ITEMS, INCLUDING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS.

Park Drive Resident Opinions of Proposed Plantings

St. Jones Watershed Coordinators, Brittany Benson and Jennifer Bowman, visited the homes of several residents along Park Drive to inquire about their opinions of the proposed plantings. The following is a summary of their feedback:

- General consensus among all surveyed residents was that the planting is very welcomed.
    - The constant presence of goose refuse in Memorial Park was and continues to be a major concern. Thus, majority of residents have completely stopped using the park.
- All residents had a positive response to planting the buffer along the lake, especially if it helped deter the geese from using the area.
- Increasing the amount of vegetation was desired by all; with particular interest in year-round color because of the visual interest that the buffer will offer.
- Strong responses concerning a [mulched] pathway:
    - Some residents were very apprehensive to create a walkway. There were particular concerns about redistribution of mulch in times of flooding.
    - Other residents desired a pathway as a way to enjoy the park and vegetation up close.
- A few residents commented that gaps should be left in the vegetation to allow room for fishermen and park visitors to access the water.
- Mirror Lake sedimentation and dredging was also a common concern. There will be a public workshop to discuss this separate issue in the fall.

Silver Lake Park Revitalization Project
Phase III – Park Drive



City of Dover

Silver Lake Commission

DNREC

Background

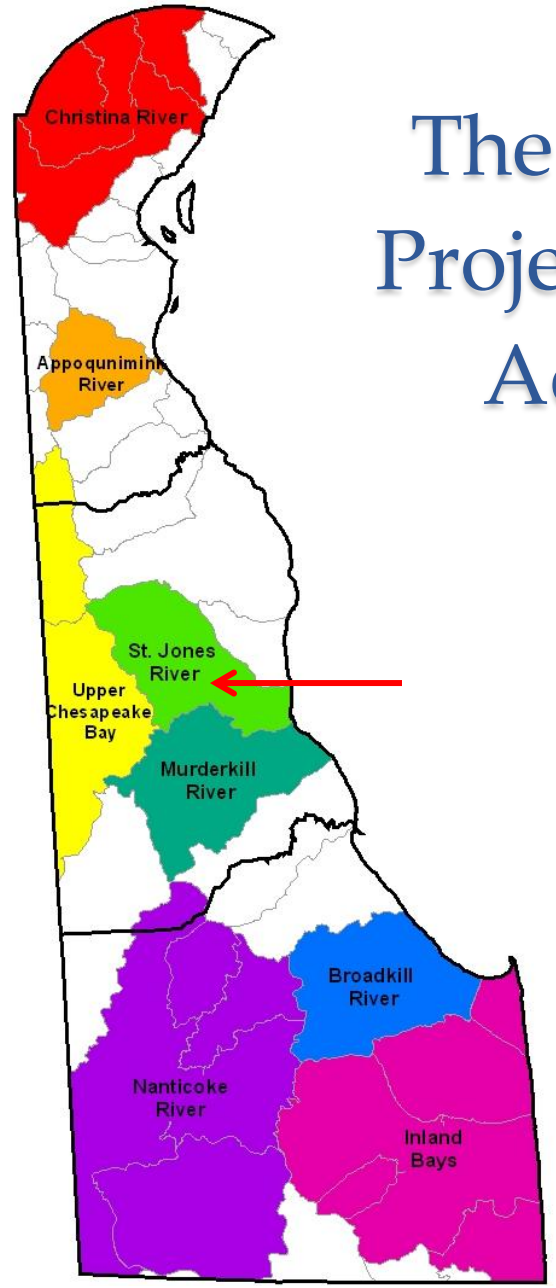


- Silver Lake is located in the St. Jones River Watershed in Kent County, Delaware
- DNREC established a level of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), as mandated by the Clean Water Act, for the St. Jones River Watershed in 2006 because of the impaired status of the water
- The Silver Lake sub-watershed contained the most opportunities to control pollution out of the entire watershed
- The St. Jones Tributary Action Team developed a pollution control strategy to reduce pollutant loads to the TMDLs

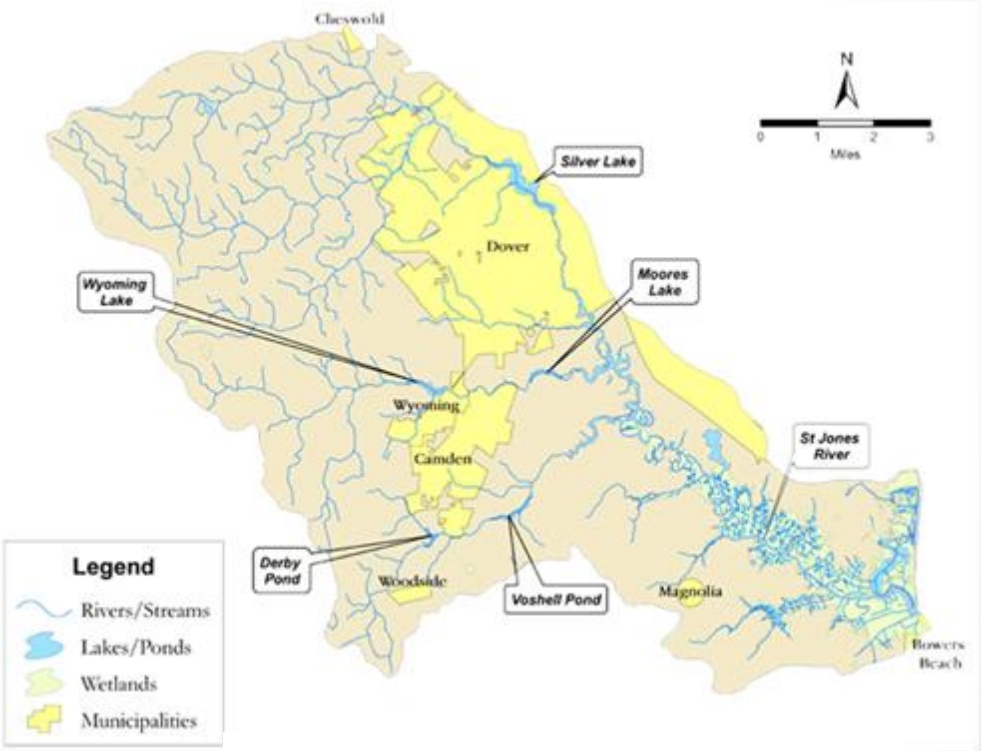
The Clean Water Act 303d List indicates that the St. Jones River Watershed impairments include:

- Nutrients (elevated nitrogen and phosphorous)
- Bacteria (pathogens)
- Low dissolved oxygen
- Habitat degradation

The Silver Lake Park Revitalization Project came from St. Jones Tributary Action Team recommendations



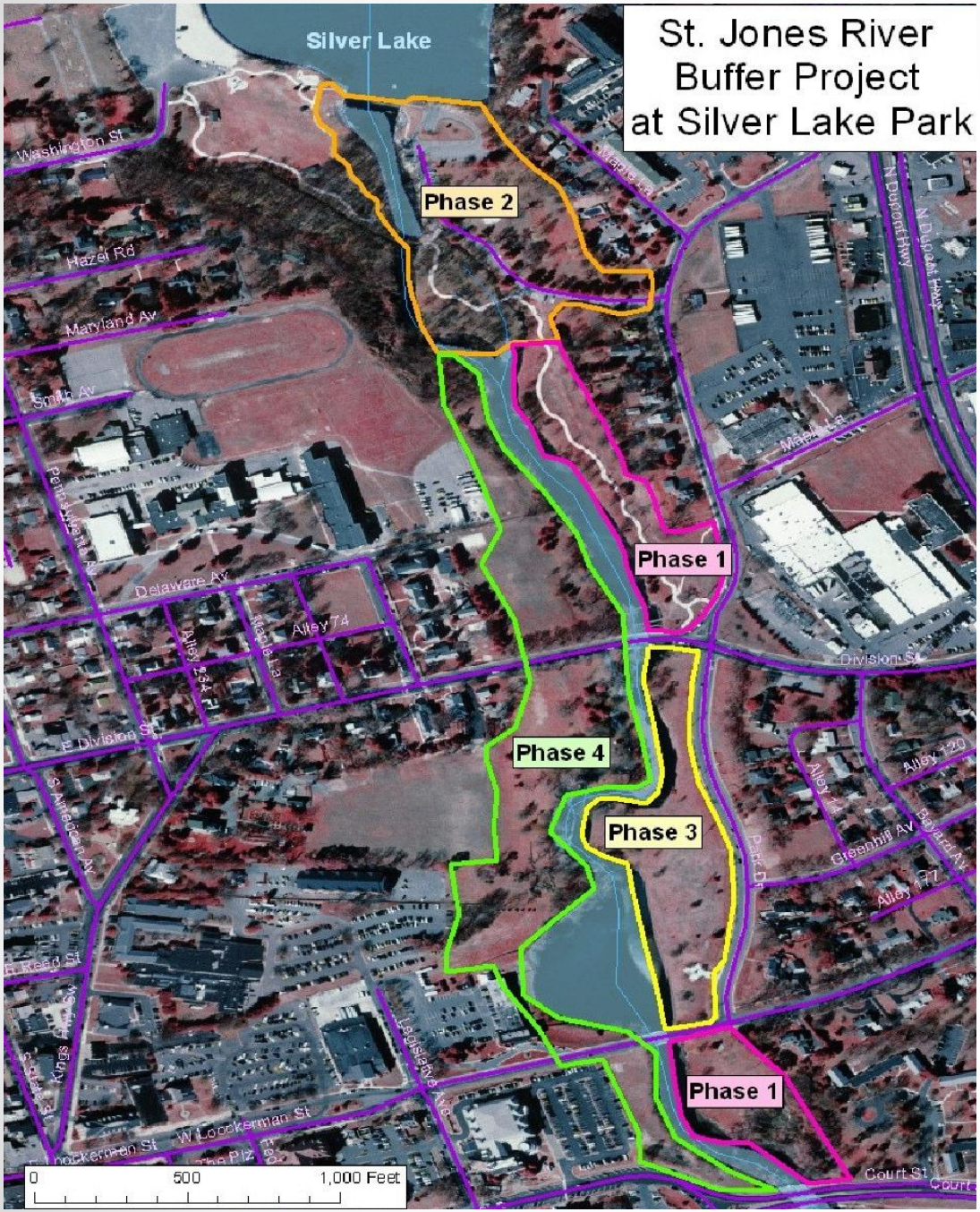
Tributary Action Teams



St. Jones River watershed

St. Jones TAT recommendations:

- A 100 foot vegetated or forested riparian buffer zone should be required within the watershed for all water bodies
- Vegetation within the buffer should be made up of "recommended plantings" of native species
- Buffers should be maintained in perpetuity and should be managed to maintain water quality benefits



Total acreage that has been planted in Phase I and II thus far	
Location	Acres
East side of St. Jones	0.525
West side of St. Jones	0.145

Vision of SLPR Project Area

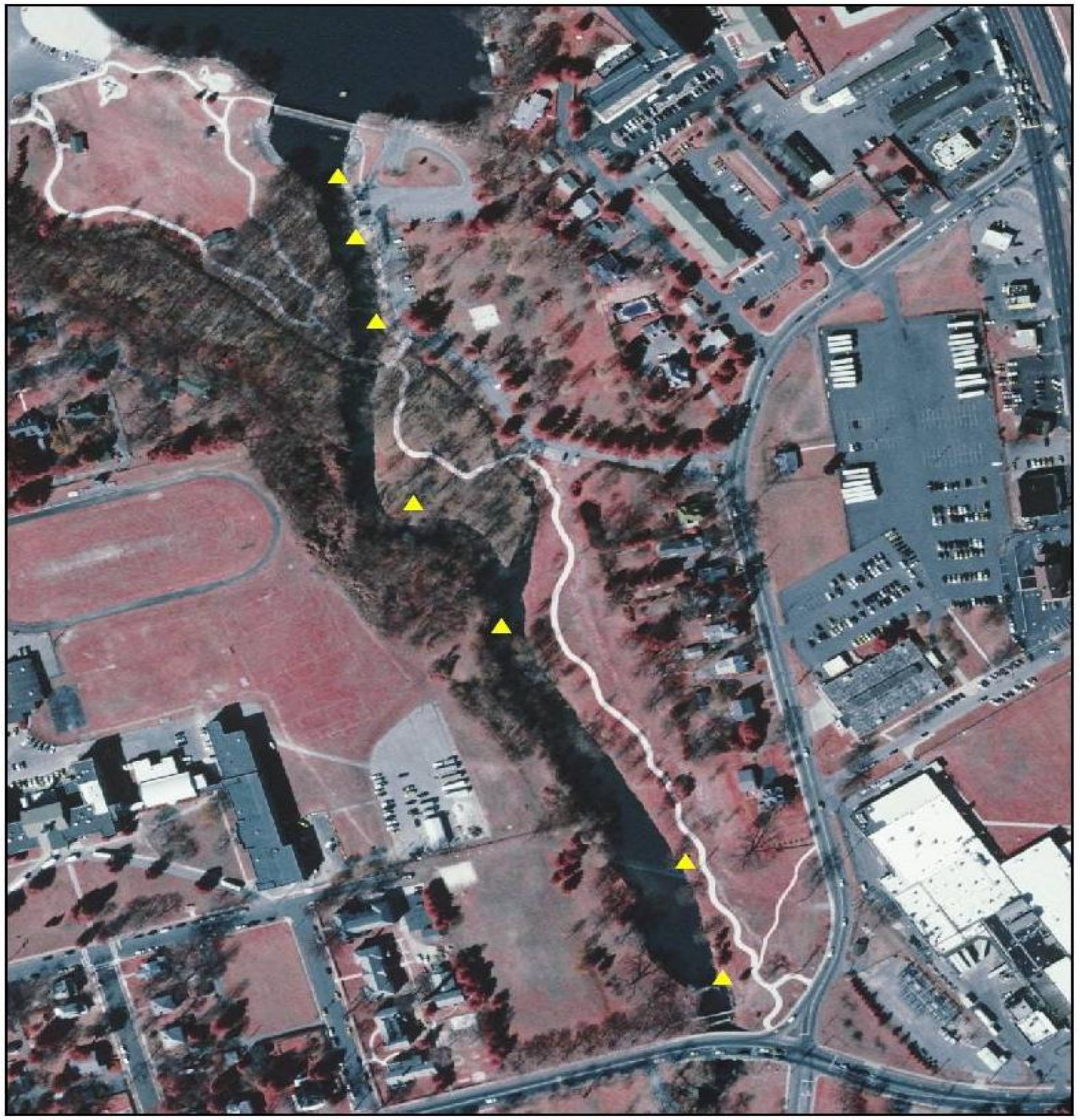


- 100-foot buffer area targeted for planting
- Mix of native plants for all-year interest
- Large lawn areas for group activities, plus smaller areas for readers, “lunchers” and sunbathers
- Fishing locations
- Mowed grass strip between sidewalk & planting beds

Buffer will be for water quality as well for the aesthetics



Silver Lake Park popular fishing areas*



*We're looking for input of other fishing spots, especially along Park Drive

Some Known Problems/Issues of Memorial Park & Mirror Lake:

- Water quality
- Poor habitat value
- Canada Goose waste
- Sedimentation of Mirror Lake
- Periodic flooding





Picture of direct discharge of stormwater into the St. Jones



Flooding of the St. Jones River along Park Drive
in April 2007

We're not only creating buffers…



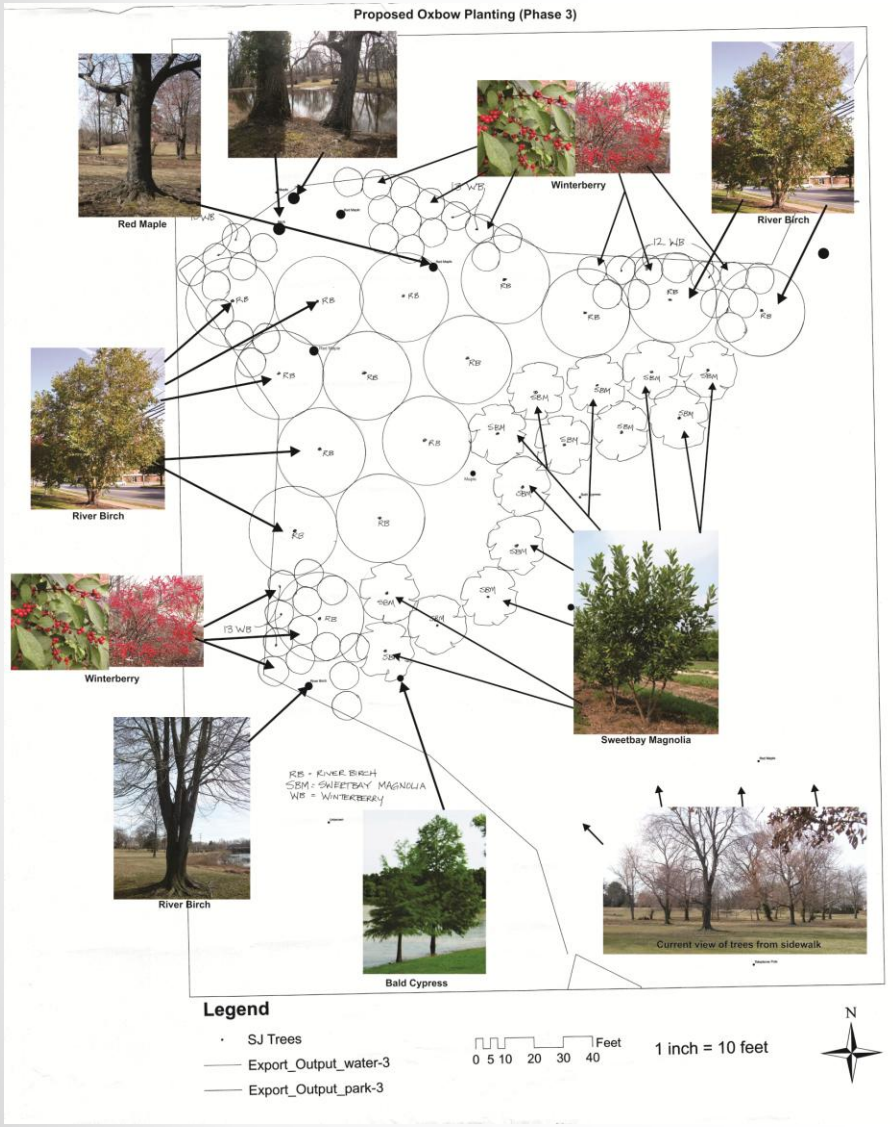
Photo of biolog that will help establish wetland vegetation

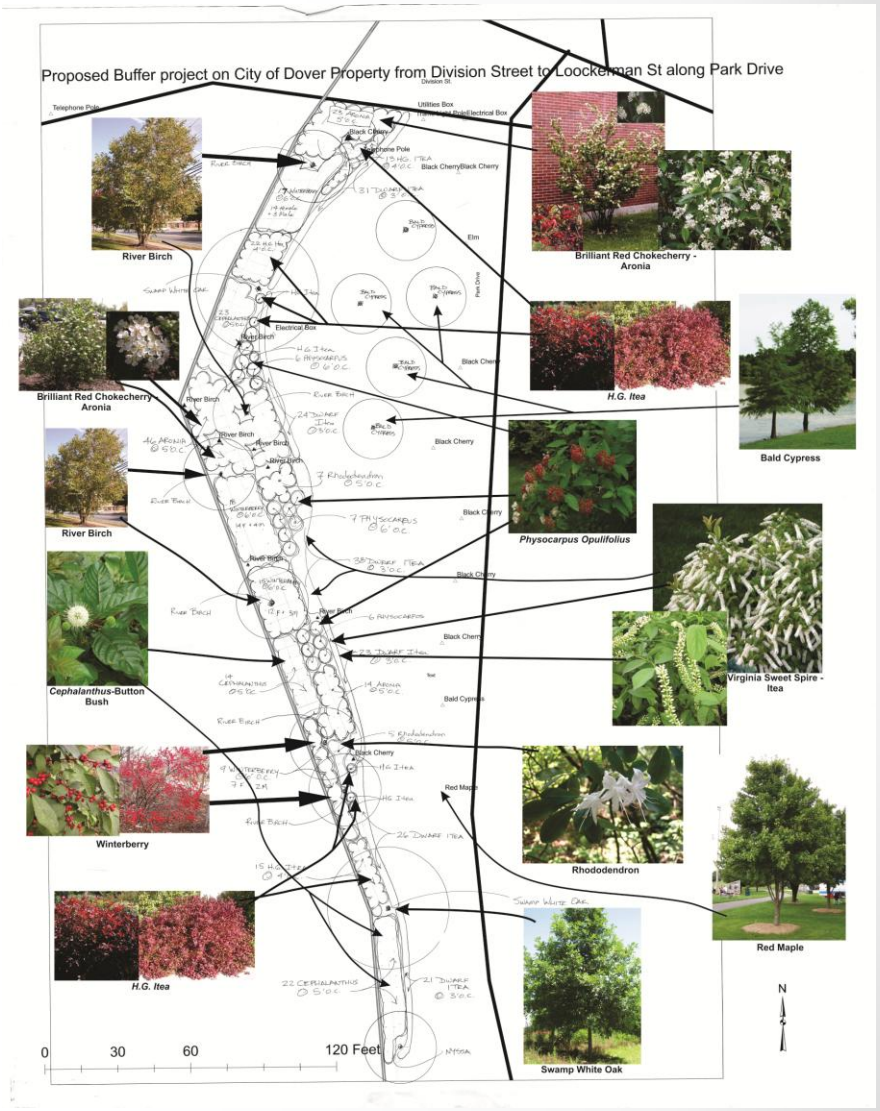
- Removing invasive vegetation
- Restoring the banks of the St. Jones near the dam
- Retro-fiting some stormwater discharges
- Creating some wetlands within the Park

Proposed Planting Locations



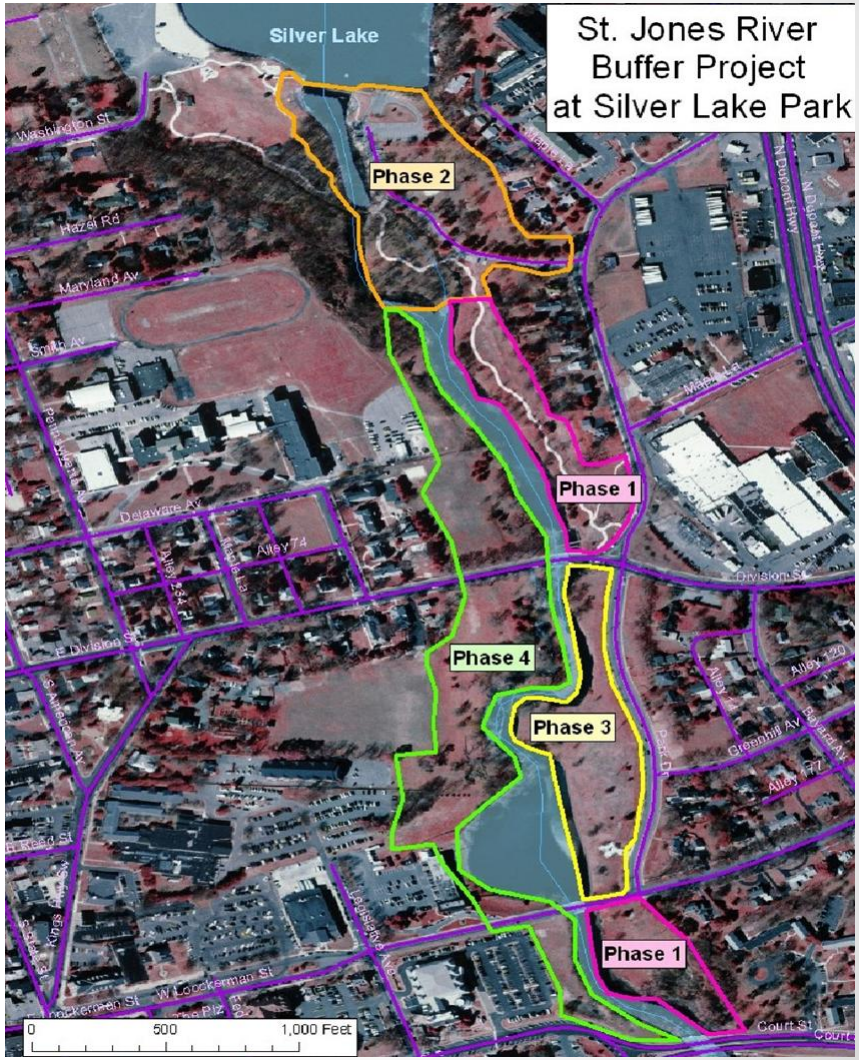
Proposed Planting Plans





Progress to date

- 3 plantings have occurred (65% done) in Phase I
- Started working on Phase II and Phase IV (Central Middle School)
- For Phase II, the design has been completed and the project is currently being bid out to contractors
- Started to plant phase III



Next Steps



4 The State Capital Daily Delaware State News, Tuesday, April 26, 2011

Dover tree planting event aids St. Jones watershed

DNREC, city volunteers assisting Silver Lake Revitalization Project

By Jessica Eisenbrey
Delaware State News

DOVER — Volunteers from DNREC and the city of Dover spent Monday morning planting trees along Park Drive in an effort to revitalize the St. Jones watershed.

Fifteen trees, from magnolias to bald cypresses, were planted. The tree planting is part of the Silver Lake Revitalization Project that was initiated in 2007. By planting trees, shrubs and flowers along the watershed, city and DNREC officials are hoping to prevent erosion and pollution.

"We're trying to make the waterways better," said Mayor Carleton E. Carey Sr., who attended Monday's event.

All the trees planted along the waterway are native to the area and will bloom at different times throughout the year, said Brittany Benson, St. Jones watershed coordinator for DNREC.

"It's specifically designed to be attractive all year round," she said.

Monday's event was the second annual tree and shrub planting to take place among DNREC and city of Dover volunteers and employees.

One aspect of the revitalization plan is to repair the natural riparian buffer along the watershed. This buffer will prevent runoff and other types of pollution from ending up in the water, Ms. Benson said.

"The water will filter through these strips," she said, referring to the grass, shrubs and trees that have already been planted along Park Drive.

Restoring the buffer could also keep geese from inhabiting the area, Ms. Benson said.

The line of trees and shrubbery planted along the waterway should prevent the geese from landing on Park Drive because they prefer to graze on open areas where water is clearly visible

"We're hoping to bother them enough so they leave the area," Ms. Benson said.

The public is invited to a workshop next month on the revitalization project and specifically the plan involving Park Drive. Residents of the Park Drive area and others impacted by the watershed planting may voice their opinions on the project at that meeting, Ms. Benson said.

"We want to see if they're any individuals who don't like the plan," she said. "It's not concrete by any means. We're open to suggestions."

The workshop runs from 6-8 p.m. May 11 in Dover city council chambers.

For more information, call Zachery Carter, director of Dover Parks & Recreation Department, at (302) 736-7050 or Lyle Jones, DNREC Watershed Assessment Section, at (302) 739-9939.

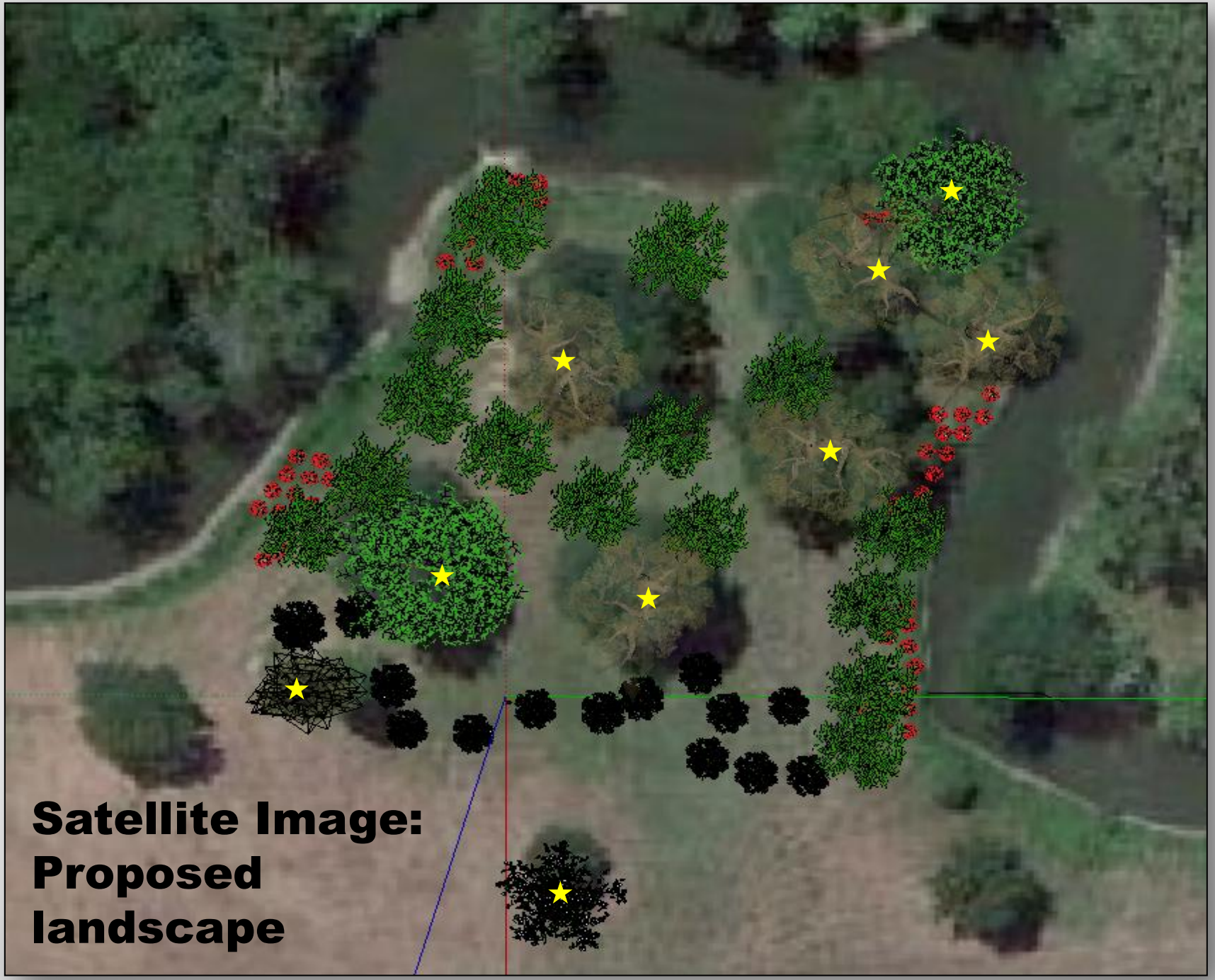
Staff writer Jessica Eisenbrey can be reached at 741-8242 or jeisenbrey@newszap.com.

Delaware State News/Jessica Eisenbrey

Dover Mayor Carleton E. Carey Sr. looks on as city of Dover employee James Lewis and Brittany Benson, St. Jones watershed coordinator for DNREC, plant a tree Monday along Park Drive in Dover.

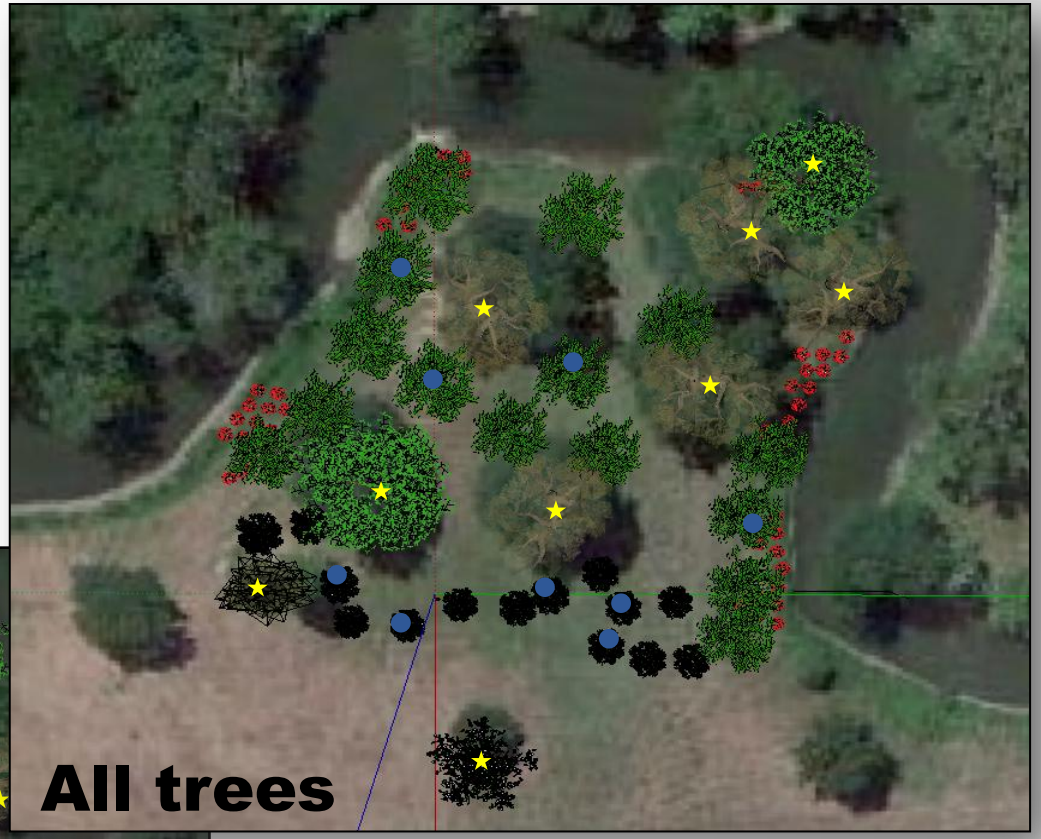
- Tweaking of planting plans based on feedback
  - Planting to resume in the fall
- Volunteers very much appreciated to help plant!
  - Sign-up sheet available at end of meeting

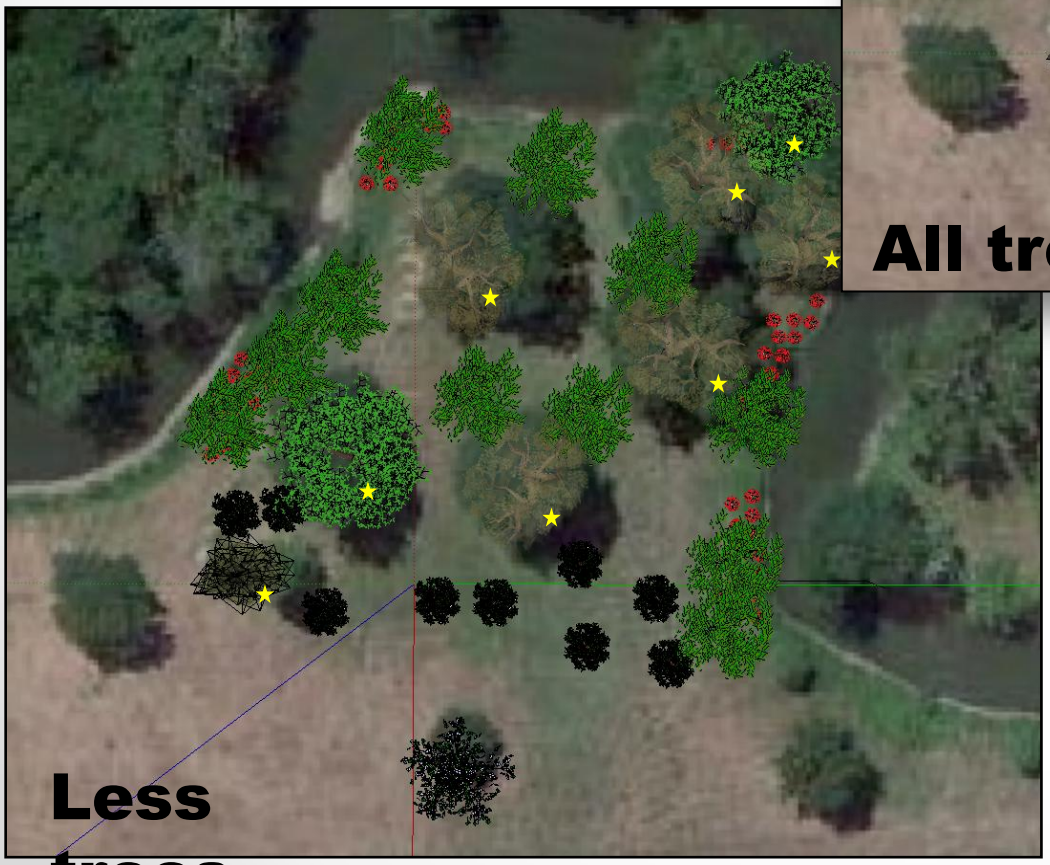
Satellite Image: Proposed Landscape

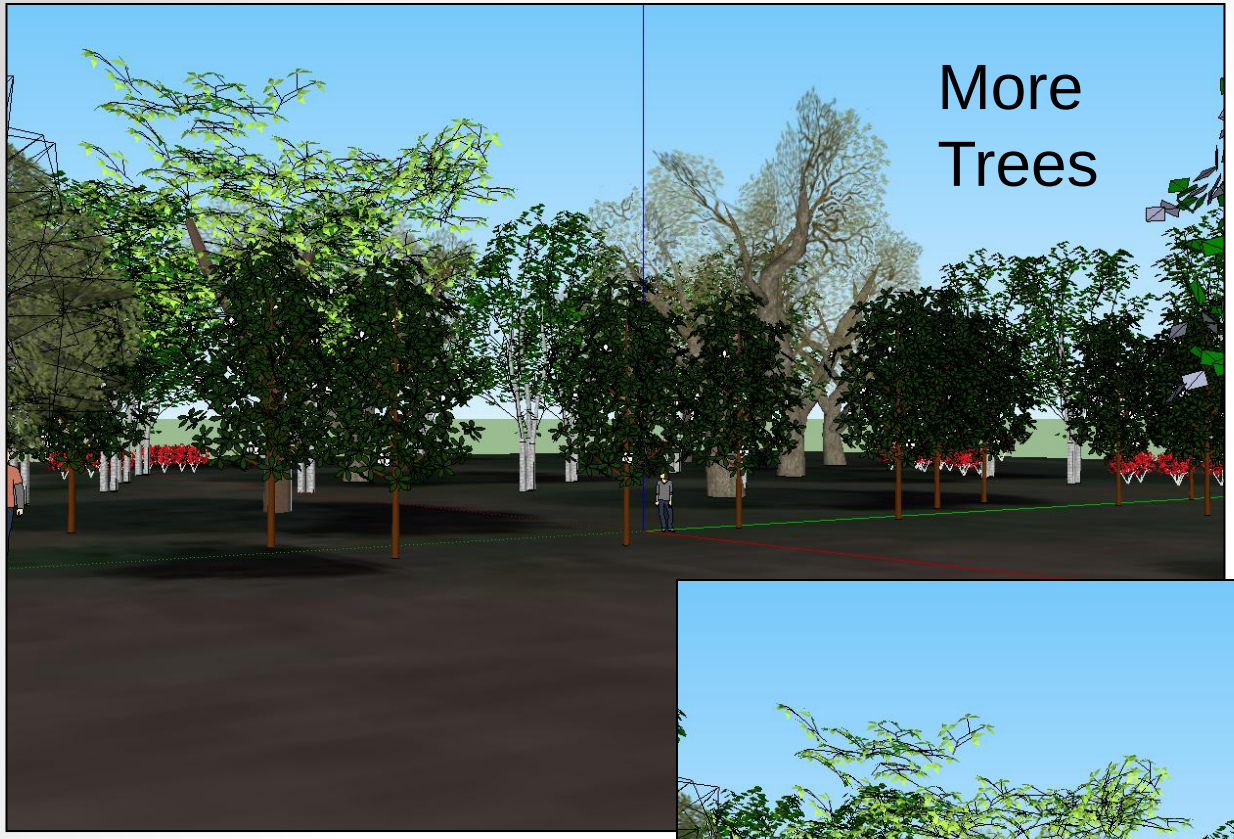

Satellite Image:
Proposed
landscape

Satellite Image: Modified Landscape: Less trees


Satellite Image:
Proposed
landscape with
less trees


All trees


Less
trees


More
Trees


Less
Trees

Park Drive Resident Opinions of Proposed Plantings

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