

# MADISON NEEDS A TREE ORDINANCE

**Fact:** In the past 40 years, **Madison has lost 120,000-360,000 trees**—more than 1,200 acres, or 28% larger than the size of Hammonasset. And it's accelerating!

**Fact:** In the past year alone, we've lost several **landmark trees** including an **American Elm**, **Black Walnut**, and – soon – **American Chestnuts**, representing **100s of years** of growth.

**Fact:** The state of Connecticut has a goal of **No Net Loss of Forests<sup>1</sup>** (i.e. no net loss to the State's tree canopy).

**Fact:** **19 out of 24** neighboring towns have Tree Ordinances and Planning & Zoning regulations to help protect their tree canopies.

**Fact:** Trees play a vital role in **mitigating climate change**, **protecting wildlife**, **reducing flooding**, **reducing soil erosion**, and helping to keep **cooling costs down** and **property values up**.

**Fact:** We **can** protect Madison's tree canopy **without** removing rights of individual homeowners.

## What can you do?

- Email our five Town Selectpeople to advocate for a Tree Ordinance
- Plant a free native tree from MAD for Trees
- Spread the word about the important role trees have in our local climate and landscape
- Sign up for updates at [mad4trees.org](http://mad4trees.org) and/or on Facebook



<sup>1</sup>Governor's Council on Climate Change – 'Taking Action on Climate Change', January 2021, p40