

We are MAD for TREES





Madison & Trees



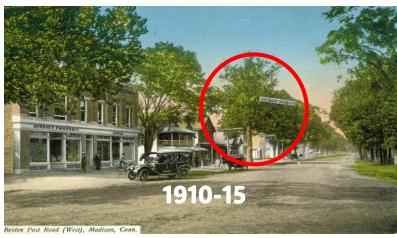
Bird's Eye View of Madison in 1881



Madison's Boston Post Road

Looking west from the Library







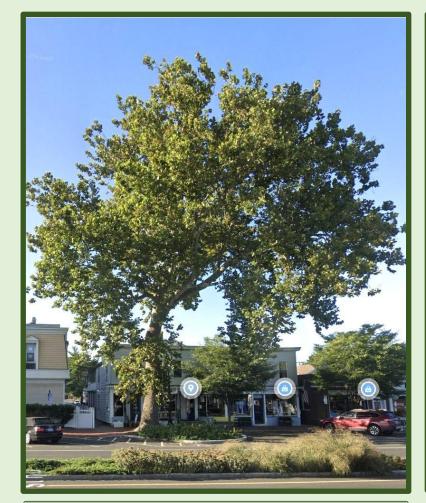


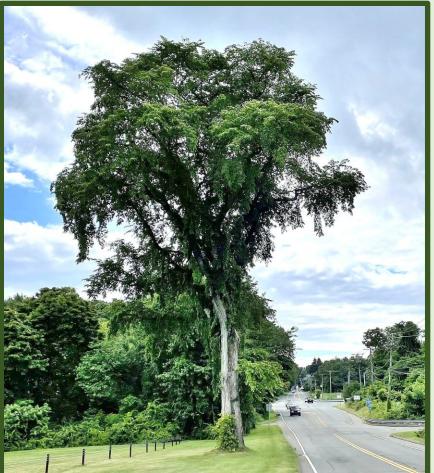


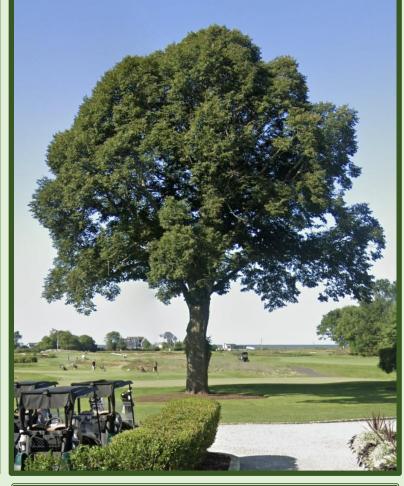




Photos from the MHS Vintage Post Cards archives: https://www.flickr.com/photos/madisonhistory/albums/72157683174489455/







American Sycamore

Tony's Barber Shop Circumference = 138" DBH = 44"

Approx. Age = 176 years (1849)

American Elm

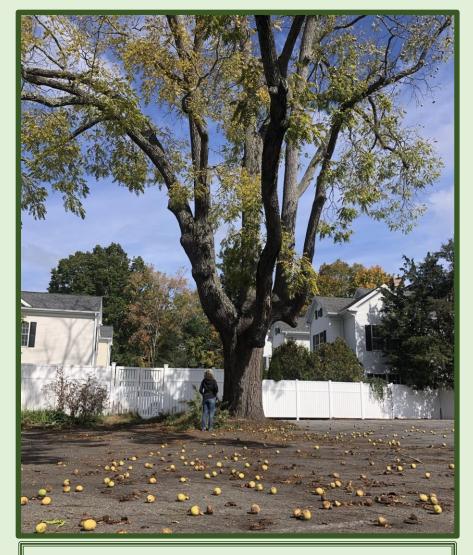
Boston Post Rd - Hammo Circumference = 137" DBH = 44"

Approx. Age = 175 years (1850)

American Basswood

Madison Country Club Circumference = 122" DBH = 39"

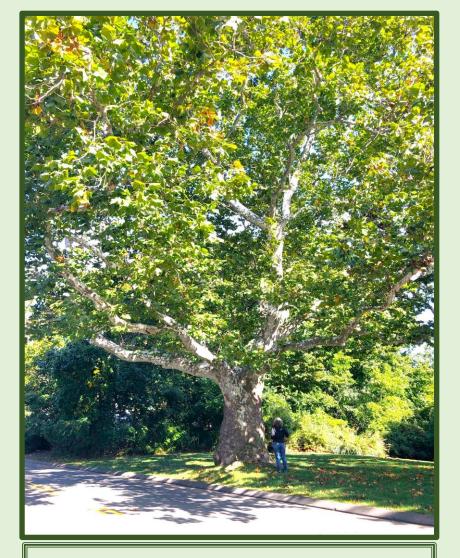
Approx. Age = 117 years (1908)



Black Walnut

Boston Post Rd – Elizabeth's Cafe Circumference = 151" DBH = 48"

Approx. Age = 216 years (1809)



American Sycamore

Green Hill Rd Circumference = 187" DBH = 60"

Approx. Age = 240 years (1785)





Boston Post Rd looking east:

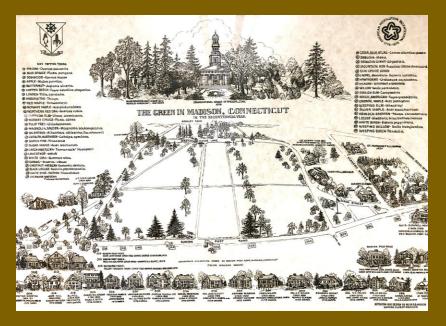
Then & Now (~1905 & 2025)



Wall St looking north:

Then & Now (~1905 & 2025)















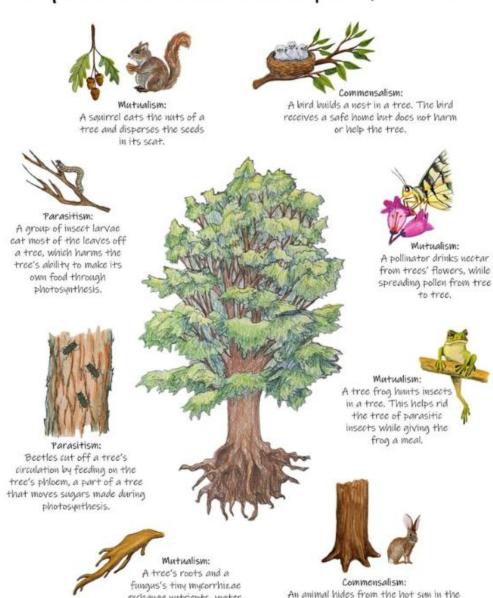
Why Native? Symbiosis

- Mutualism:
 - Tree provides food (seeds, nectar & fruit) while pollinators & animals spread pollen & seeds.
 - Microorganisms in the soil deliver nitrogen through the tree roots.

Why Trees?

- Shade trees reduce energy costs
- Trees help buffer noise pollution
- Trees clean the air of CO₂
- Tree roots slow water runoff; reduce erosion

Symbiotic Relationships of Trees

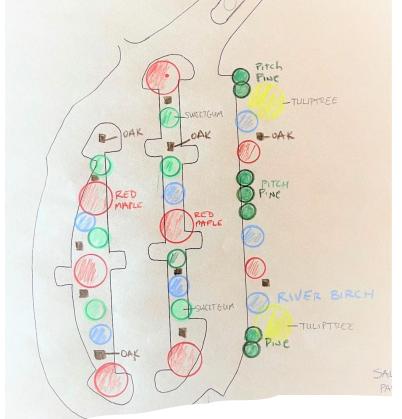


exchange nutrients, water,

and sugars with each

shadow of a tree. The tree is neither









Salt Meadow Park Planting & Give Away Spring 2022

63 Native Trees

Red Maple, White Cedar, River Birch, Franklinia, Dogwood, & American Holly



Garden Club Apple Corps @ Bauer Park



25 Heritage Apple & Pear Trees



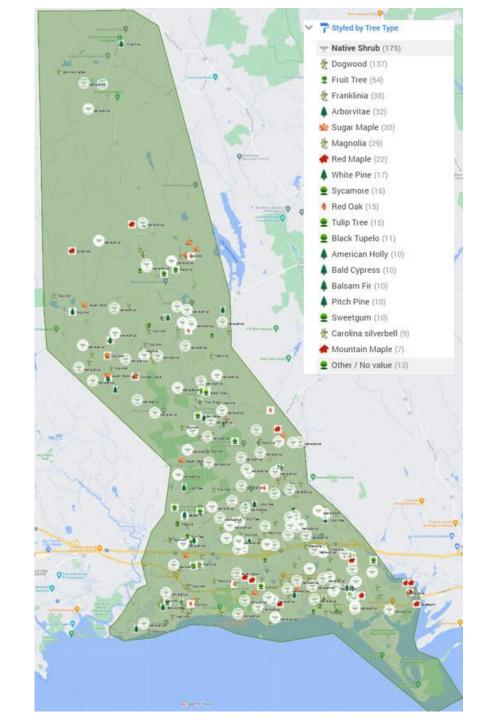


The Numbers & Places

as of April 5th, 2025

Plant Type	Count	Varieties
Trees (Non-Fruit)	539	24
Trees (Fruit)	54	22
Shrubs	201	10
Total	794	56

Recipient Type	Count
Residential	712
Parks	73
Organizations	9
Total	794







But not everything is quite golden in Madison though.

Millions Of Connecticut Trees Are Dying - What's Killing Them?

--- Hartford Courant Sept 27th, 2018

Invasives

- Insect destruction Gypsy Moth Caterpillar, Emerald Ash Borer and ...
- The Spotted Lantern Fly is at our doorstep!
- Bad Plants Bittersweet vines

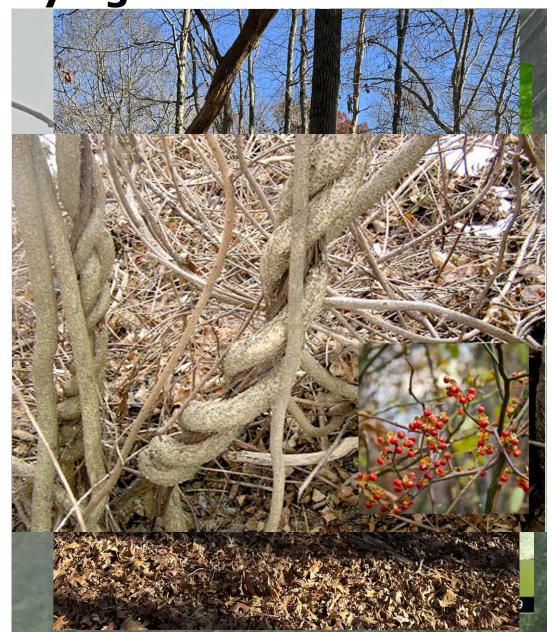
Crazy weather

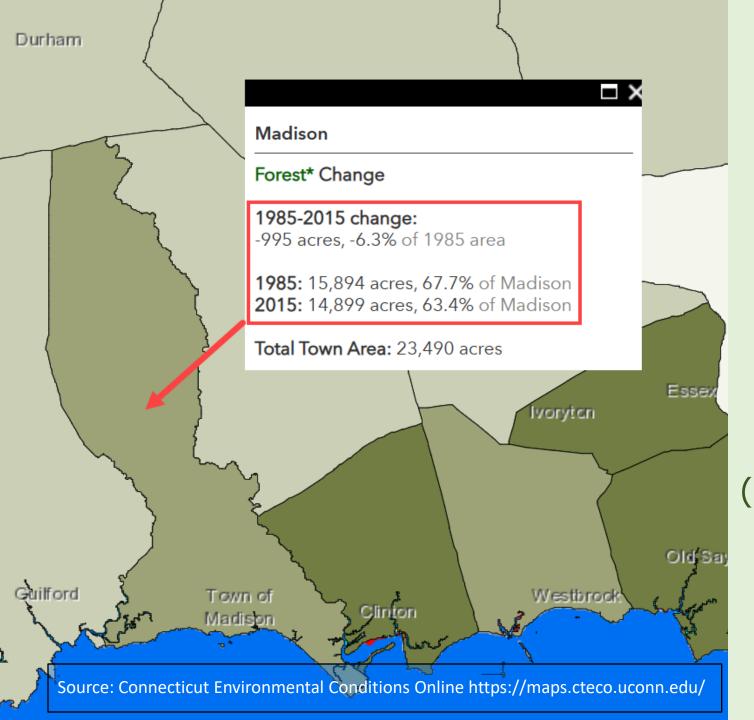
- Extended periods of drought
- High winds with drenching rain

Climate Change

 Hotter longer growing seasons + reduced capacity to absorb & store atmospheric CO2 as carbon = reduced wood density

Madison (and the world) are in an uphill battle, and we are running out of time.





Between 1985 & 2015
Madison lost
1,000 acres
of Tree Canopy
>100,000 trees

(Assumes 100 - 300 trees/acre)

Connecticut's Notable Trees

ID: 226705

Scientific Name: *Juglans nigra* Common Name: Black Walnut

Town: Madison

Points: 247

Circumference: 151 in

Height: 76 ft

Average Spread: 81 ft

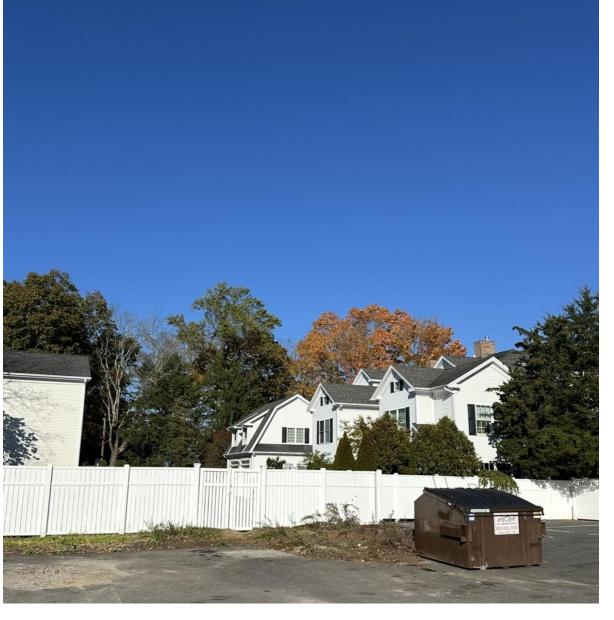
Nominated by: Francis Brady (Apr 1, 2024) Measured by: Jeff Suraci (May 26, 2024)



Photo by Jeff Suraci (May 26, 2024)

Black Walnut – Juglans nigra

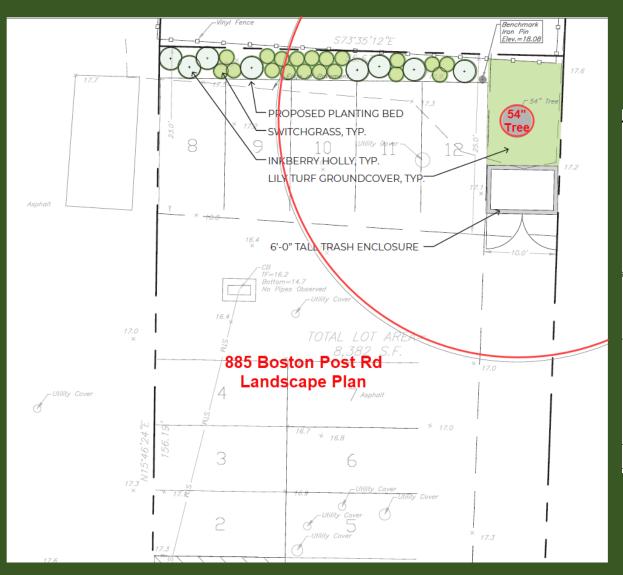


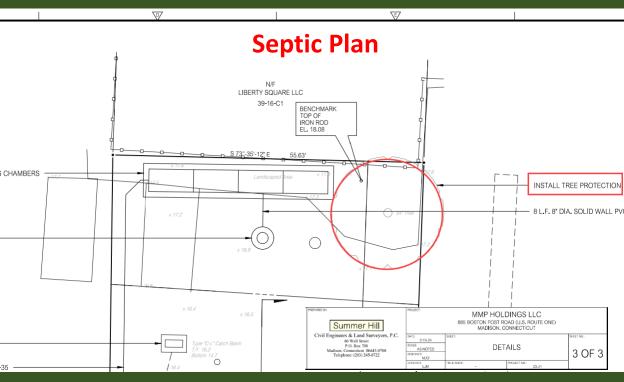


885 Boston Post Rd – Oct 2021

885 Boston Post Rd - Sept 2024

Submitted P&Z Plans





CLEAR
CUTTING
Across
MADISON



How can you help?

- Do you have one of our trees? Help us reach our 1,000 native plant goal.
- Help us promote a Tree Replacement Policy.
 - Education Remove Invasives
 - Protect our Notable Trees
 - Support a Tree Ordinance
- Participate in Madison's 200th Anniversary!!

