

UC Green

Organizing Tree Data

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Organization Info

UC Green is an organization founded in 1999 that promotes the greening of neighborhood's of West Philadelphia.

They gained non-profit status in 2004.

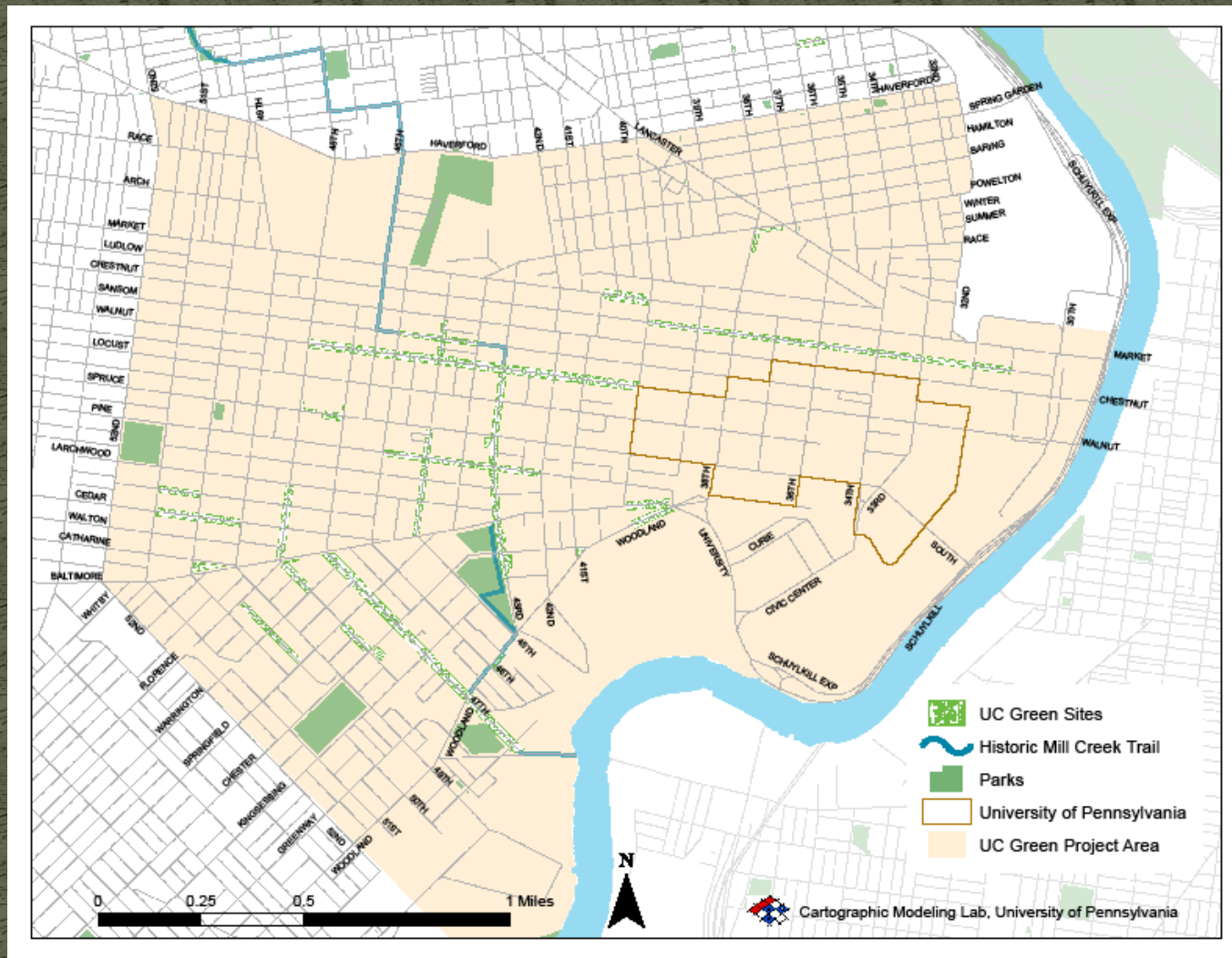
Mission Statement

“The mission of UC Green is to promote, coordinate, and support volunteer community greening in University City, West/Southwest Philadelphia neighborhoods. Through partnerships we build community, endorse sustainable practices, and champion environmental stewardship.”

Why I Chose UCGreen

- I am interested in urban forestry and trees, which UCGreen's main focus
- I was interested in working in the city of Philadelphia
- I had met Susan Pringle and other organization members previously, and had participated in some events

UC Green's Area



Some Accomplishments

Engaged 5,000 volunteers in over 15,000 hours of community greening

Planted over 2000 trees

Planted 15,000 bulbs and perennials

Volunteer hours in labor value \$280,000.

Increased property values by \$28 million*

Staff and other Members:

Sue Pringle, Executive Director

Winnie Harris, Program and Volunteer Coordinator

Stephen Mcoubrey, Consulting Landscape
Architect, Advisory Board

Mike Hardy, Chair of the Board of Directors

Joe Shapiro, Advisory Board

Johannah Fine, Advisory Board

Photos



Above: Sue, Joe, and Winnie

Left: Joe (far left), Mike (3rd from the left) and Johannah (4th from the left) and various other UC Green volunteers

GreenCorps

- A summer program that recruits youth and adults to learn about tree maintenance and the environment
- Tasked with caring for street trees in their first few growing seasons



Pruning Club

- Volunteers meet one evening every week in the summer to maintain trees
- Each week the volunteers take on a different block or street
- Trees are pruned of dead, crossing, and obtrusive branches---limbing up
- Debris is cleaned up and bundled

Collaborators

- University of Pennsylvania
- Drexel University
- University of the Sciences
- Project NEAT
- TreeVitalize and TreeTenders Groups
- Local High Schools

Funding

UC Green At times receives funding from Penn, Drexel, and various foundations

Because it is a non-profit community organization, members look for funders, write grant proposals and think of fundraising opportunities

Purpose of Project

- Organize data concerning UCGreen's tree plantings
To present to major funders as evidence of UCGreen's accomplishments, competence and value to the community and to the environment.

Data will be further used by UCGreen employees and volunteers for tree mapping

Initial Work

Records had to be searched for information on UCGreen's Planting Projects

This was done by searching through the many files on UCGreen's office Computer and sorting out the relevant information

The relevant information was scattered in many different folders

Data collected

- What kind of trees were planted?
- How many were planted?
- Where were they planted?
- When were they planted?
- Who planted them?

Rough Tree List

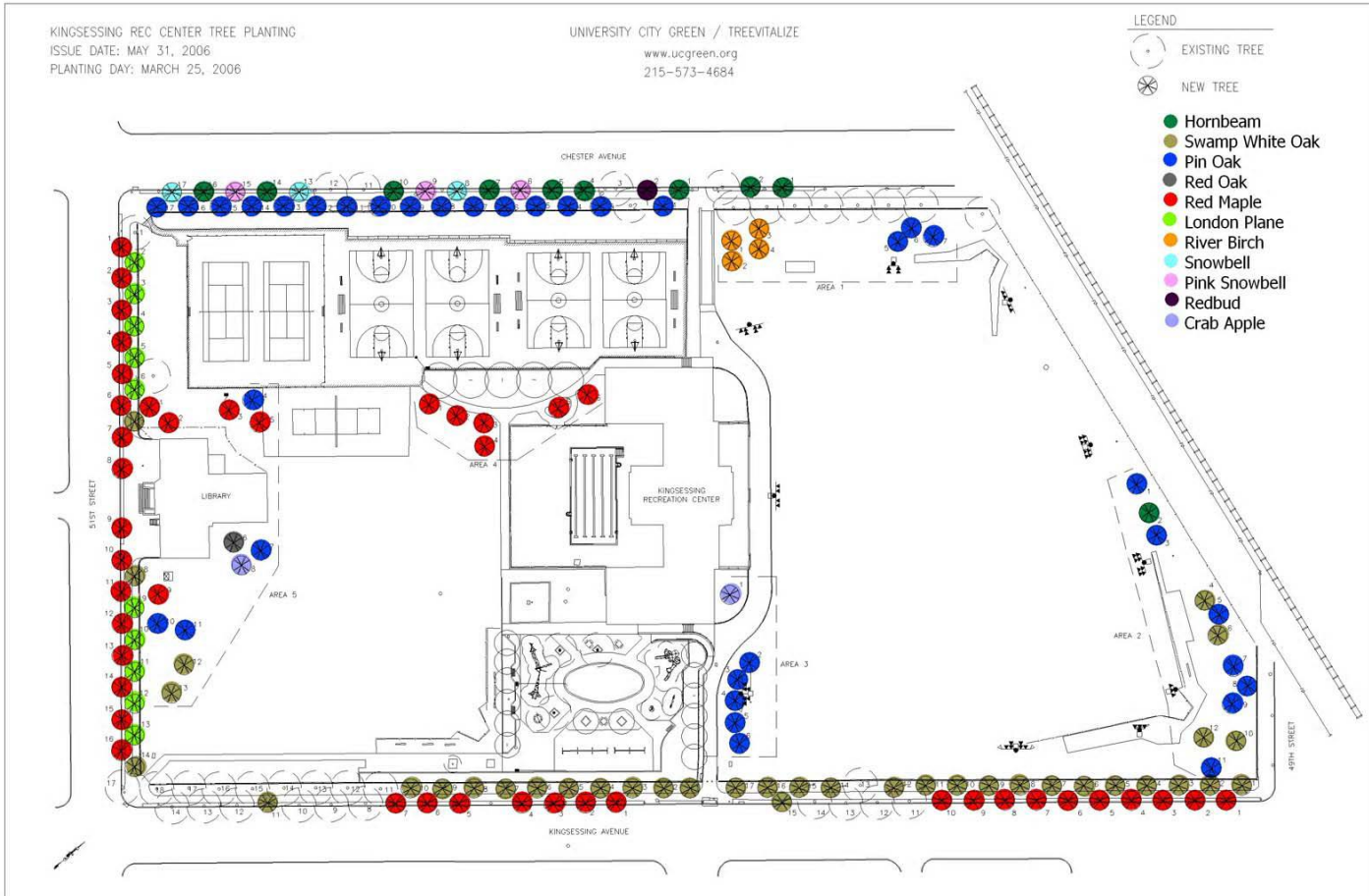
Trees	When	Location	Volunteers
50		2000 University City	
25		2000 University City	
18		2000 West Philadelphia High School	
110	24-Mar-01	Walnut Street, 43rd to 48th	1200
150	11-Nov-01	Chestnut Street, 30th to 40th	600
800 Over five years to 2002			
20	18-May-02	900 Block of N. 50 Street	
19	19-Oct-02	48th and Chester dog park	
20	2002	48th and Chester dog park	
24		Morton McMichael Public School, 35th and Fairmount	
31	Mar-04		15
80	10-Apr-04	40th to 43th sts	250
16	2-Oct-04	N. 32 st	70
50	Oct-04		111
37	19-Mar-05	cedar park and spruce hill	
50	16-Apr-05	n. 43, street	
4	2005	Lea School, 47th and spruce	
94	29-Oct-05	powelton ave	364
10	29-Oct-05	cedar park	
18	5-Nov-05	Clark park	
150	25-Mar-06	kingsessing Rec	530
34	8-Apr-06		49
3	12-Apr-06		14
25	15-Apr-06	4600 block of Osage ave, and 200 block of s. 46th st	78
40	21-Oct-06	west powelton/saunders park	122
18	28-Oct-06	Spruce hill	49
70	4-Nov-06	west shore and spruce hill	203
18	11-Nov-06	1500 Lindenwood St.	81
13	Mar-07	200 block of S. 43rd St.	57
65	31-Mar-07	B. B. Comegy School	
48	14-Apr-07	Cedar Park Neighborhoods	141
60	21-Apr-07	Market St. and West Powelton	172
17	27-Apr-07	Upenn Life Center 4500 Chestnut St	46
46	27-Oct-07	Cedar park, Spruce hill, Walnut hill	189
8	11-Nov-07	Spruce hill, Walnut Hill	35
63	12-Mar-08	University City	
95	Apr-08	Woodland Recreation Center	316
12	12-Apr-08	S. 42nd st	47
17	24-Apr-08	Alexander Wilson Elementary School	49
44	15-May-08	Penn-Alexander School	59
2472			4847

This list was compiled based on a 2009 report created by Mike Hardy

It includes how many trees were planted, where they were planted, when they were planted, and how many volunteers were involve

Not shown are the other organizations involved in the projects

Tree Map



Future Activities

- The trees will be tagged and mapped using GIS using ARCmap or similar programs
- Possibly plants will also be added onto Plantmapper.com
- The information will be used to show funders the value of UCGreen's work

Other Tasks

Paperwork:

Filling out Forms

Updating Email Contact lists

Preparing tree planting maps for the April 16th tree planting

Other Tasks

Outdoor Work:

Cutting back Russian Sage

Pulling Weeds

Removing Garbage

Untangling and tying up vines on the lattice

Other Tasks

Outdoor Work:



Important Lessons

- Running an organization involves a lot of office work
- Gathering funding is essential
- It is important to reach out to the surrounding neighborhoods for volunteers and other organizations to team up with
- It is necessary to keep records of the organization's accomplishments
 - It shows funding sources that the organization is worth helping
 - It show the people within the organization that they're hard work has yielded great results!

Working with UCGreen

- Overall working with UCGreen has been a great experience
- Thanks Winnie Harris, Susan Pringle, and Mike Hardy for their help and encouragement
- I would look forward to working with UCGreen more in the future
 - Either continuing with the inventory project,
 - Or working as a volunteer in some other way

Source



Website:

www.ucgreen.org

Phone:

215-573-4684

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