

Cemetery Arboretum Toolkit

Introduction: This toolkit is meant to guide you through the ArbNet accreditation process, the steps to create a new arboretum, or building your arboretum's capacity to upgrade to a higher level of accreditation. The toolkit contains resources such as, ArbNet template documents, as well as examples of the different elements that make up an arboretum from various ArbNet accredited arboreta. Overall, this should give you a more concrete understanding of what you need to create or enhance an arboretum.

Resources

Application

- [Level I Sample Application](#)
- [Level II Sample Application](#)
- [Level III Sample Application](#)
- [Level IV Sample Application](#)

Strategic Plan

- [Arlington National Cemetery](#)

Collections Policy

- [Arlington National Cemetery](#)

Tree Inventory & Assessment

- [Green-Wood Cemetery](#)
- [Mount Pleasant Cemetery](#) (Interactive arboretum book)

Tree Care

- [Forest Hill Union Cemetery](#)
- [Spring Grove Cemetery](#) (Tree care resources)

Labeling

- [Digital Labeling with PlantsMap](#)
- [Example Label](#)
- Example
 - [Arlington National Cemetery](#)
- [How to attach an I.D. to a mature tree](#)
- [Label Making Comparison Guide](#)
- [Label Resources from APGA](#)

Mapping

- [Green-Wood Cemetery](#)
- [Graceland Cemetery](#)

Sustainability

- [Arlington National Cemetery](#) (Sustainable Practices)
- [Mount Auburn Cemetery](#) (Wildlife Action Plan)
- [White Haven Memorial Park](#) (Green Burial and Nature Trail)
- [White Haven Memorial Park](#) (Wildlife Conservation Program)

Conservation Projects/Programs

- [West Laurel Hill Cemetery](#) (Land Conservation Plan)

Educational Programs

- [APGA Plant Heroes](#) (Series of nature-based educational/outreach content for gardens)
- [Green-Wood Cemetery](#)
- Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum (Educational brochures)
 - [Selections](#)
 - [Champion Trees](#)
 - [Evergreens](#)

Events

- [Green-Wood Cemetery](#)
- [Mount Auburn Cemetery](#)
- [Spring Grove Cemetery](#) (Volunteer opportunities)

Tours

- [Graceland Cemetery](#) (Arboretum tree tour)
- [Newton Cemetery](#) (Interactive tree tour)

Newsletters

- [Spring Grove Cemetery](#)
- [West Laurel Hill Cemetery](#)

Steps to Becoming an ArbNet Accredited Arboretum (Level I)

1. Complete a Strategic Plan

- a. A strategic plan defines the purpose and mission of the arboretum, its audience(s), and the types of plants that are grown to achieve that purpose or serve those audiences, provisions for the maintenance and care of the plants, and provisions for the continuing operation of the organization through time with a clear succession plan. As a cemetery, your strategic plan will more likely come from the cemetery's and you should develop a mission statement as it relates to being an arboretum

2. Governance

- a. A governing board, a group of people, or authority that is dedicated to the arboretum plan and its continuation beyond the efforts of a single individual. Such an organizational/governance group will affirm fulfillment of standards and authorize participation as an accredited arboretum

3. Staff

- a. Employees or volunteers who ensure fulfillment of the arboretum plan and provide for the basic needs of the arboretum collection and functions of the arboretum.(i.e. grounds crew)

4. Collections

- a. 25 + species of woody plants and label them or mapped in some way (can be mapped online)
- b. All trees do not need to be labeled, just a selection of 25 species for easy public awareness

5. Outreach/Education

- a. Host at least one event, open to the general public
 - i. Arbor Day
 - ii. Earth Day with a tree related event
 - iii. Walking Tour
 - iv. Tree Planting
 - v. Tree Care Education