



City 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

- [Smale Riverfront Park](#)
- [Tower Grove Park](#)

Collections Policy

- [The Newport Arboretum](#)

Tree Inventory & Assessment

- [Mt. Lebanon Arboretum Tree Specimen Collection](#) (Interactive Tree Collection List)
- [Mt. Lebanon Tree ID form](#) (A citizen science project)

Tree Care

- [City of East Point](#) (Tree Health Care Plan)
- [The Forest Park Arboretum](#) (Tree Care Resources)

Labeling

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



Mapping

- [City of Bexley Arboretum](#) (Map Tree Tour)
- [Cooper-Young Historic District Arboretum](#)
- [Greenwich Town Arboretum](#)
- [Lawrence Rotary Arboretum](#) (Interactive Map)

Sustainability

- [Smale Riverfront Park](#) (Involvement in Urban Forestry, Natural Resources Management, Green Space, etc.)

Conservation Projects/Programs

- [Village of Riverside](#) (Tree Pest Control)

Educational Programs

- [APGA Plant Heroes](#) (Series of nature-based educational/outreach content)
- [Atlanta Beltline Arboretum](#) (Youth Education)
- [Centennial Parklands](#) (Youth Education)
- [Greenwich Town Arboretum](#) (Educational Brochures)
- [Tower Grove Park](#) (Educational Opportunities)

Events

- [Centennial Parklands](#) (Events Page)
- [Greenwich Town Arboretum](#) (Calendar of Events)

Tours

- [Aiken City Wide Arboretum](#) (Cell Phone Tour)
- [Atlanta Beltline Arboretum](#)
- [The Newport Arboretum](#)

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. Your plan may be written into your city/town governance plans

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, city arborists)

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