



TOWNSHIP OF VERONA
COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY

SHADE TREE COMMISSION



VERONA COMMUNITY CENTER
880 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
10 COMMERCE COURT
VERONA, NEW JERSEY 07044

ShadeTreeGroup@VeronaNJ.org

To: Verona Planning Board

From : Verona Shade Tree Commission, Carol Thomas, Chair

September 17, 2026

PB Case#2026-04

Our Lady of the Lake , 22 Lakeside Ave, Verona Montrose Ave parking lot

The Shade Tree Commission has been asked for comments regarding the removal of trees and the planting of trees and shrubbery for this project.

As we interpret the plans, five coniferous trees are to be removed with an additional 20 or so shrubs being removed. All removals appear around the 2.5 story frame house. None of the deciduous trees presently on the property are to be removed.

The plans show the planting of 5 coniferous as replacements. Additionally trees and shrubs are included in the plans also.

Totals from landscape schedule:

20 Acer Rubrum sugar maple 3" Caliper

8 Tila Cordata little leaf linden 3" Caliper

7 Cornus Florida flowing dogwood 3" Caliper

Multiple Evergreen and Shrubs

The Shade Tree Commission requests that architecture considers **stitching out all or most of the maples** for other species of trees which are underrepresented in Verona. Specifically, any types of appropriate **oak or hickory**. Fifty percent of the trees in Verona are maples, a diversity of trees support healthy ecosystems. Please refer to the linked [Rutgers Priority Tree & Tall Shrub Species for Planting, Replacement & Reforestation in Northern NJ](#)