

# THE VALUE OF TREES

Almost everyone likes trees for one reason or another. They provide cool shade during hot summer days, and whether in the yard or in the park, they offer a serene setting to relieve the tensions of modern life. They add to the beauty and value of property. The splendor of a springtime floral display and the pageantry of autumn coloration make trees a delight to the eyes. Even in winter, tree crown silhouettes and textured bark details provide enjoyment. Trees evoke sentiment perhaps because Grandpa planted them when he and Grandma moved into the neighborhood many years before or because some historic event took place beneath their boughs. No matter what the reason-aesthetic, financial, or sentimental-a tree is a sound investment. Trees on private property contribute to the value of the real estate, increasing values 5 to 20 percent. A house surrounded by large healthy trees is worth more money than a house without them. A house with no trees near it looks hot in summer, appears unbalanced, and suggests, however unjustly, a lack of interest on the part of those who live in it. Established residential areas are usually more inviting and more restful than new housing developments for one important reason: they are supplied with large trees.