

# NEWSFLASH

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## Suntree and Cornerstone Clean Up City Park for Arbor Day

In recognition of Arbor Day, the owners and employees of Northeast Shade Tree, The Organic Arborist, along with GA Business Partners Suntree Tree Health Care and Cornerstone Tree Care, will donate their time helping to clean out and beautify Portsmouth's Langdon Park.

Continuing a three year tradition of volunteering on Arbor Day, this year's efforts will be geared towards removing deadwood from the overstory or canopy of the trees, as well as trimming them of unhealthy – and potentially dangerous – branches.

Micum Davis of the Portsmouth-based Cornerstone Tree, who along with Suntree's Chris Kemp has served as the event's chief organizer since the first incarnation three years ago, is looking forward to this year's challenges.

"We're always excited to give back by volunteering our time and expertise to our community in a way that benefits a common space," exclaims Davis. "We feel like our costs are outweighed by the benefits of bringing the community together around something that we all share in common."

"It just feels right," he said.

Portsmouth can certainly use the help. Because many of the trees in the city's parks are so old, keeping them well maintained is not only a matter of aesthetics, but one of safety as well.

"Without the removal of deadwood from trees, it's kind of like leaving a rotten tooth in the jaw," explains Davis. "Over time, it will damage other parts of the system. This makes the removal of deadwood critical for maintaining long term tree health as well as park safety."