



Alliance for Community Trees  
Brown Bag Webcast

# Organizing Workprograms for High School Students

Amanda Benner  
Executive Director, UC Green  
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# Every year, UC Green:

- Engages 1,000+ volunteers
- Gives back over 3,000 hours in community service
- Plants 200+ street trees in University City, West Philadelphia, PA
  - Many on commercial corridors or near schools or recreation centers

# UC Green at Work: Before and After



Before



After

150 trees planted Spring 2006  
Kingsessing Recreation Center  
50<sup>th</sup> & Kingsessing Ave.

# Challenge & Opportunity

- To ensure survivability and success, trees need maintenance
- Neighborhood youth need jobs, and a connection to the environment

# 2006 Initiative

- Launched summer youth tree maintenance employment program: UC Green Corps
  - provides seasonal maintenance to over 300 trees planted by UC Green volunteers
  - 16-week summer program
  - provides valuable hands-on job training, environmental and tree care education
  - promotes stewardship



# 2007 Program

- Increased capacity to 500 trees a week
- Summer: 25 hrs/week, Mon – Fri, 7am – 12pm
- Spring: 5 Saturdays; Fall: 4 Saturdays @ 5 hrs
- Payrate: \$8/hour
- Team:  
supervisor/driver  
& 3 team members  
plus 2 alternates



# UC Green Corps

- Priority is watering; 20 gallons/week per tree
- Additional care includes:
  - Mulching
  - Weeding
  - Pruning
  - Staking
  - Trash removal



# UC Green Corps

Existing conditions



# UC Green Corps



Education:  
- workshops & supervision



# UC Green Corps



Education  
- field trips

# UC Green Corps Tree Pit Makeover



# UC Green Corps



UC Green, Inc.

# UC Green Corps



# UC Green Corps Tips:

- Safety is critical!
- Water is heavy – be sure to calculate for your vehicle capacity.
- Proper use of water hydrants requires a backflow preventer.
- Have high expectations of your team – establish a strong work ethic, have fun, and make the experience memorable.





Amanda Benner  
Executive Director  
UC Green, Inc.  
3616 Lancaster Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

[abenner@ucgreen.org](mailto:abenner@ucgreen.org)  
215-573-4684  
[www.ucgreen.org](http://www.ucgreen.org)

