<u>Citizen Forester Volunteers Needed!</u>

The Town of Freeport is looking to steward its tree canopy this summer, and you can help!

Trees in our villages and commercial landscapes contribute to a thriving economy, promote our sense of community, protect our natural resources, preserve our cultural heritage, and increase our overall well-being. A complete inventory of these public trees can serve as a baseline to determine canopy cover, locate available planting sites, and track individual tree conditions. With this information, the town can create a management plan for its trees that will serve its residents, businesses, and visitors, now and into the future. In addition, detailed tree information that identifies planting and maintenance needs will be used to support municipal budget requests, and to create applications for funding from outside sources.

We need your help to complete this important work!

If you are interested, please join us for our

Citizen Forester Training on either

Thursday, May 30 from 6-8 PM

<u>or</u> Saturday, June 1 from 10AM – 12PM at the

Freeport Town Hall

Attendees will learn:

- The value of urban trees
- Tree identification
- How to measure trees, and
- How to use the USDA Forest Service's state-ofthe-art iTree software

Volunteers should be able to walk on level ground over a couple hours, read a tape measure and enter data into a web browser on a handheld smart device. For the training, please dress for the weather, wear comfortable shoes and bring a smartphone or tablet (no downloads required) if you have one. For more information email kim.ballard@maine.gov.