

New Leaf Society completes landscape project in Burlington

The New Leaf Society has completed a landscaping project for the city of Burlington, introducing new trees along Grand Oaks Boulevard.

The final trees were installed last week along Grand Oaks from Kirkpatrick Road to Alamance Road, marking the completion of the second step in a multi-phase, 3.7 mile landscaping project that began at the northern end of University Drive, at Westbrook Avenue, and continues to the southern end of Grand Oaks at Alamance Road. New Leaf officials plan to continue the boulevard landscaping north of Westbrook Avenue as the University Drive extension is completed.

Recent economic expansion along the western edge of Burlington gave New Leaf a perfect setting for this extensive project, which the group considers a gateway to some of the best Burlington has to offer. "New Leaf wants to create tree-lined thoroughfares that thread through the economic centers of our city," said Rett Davis, New Leaf president. "We have street trees and plantings throughout Alamance County, but few of them are congruent. The University/Grand Oaks project is an effort to create distinctive 'travel routes' through Burlington."

All New Leaf landscaping projects and designs must meet NCDOT safety standards for street tree plantings.

As with all the organization's landscaping projects, New Leaf has a long-term maintenance agreement with the city to maintain all their beautification initiatives for two years, at the end of which plantings are established enough to survive with minimal care. New Leaf will



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then donate the landscaping on Grand Oaks to the City of Burlington as a gift from members.

With a budget of nearly \$12,700 in funds from private donors, the Grand Oaks median plantings continue New Leaf's mission to transform Alamance County into a desirable showcase for businesses to develop and thrive.

New Leaf depends entirely on member donations and private community contributions. Taxpayer funds are not used, and, although the city partners with New Leaf to approve and complete these beautification projects, the city does not have to pay for any of the plantings, re-landscaping, design or initial maintenance. As membership grows, New Leaf's reach will extend, creating a coherent, distinctive landscape for Alamance County. To learn more about their mission and accomplishments, visit online:

www.newleavesociety.org.

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