

April at the Beach Lot Park with Four New Trees

Over twenty years ago, FBCA residents voted to increase dues and designate that increase to cover future park improvements. This led to the installation of the sidewalk and new playground equipment just over fifteen years ago. Since then, expenditures for the beach lot park have focused primarily on annual maintenance and the ongoing expense of tree trimming, the removal of dead branches, and the removal of fallen trees. Due to increased safety concerns, it became necessary for many of the fragile poplar trees (*often referred to as widow makers*) to be removed.

While neighbors were grateful for the improved safety, many were sad to see the park lose trees. Thankfully, True Cut Tree Service¹ was able to install four new maple trees. The FBCA board consulted with Frank Bankowski, an arborist at True Cut Tree Service, to determine the best suited trees for our beach lot park.

On Friday, April 24th, True Cut Tree Service installed two Autumn Fest Sugar Maple² trees and two Jeffersred Maple³ (also referred to as Autumn Blaze) trees at the beach lot park. These trees were selected because of their quick growth, strong structure, and great fit for parks and landscapes in Southeastern Michigan.

The new trees were strategically placed to prevent damage to the existing sidewalk, play structures, and pavilion. The installation of these more durable maple trees is a much needed investment in the future of our park, and the vibrant colors will compliment our park in the fall.



¹[True Cut Tree Service](#) is a member of the ISA, International Society of Arboriculture, (formerly ASM). ISA is "a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, educating, and supporting tree care professionals and arboriculture sustainability in Michigan," ([asm-isa](#)). **Please consider contracting True Cut for any of your tree service needs.**

²Autumn Fest Sugar Maple

According to [Bower & Branch.com](#), the Autumn Fest Sugar Maple is known for, "its dazzling color, improved adaptability, and strong form." These trees are "an excellent choice for Southeast Michigan, offering superior heat/urban tolerance, fast growth, and reliable orange-red fall color." They are also "hardy for Michigan winters," and are a "durable shade tree that typically grows to 50 feet tall and 35 feet wide." [Bower & Branch]

³Jeffersred Maple

Similarly, the Jeffersred Maple, also known as Autumn Blaze Maple, is described by [Missouri Botanical Garden](#) as "a fast-growing, hybrid shade tree (40–55' tall) known for its brilliant, long-lasting scarlet-red fall color and dense, oval crown. A cross between red and silver maples, it thrives in full sun, adapts to various soils, and is highly valued for its tolerance to heat and drought."

Below are some images of Autumn Fest Maple Trees with their fall color:



Below are some images of **Autumn Blaze** Maple Trees with their fall color:

