



Urban Forestry Report

Inspections and Permits

Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry issues permits for all street and park tree work, including planting, pruning, and removal. In certain cases, Urban Forestry issues permits for private tree removals. Currently, efforts are guided by City Code 20.40 Street Tree and Other Public Tree Regulations and 20.42 Tree Cutting.

Each month, the *Urban Forestry Report* gives monthly inspection and permit totals. Because not all inspections result in permit issuance, metrics of both inspections and permits issued are included. Inspection and permit descriptions and definitions are provided on the final page of this report.

REMOVAL PERMITS AND FRIENDS OF TREES

Each year, Urban Forestry issues around 700 removal permits for street trees with the requirement that trees be replanted. Many applicants indicate that they would like to replant trees with Friends of Trees. Coordinating the removal inspection and replanting requirement, while preventing duplicate inspections can be complicated. Additionally, plantings only occur once per year in neighborhoods that host plantings. Staff have been working to simplify the process. To ensure that applicants were replacing required trees, Urban Forestry and Friends of Trees cross checked records from March 2011 through March 2012. 16% of all approved removal applicants indicated that they would replant required trees with Friends of Trees. Compliance with replanting requirements was found to be 95%. The process to guide applicants through their removal and replanting permit is working successfully.

MARCH 2012 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	TREES INSPECTED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES				
Planting, general	31	72	34	60
Grey to Green	101	173	275	264
Land use reviews	61	-	1	8
Development	196	-	89	102
Pruning	73	352	61	130
Removal	102	175	70	102
Root pruning	57	92	51	115
Other	94	339	7	24
PARK TREES				
Planting	0	0	4	43
Pruning	6	50	7	81
Removal	5	30	7	81
Root pruning	1	6	1	2
Other	9	106	1	10
PRIVATE TREES, TREE CUTTING ORDINANCE (TCO)				
Code applicability inspections	74	-	-	-
Planting, mitigation	-	-	-	19
Removal	28	51	28	48
EMERGENCIES				
Emergency call outs	46	49	-	-
TOTALS				
Planting	389	245	399	434
Pruning	79	402	68	211
Removal	209	256	105	231
Root Pruning	58	98	52	117
Other	103	445	8	34
Emergencies	46	49	-	-
Totals	884	1495	632	1027

UF Welcomes New City Forester



Jenn Cairo joins PP&R from Oregon State Parks.

In April Jenn Cairo joined the City Nature staff as the City Forester/ City Nature Zone Manager. Raised near High Falls, NY, Jenn developed a love of trees and green-n-growing things by traipsing the Shawangunk Mountains of her backyard, cutting firewood, and working as a carriage driver and trail guide. Interested in other cultures, she earned a BS in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and spent a few years in Central Europe where her exposure to shameful environmental conditions inspired her career shift to natural resources management. She worked as an Americorps intern and then climbing ranger in the New York state park system while studying prerequisites, then earned an MS in Forestry from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and a Masters of Public Administration from Syracuse University. As a graduate student, Jenn was an assistant on projects including timber production on small private wood lots and remote sensing in wildfire management.

Jenn's work background includes Land Manager and, later, Senior Natural Resources Manager for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection on the City's upstate watershed for several years. Her work centered on managing recreational use of forested ecosystems for the protection of drinking water quality. More recently she served as a Region Manager for Oregon Parks and Recreation Department overseeing state parks in the Columbia River Gorge, Portland area, Willamette Valley, and Rogue River basin. Her side-line gigs have included prescribed burn fire crew, municipal environmental and planning commissions, serving on two land trust boards, and "farmer's lackey" on a Community Supported Agriculture farm. The Arbor Lodge neighborhood is where Jenn and her partner Martin, who owns a film production company, call home.

Urban Forestry Crew Report

SUBMITTED BY LARRY MAGINNIS, UF CREW SUPERVISOR

With the exception of wind in early May, this report period was relatively tame. UF crew work focused on pruning, removal, and housekeeping efforts.

Following tree failures in the South Park Blocks and subsequent tree assessments, elm pruning and removals are occurring. Pruning is complete and we have removed six of the seven failing trees. There may be additional removals in the future, following outreach on the project.

View clearing along Terwilliger Boulevard is almost completed. Several overgrown views have been reclaimed and I invite all to visit the wonderful vistas.

Urban Forestry's two long awaited boom trucks have arrived in town. We hope to have them up and running shortly, following inspections.

Urban Forestry hosted PP&R's "Take Your Child to Work Day" at East Delta. We provided bucket truck rides and an interesting "Tree Elevator" event that raised both parent and child into the canopies of two dawn redwood trees. The event was an enormous hit and we look forward to participating in more outreach activities such as this.

We are currently in the process of recruiting for the Arborist series and interviews are wrapping up. By next month we should have completed hiring five positions for the Arborist I and Arborist II vacancies. It has been a long process that is finally coming to fruition. Stay tuned.



High Climber Rory Cramer guides Layla Horner, daughter of PP&R Asset Manager Brett Horner, through the canopy during "Take Your Child to Work Day."

Learning Landscape Program Plants 26 Trees at Woodmere School

SUBMITTED BY KARL DAWSON

Portland Parks & Recreation planted the final Learning Landscape of the 2011-2012 season on April 18th at Woodmere Elementary School at 7900 SE Duke. 26 trees were planted including 4 conifers, 14 street trees, and 4 native trees. Principal Heather Hull was integral to the tree planting. She worked with Woodmere teachers to ensure all students participated in the tree planting. UF Arborist Ned Sodja, PP&R Horticulturist Bill Alley, and Portland Public School Grounds Manager Mark Franklin designed the landscape plan. Broad spreading Oregon white oaks and swamp white oaks were selected for playgrounds. Western larch, western red cedar, and incense cedar were placed west of the gymnasium to provide shade and fastigate beech trees were placed in smaller spaces between the soccer field and a portable building. Hop hornbeams were planted



Woodmere students with Neighborhood Tree Steward Bryan Burch and UF Outreach and Education Coordinator Karl Dawson

along an unimproved road south of the school as street trees. The formal planting of street trees will create a clean line of trees shading the soccer field and buffering the unimproved sidewalk.

Urban Forestry Commission member Catherine Mushel, Neighborhood Tree Steward Bryan Burch, volunteer arborist Ruth Williams and Urban Forestry staff Kimble Hicks, Scott Montague, Larry Maginnis, John Ryan, and Autumn Montegna all worked to educate the 450 students participating in the planting on the benefits of urban trees and proper planting technique. At the end of the planting, 350 vine maples were distributed to students for planting at home in yards.



Fourteen new street trees await their final homes!

Workshops Feature Construction, Tree ID, and Heritage Trees

SUBMITTED BY AUTUMN MONTEGNA

This year our Neighborhood Tree Steward workshops have grown to include new programs. One of our new workshops “Trees & Construction” debuted in March and was taught by Urban Forestry Crew Supervisor Larry Maginnis. Participants learned details and tips for successful tree preservation during construction before taking a tour around the surrounding neighborhood. Participant Bhronwhyn Dean wrote in, commenting “Larry had lots of information and it was great to hear from someone who knows how the planning and construction process works. I’m sure it would be news to many how early in the process the ‘tree advocate’ needs to be on board.”

Upcoming Neighborhood Tree Steward workshops include “Tree Identification” taught by Friends of Trees

Neighborhood Trees Contractor Specialist Kris Day on Saturday, May 19th and “Caring for Portland’s Heritage Trees,” taught by UF Arborist Lou Phemister on Saturday, June 9th.



Larry Maginnis (right) explains impacts of construction activities on mature trees to workshop participants.

Overlook Targets Low Limbs at Pruning Workshop

SUBMITTED BY KARL DAWSON

Volunteers are needed to help prune street trees in the Overlook neighborhood on Saturday, June 16. PP&R will be offering a one-day street tree pruning workshop to improve pedestrian safety and walkability of Overlook neighborhood. Volunteers will meet at Patton Square Park, learn the basics of tree pruning, and work in groups to prune street trees in Overlook.

Street trees enhance the livability of Overlook; they provide aesthetic beauty, increase property value, and improve air and water quality. But just like cars, trees require regular maintenance to perform at their best. A structural defect or branch blocking the sidewalk can be easily corrected if identified early, but if left unchecked may cause issues in the future.

Anyone can register a street tree to be pruned. Trees will be assessed by an Urban Forestry arborist and the adjoining property owners will be notified of the pruning. Pruning teams will be guided by a trained Neighborhood Tree Steward. Teams will walk, bike or drive to do the pruning. To volunteer for the pruning or nominate a tree for pruning call 503-823-1650 or go to www.portlandonline.com/parks/okna. For more information, call Karl Dawson at 503-823-1650.



The Overlook workshop will focus on pruning low limbs to provide clearance for pedestrians and vehicles.

Inventory Team Leaders Needed



Team leader training includes learning to identify common species, mapping and measuring trees, and assessing site conditions.

Team Leaders are needed to guide small groups collecting street tree inventory data in Hosford-Abernethy, NW District, and Sunnyside neighborhoods. Team leaders must attend a training session and commit to participate in three inventory work days. Training is offered Saturday, June 23, at SE Uplift at 3534 SE Main St. Sign up for one session, either 8:30 AM-noon or 1:00-4:30 PM, at <http://tinyurl.com/teamleader2012>. Street tree inventory work days will be conducted on Saturdays from June 30 - September 22 from 8:30 am - noon.

2012 TREE INVENTORY SCHEDULE

Register for work days online at <http://portlandonline.com/parks/treeinventory>

6/30/2012	Hosford-Abernethy
7/7/2012	Sunnyside
7/14/2012	Sunnyside
7/21/2012	Hosford-Abernethy
7/28/2012	NW District
8/4/2012	Sunnyside
8/18/2012	Hosford-Abernethy
8/25/2012	NW District
9/8/2012	Hosford-Abernethy
9/8/2012	NW District
9/22/2012	NW District
9/22/2012	Sunnyside

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STREET TREES

Planting, General: Requested by property owners (residential, commercial, some City agencies, etc). A UF Arborist inspects the site for existing trees, overhead wires, utilities, strip width, and other site conditions and marks where trees can be planted. Homeowners are given a Recommended Street Tree List appropriate for their site. A 2" caliper tree is standard. The property owner purchases the tree, reports the species to UF, and a permit is issued.

Planting, Friends of Trees: UF works cooperatively with Friends of Trees (FOT) and the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) to provide permits for FOT plantings. BES canvassers approach homeowners with potential planting spaces to sign up for tree plantings. Interested property owners contact FOT and a BES canvasser completes the planting inspections. UF spot checks 10% of BES inspections and issues final permits. Property owners are given a list of trees appropriate for their planting strip and offered for sale by FOT. This list varies from the UF Recommended Street List, and is established each year by UF and FOT. Property owners purchase and plant the tree with FOT.

Planting, Land Use Reviews: In the proposed development process, UF Arborists review land use applications for possible impacts on street trees and trees that may pose future concern (i.e. Heritage Trees on private property). Recommendations on location and number of street trees that will be required as a condition of a future building permit are given. Because development is only proposed, no permits are issued during land use review, except for reviews involving land division. In land division cases, a street tree review is conducted for the parcel of land where the existing structure is, because once divided into separate lots this parcel will not come under further review.

Planting, Development: All new construction and remodeling projects over \$25,000 require a street tree review. Sites are inspected and street trees are required to be planted in all available spaces as a condition of the building permit.

Pruning: A UF Arborist discusses pruning requests with the property owner, inspects the trees and issues the permit. Conditions may be included.

Removal: Requested by property owner through an application process costing \$35. Permits are granted if the tree is dead,

dying, or dangerous; applicants must demonstrate that their tree meets removal criteria, and the tree must be replaced if site conditions permit. A UF Arborist inspects the tree and site, and marks the curb for replanting. The property owner must purchase a replacement tree and provide a receipt to UF prior to issuance of the removal permit. Planting may be deferred until the following planting season, depending upon time of year.

Root pruning: Requested by property owners in the process of reconstructing damaged sidewalks, often due to lifting from root growth. A sidewalk permit must first be acquired before a root pruning inspection. A UF Arborist inspects the exposed roots once the sidewalk has been removed, and marks specific roots for removal.

Other: Other street tree permits include chemical application permits for contractors, and attaching temporary items to trees (i.e. ribbons and signage).

PARK TREES

The majority of reported Park inspections and permits are for developed parks. Most natural area parks activities fall under blanket permits and their activities are guided by master plans or desired future conditions established by PP&R.

Planting: Developed park plantings are planned by Parks planners, Parks maintenance staff, and occasionally friends groups. Planting is usually completed by the UF crew.

Pruning: A UF Arborist discusses pruning requests with Parks staff, inspects the trees and issues the permit. Work may be done by Parks staff or the UF crew.

Removal: A UF Arborist inspects the tree for removal criteria and removal is completed by the UF crew.

PRIVATE TREES, TREE CUTTING ORDINANCE (TCO)

Code applicability inspection: A UF Arborist investigates City records to determine whether the Tree Cutting Ordinance applies. TCO applies to non-nuisance trees 12" DBH or greater on certain private properties.

Plantings, Mitigation: Trees planted as mitigation for removals under the Tree Cutting Ordinance.

Removal: Requested by property owner through an application process costing \$35, after code applicability is determined. Permits are granted for trees that are dead, dying, dangerous, as well as some additional circumstances. Mitigation may be required in the form of planting or paying into the City's Tree Fund.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency response is reported in terms of inspections and trees inspected. Permits that may result from the emergency response are listed under their appropriate categories (i.e. Street Tree pruning).