



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.

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FIRE STATION PRUNING AND REMOVAL PERMITS

Urban Forestry crews will prune trees at six Portland Fire Stations for general maintenance as part of an inter-agency agreement. Most of the trees at the stations have low branches and dead wood in the canopies.

At Station 27 on NW Skyline, there are 3 large douglas-fir trees behind the station that are declining and will likely be removed within the next month. The trees are 32" to 38" DBH and are being affected by a grade change from the construction of the station several years ago. These removals are in addition to five douglas-firs that were removed last year due to the same grade change and construction trauma. Additionally, a 10" DBH dead cedar tree will be removed; it likely died from *Phytophthora*.

JULY 2012 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	TREES INSPECTED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES				
Planting, general	59	74	28	53
Grey to Green	1295	2439	0	0
Land use reviews	33	-	0	0
Development	251	-	116	99
Pruning	102	337	142	430
Removal	113	199	62	102
Root pruning	49	79	52	107
Other	111	212	22	26
PARK TREES				
Planting	3	15	0	0
Pruning	12	37	14	82
Removal	11	66	9	60
Root pruning	1	2	0	0
Other	22	313	0	0
PRIVATE TREES, TREE CUTTING ORDINANCE (TCO)				
Code applicability inspections	91	-	-	-
Planting, mitigation	-	-	-	7
Removal	29	47	11	14
EMERGENCIES				
Emergency call outs	28	30	-	-
TOTALS				
Planting	1638	2513	144	152
Pruning	114	374	156	512
Removal	244	312	82	176
Root Pruning	50	81	52	107
Other	133	525	22	26
Emergencies	28	30	-	-
Totals	2207	3385	456	973



Showcasing Portland's Trees at the ISA International Conference

SUBMITTED BY ANGIE DISALVO, BOTANIC SPECIALIST

Urban Forestry is gearing up to help host the International Society of Arboriculture's international conference and world tree climbing championships. Staff are involved in many facets of the event and are thrilled that the event is being held in Portland.

"This is New Year's Day, the Super Bowl, and the 4th of July all wrapped into one for tree people," says PP&R Urban Forestry Supervisor Larry Maginnis. "Last year the conference was in Australia, so we are fortunate to have it right in our back yard!"

On August 11 and 12, Portland Parks & Recreation's Laurelhurst Park is host to the tree climbing championships and Arbor Fair. Urban Forestry crews put in extra time and effort pruning trees and prepping the park for the event. Imagine the work to get ready for the critical eyes of 2,000 arborists! The weekend events are open to the public, and Urban Forestry outreach staff will host a booth with educational materials and the Urban Forestry crew will be giving bucket truck rides for kids and adults in Laurelhurst's canopy. On Saturday, look for presentations from Neighborhood Tree Steward Jim Gersbach on street and yard tree selection and a Laurelhurst history and tree identification walk with former Urban Forestry Commissioner Phyllis Reynolds.

Larry Maginnis, UF Supervisor, is coordinating the Society of Municipal Arborists tour on August 15. The sold out tour includes stops to discuss Portland's green streets initiative, viewsheds and landslide issues, and challenges working in historic parks. PP&R Director Mike Abbate and City Forester Jenn Cairo are also participating.

Angie DiSalvo, Botanic Specialist, is presenting Portland's Dutch elm disease strategy and tree inventory program as part of a tour for the Urban Forest Growth and Longevity Working Group on August 12. This tree monitoring tour also includes stops with Friends of Trees and the Bureau of Environmental Services.

Additionally, on August 14 look for a presentation by Ruth Williams of Davey Resource Group on Urban Forestry's recent canopy study.

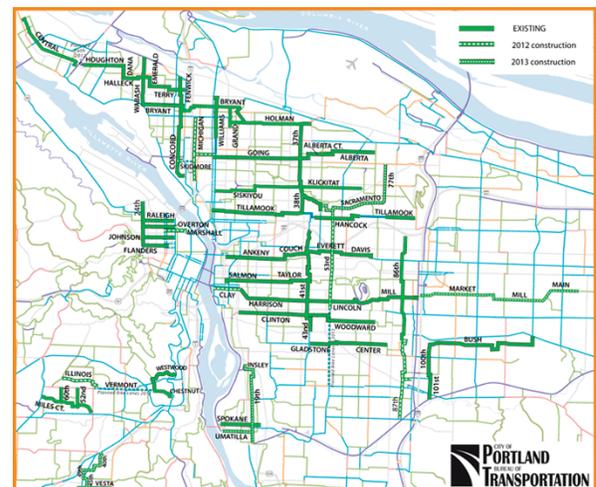
Bureau of Transportation Update

SUBMITTED BY LUKE MILLER, UF TREE INSPECTOR

The North Going pedestrian walkway project has now entered the construction phase. Urban Forestry crews will be pruning 43 red maple trees from N. Interstate to Swan Island. The trees will be raised to code over the street and for equipment clearance over the construction area, including a newly poured 9' multi-use path. Earlier in the year, crews removed numerous trees on the same project that were hazardous and in the way of the proposed project. All trees will be mitigated in the form of tree for tree replacement.

The Portland Milwaukee Light Rail project has begun construction on the east side of the river. Urban Forestry issued a removal permit for three additional trees, but for the most part, the tree removal phase of the project is over. All of the trees on SE 17th street between Powell and Brooklyn yard have been removed. The trees will all be replaced, and have been fully mitigated, including payment in to the Tree Fund of approximately \$700,000.

To ensure that high quality trees are being planted in PBOT projects, Tree Inspector Luke visited three nurseries to tag trees for purchase and inspect them for quality for the Division Street project. Most of the trees on Division street between 11th and 39th will be removed and replaced as part of the project. Luke found most trees were up to par with City standards, but seven Oregon white oaks were rejected due to poor quality. These oaks will be the signature "gateway" trees planted on the corners of collector streets on the Division project. A second nursery visit will occur in September to hand select remaining trees for the project.



The North Going pedestrian walkway is part of a larger Neighborhood Greenways Project. More information on PBOT projects can be found at their website at <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/35953>.

Elm Monitor Update

SUBMITTED BY DANIELLE FUCHS, ELM MONITOR

A total of 20 elms have been diagnosed with Dutch elm disease (DED) so far this season. Most of these diseased trees have been removed already. DED has appeared in four neighborhoods: Downtown, Hosford-Abernethy, Eastmoreland, and Piedmont. Hosford-Abernethy, which contains Ladd's Addition, has been the hardest-hit neighborhood so far, with 9 elms diagnosed with DED. At least one more elm is suspected to have DED and is being tested for the fungus at the Oregon State University Plant Pathology Clinic. Sellwood-Moreland and Laurelhurst each have an elm tree suspected to have DED being tested at the plant clinic. Seven more elms are suspected to have DED; samples will be collected and sent to the lab for testing. These elms are located in the Downtown, Lents (Lents Park), Arbor Lodge (Omaha Park Blocks), and Hayden Island neighborhoods. Unfortunately, there is still a month or two left of the DED season, so there is the potential for more cases to appear as the summer progresses.

If you have visited Lovejoy Fountain recently, you may have noticed that the trees along the west edge of the park are gone. While not all of those trees had been diagnosed with DED, they were causing severe sidewalk damage. They will be replaced with new trees in the fall/spring!

As always, if you notice any wilting, brown leaves on the elm trees in your neighborhood, don't hesitate contact Urban Forestry's elm monitor at (503) 823-6333 or pkelm@portlandoregon.gov.



An elm at Lovejoy Fountain awaiting removal.

INCIDENCE OF DUTCH ELM DISEASE, AUGUST 2012

Neighborhood	Quadrant	Confirmed cases	Suspected cases
Downtown	SW	7	1
Hosford-Abernethy	SE	9	1
Eastmoreland	SE	1	0
Sellwood-Moreland	SE	0	2
Lents	SE	0	2
Piedmont	NE	3	0
Laurelhurst	NE	0	1
Arbor Lodge	N	0	3
Hayden Island	N	0	1
	<i>Totals</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>11</i>



Clackamas Community College (CCC) Professor Bruce Nelson (fourth from the left) and his orchard pruning class stand in front of results of the "hands on" portion of the class. On July 30, Professor Nelson brought his CCC students to volunteer at the Columbia Children's Arboretum while he taught summer pruning and branch spacing. This was Bruce's second orchard class of the summer with Urban Forestry: in June he taught a PP&R tree care class which focused on young tree pruning and was taught at the Delta Park orchard.

Youth Crew Establishes Trees

SUBMITTED BY KARL DAWSON, UF OUTREACH COORDINATOR



YCC Crew members Omar Salazar and Brandon Montoya at Jackson Middle school weeding a Ponderosa Pine planted by Urban Forestry and Jackson Students in February 2000.

Tree establishment season is in full force for Portland Parks & Recreation's Youth Conservation Crew. The YCC tree crew is busy establishing 300 trees at 16 recently planted schools. Trees were planted by Neighborhood Tree Stewards and the crew is weeding, watering, mulching, and pruning the young trees. In addition, the crew is working with Urban Forestry crew members to prune low branches that are blocking pathways in parks. Recently, they pruned 75 trees for low branches at Ed Benedict Park.

The crew of six teens is led by Crew Leader John Ryan. This is John Ryan's second year crew leading, and his primary role is to teach the teens about tree care, stewardship, the environment, and leadership.

The Youth Conservation Crew offers employment opportunities to youth from diverse backgrounds for eight weeks each summer. Teens gain valuable skills as they help to improve Portland's parks. Professional development, environmental education, and team building activities are core elements of the YCC program, as well as building job skills. Teens gain exposure to scientific professionals, a variety of Portland's natural areas, and a diverse workforce in the hope that they will become tomorrow's stewards.

City of Portland Recognizes Dick Towle for Volunteer Work

SUBMITTED BY KARL DAWSON, UF OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Neighborhood Tree Steward Dick Towle, a tireless 20-year Portland Parks & Recreation volunteer, was recently recognized for his service to Portland Parks at Portland City Council. A resident of the East Columbia Neighborhood, Dick and his wife Gyrid worked to raise over \$60,000 to replace culverts and restore habitat at the Columbia Children's Arboretum over the past decade. In addition to environmental benefits, new steel trestle bridges transformed the park by creating water views when crossing the drainage creeks. On July 31, PP&R staff recognized Dick's work by naming one of the bridges after him, and the "Towle" (pronounced "toll") bridge is worthy of a special visit while enjoying the park's 30 acres of natural area, perimeter walking path, and wildlife viewing opportunities. In 2008, Dick and Gyrid were also recipients of the Bill Naito Community Trees Award.



Gyrid and Dick Towle receiving the Bill Naito Community Trees Award during the 2008 Arbor Day celebration.



The newly renamed and dedicated "Towle" bridge at the Columbia Children's Arboretum.

Urban Forestry Permits

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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).