



Urban Forestry Report

In Memory of David Odom

It is with a heavy heart we bid farewell to Urban Forestry Commissioner, colleague, and friend, David Odom, who passed away January 14, 2012. Friends of Tree staff collected some wonderful photos in memory of David. To see the slideshow, visit www.tinyurl.com/davidodom.



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.

DECEMBER 2011 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	TREES INSPECTED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES				
Planting, general	49	182	20	38
Friends of Trees	386	789	311	545
Land use reviews	65	-	1	2
Development	151	-	75	88
Pruning	51	240	62	173
Removal	58	123	60	114
Root pruning	55	165	48	149
Other	51	202	1	3
PARK TREES				
Planting	0	0	0	0
Pruning	0	0	0	0
Removal	0	0	0	0
Root pruning	1	20	1	3
Other	10	111	0	0
PRIVATE TREES, TREE CUTTING ORDINANCE (TCO)				
Code applicability inspections	33	-	-	-
Planting, mitigation	-	-	-	30
Removal	22	36	19	32
EMERGENCIES				
Emergency call outs	11	11	-	-
TOTALS				
Planting	651	971	407	703
Pruning	51	240	62	173
Removal	113	159	79	146
Root Pruning	56	185	49	152
Other	61	313	1	3
Emergencies	11	11	-	-
Totals	943	1879	598	1177

Urban Forestry Crew Report

SUBMITTED BY LARRY MAGINNIS, UF CREW SUPERVISOR

The holiday season kept things pretty quiet around the Urban Forestry compound until we opened our doors for the annual Forestry Breakfast. Held inside barn, we had a great turnout and fortunate enough not to run out of anything but room in the waistband. I would like thank all of our city partners for coming and all the volunteer support and food donations. Next year should prove to be bigger and better. We hope to see you there.

The last month had our crews focusing primarily on interagency agreements, new acquisitions and crew training, including crane recertification and pesticide recertification classes. We have dedicated an entire crew to street light clearing to clear 200 light and tree conflict for the Bureau of Transportation.

Planting season is in full swing. We are currently focusing on street tree plantings and various replacements. Replacements are often caused by traffic accidents but some are from mortality from previous planting years. An area of focus is SW 1st Street where we were responsible for the removal of several elm trees due to Dutch elm disease.

Two special projects we dedicated some resources to were the Leach Botanical Gardens and the Wilkes Headwater acquisition. One crew spent well over a week at Leach Botanical Garden providing delicate pruning and removals that really helped improve the aesthetics and productivity of the site. At the Wilkes site we help provide some stabilization and clearance work. In regards to safety, as a new acquisition, we had to bring many of the bordering trees to city and industry standards.

This next report should have our efforts focused primarily tree planting and large scale park pruning projects. Stay tuned.



Recently harvested trees awaiting planting by the UF crew.

Upcoming Tree Steward Events

SUBMITTED BY AUTUMN MONTEGNA

PRUNE LIKE A PRO WORKSHOP

Date and time: Saturday, January 21, 2012 9 am - noon
Location: University Park Community Center, 9009 N. Foss Ave.

Proper pruning is essential in caring for trees. Learn basic tree biology, pruning techniques, and how to promote good structure for young street trees. After a short presentation by the Urban Forestry Supervisor, Larry Maginnis, practice your new skills on 80 young street trees alongside Certified Arborists. Learn how to conduct a neighborhood pruning day, including obtaining proper permits, working with City Nature staff, and using the Urban Forestry tool lending program.

This Prune Like A Pro Workshop is free and open to the public. To register, call 503-823-2525 or register online at <https://www.portlandparks.org/register/> using course number 366820. For information or questions about Prune Like a Pro or other Neighborhood Tree Steward Monthly Workshops contact Autumn Montegna, Urban Forest Outreach Coordinator, at 503-701-7622 or autumn.montegna@portlandoregon.gov.



Participants at "Prune Like a Pro" in 2010

2012 NEIGHBORHOOD TREE STEWARD & LIAISON RECEPTION

Date and time: Thursday, January 26 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Location: Lucky Lab Public House, 7675 SW Capitol Hwy.

Neighborhood Tree Stewards, volunteers, and partners are invited to our 2012 Neighborhood Tree Steward & Liaison Reception. This is our third annual reception. It is a great time to connect with members of the Tree Steward Coalition to celebrate past and future projects. We highly encourage our Urban Forestry Commissioners to attend.

Please RSVP by contacting Autumn Montegna at 503-701-7622 or autumn.montegna@portlandoregon.gov.

Urban Forestry Permits

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Each month, the Forester's Report gives monthly inspection and permit totals. Because not all inspections result in permit issuance, metrics of both inspections and permits issued are included. Below are descriptions of the inspection and permit types reported.

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 FOTs 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 FOTs. 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 FOTs.

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 only 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).