



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.

PARK PROJECT UPDATES

Westmoreland Park: The Crystal Springs Restoration project is removing the duck pond and restoring floodplain flow and habitat, primarily for endangered fish species. Only 14 trees are being removed and mitigated, but protecting existing trees is very challenging due to proximity of needed work. Many trees and wetland plants will be planted. Construction is beginning in May 2013. In a separate project, a nature play area is being constructed where the existing basketball court is, and will feature logs, tunnels, sand, water and other interesting features for children. It too, is being built in an area with mature trees where providing adequate tree protection is a challenge.

Portland Children's Museum Adventure Playground: The Children's Museum is building an adventure playground on the east end of their building, which is leased from PP&R. A half dozen trees will be removed and mitigated, and staff are working to ensure that mature trees in the area are protected during and after construction. Construction is beginning soon.

FEBRUARY 2013 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	TREES INSPECTED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES				
Planting, general	64	163	54	116
Grey to Green	268	445	623	1149
Land use reviews	27	-	0	0
Development	198	-	76	77
Pruning	35	195	204	371
Removal	97	237	100	209
Root pruning	32	40	35	57
Other	73	210	3	4
PARK TREES				
Planting	0	0	0	0
Pruning	6	40	2	6
Removal	8	13	4	68
Root pruning	0	0	0	0
Other	4	34	0	0
PRIVATE TREES, TREE CUTTING ORDINANCE (TCO)				
Code applicability inspections	56	-	-	-
Planting, mitigation	-	-	-	44
Removal	14	20	15	29
EMERGENCIES				
Emergency call outs	16	17	-	-
TOTALS				
Planting	557	608	753	1386
Pruning	41	235	206	377
Removal	175	270	119	306
Root Pruning	32	40	35	57
Other	77	244	3	4
Emergencies	16	17	-	-
Totals	898	1414	1116	2130

Urban Forestry Crew Report

SUBMITTED BY LARRY MAGINNIS, UF SUPERVISOR

This report period was relatively busy for our Urban Forestry Crews. With spring arriving quickly many bureaus within the City are getting large projects underway and have requested we provide various types of tree care support. These are welcomed revenue-generating endeavors and provided us with alternative work when park conditions are extremely soggy, making equipment use without damaging turf difficult.

Some large projects involving tree work include the North Greenway Trail, North Going Bike Pedestrian Trail, the Vernon-Sabin-Alameda (VSA) Sewer Rehabilitation Project, and the Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion. The most controversial project for us was the N. Greenway Trail which required us to remove several trees, including a large sequoia, to facilitate the installation of a bridge to connect Pier Park to Chimney Park. These removals captured the attention of the local community and although the public was involved in many phases of this project, when it came time to remove this tree, it sparked some controversy and resulted in one arrest. The trees have been removed with the caveat that the wood from these trees will be repurposed to provide nature play areas in other parks. The VSA sewer rehabilitation project allowed our crews to provide clearance work on approximately 24 tree lined blocks of right-of-way slated for sewer repairs involving large equipment. We appreciate the ability



Can you spot the arborist? UF Arborist Jerome Johnson perched atop a sequoia being removed in Pier Park.

to perform the clearance pruning work ahead of the operations rather than performing repair work following the project.

Our only large park pruning project addressed this month was Couch Park. Here we provided much needed clearance and security pruning, as well as the removal of dead branches. We also provided a little courtesy maintenance work for our trees that spread well into adjacent properties. Trees located at the Matt Dishmann Community Center also received some much needed attention. This task proved to be a bit challenging by balancing the needs of the community center with our tree care operations. Our efforts to communicate and coordinate with the center allowed us to perform the work with little interruption.

Our stump grinding efforts have come to a close for the season and crews have retooled and mobilized for tree planting. Following a handful of interagency plantings for the Bureau of Transportation, we will transition to park plantings. Our tree harvest at our Mount Tabor Nursery was successful with 90 trees selected for park plantings. Those trees are now in our yard awaiting homes.

This next report period should provide updates on our tree planting efforts and park pruning. With the 3rd driest February on record, our parks may dry out faster than anticipated giving us the opportunity to enter them for some much needed maintenance. We are eager to get those projects underway.



UF Arborist Rory is Cramer covered in sawdust after the removal of a sequoia in Pier Park. In order to reuse the tree in nature play areas, the bole was removed in 22 foot sections.

Arbor Month 2013 Features Heritage Trees

SUBMITTED BY AUTUMN MONTEGNA, EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Bucket Truck Rides	2 Portland's Urban Forest: Past, Present & Future	3 Ainsworth Linear Arboretum Workday	4 Hoyt Arboretum Magnolia Walk	5 Beverly Cleary	6 Ainsworth Linear Arboretum
7 Cottrell Woods Nature Walk	8	9 Hoyt Arboretum Tree Care Day	10 Stories of Oregon's History Told by Heritage Trees	11 Native Heritage: Native Trees	12 Children's Arboretum Workday	13 Portland Heritage Tree Walk
14 Heritage Tree Bike Ride	15	16 Laurelhurst Tree Walk	17	18	19 Mapping Trees in PDX's Pioneer Parks	20 Arbor Day Festival
21 Heritage Trees of Sellwood	22 Gateway Green Tree Walk	23	24 Trees of Greater Portland Book Signing	25 Sitton Trees Pay Us Back!	26 Conifer Workday	27 Keys to Tree ID
28 Heritage Trees by Bike	29 Tips & Tricks to Tree ID	30 Heritage Tree Dedication Ceremony				

- Celebrations
- Lectures
- Walks
- Plantings
- Workdays
- Bike Rides

The Urban Forest Education and Outreach Committee (Catherine Mushel, Chair; Bryan Burch, volunteer and Tree Steward; Kris Day, Commissioner; Jennifer Karpis, BES; Lea Wilson, BES; Karl Dawson, Urban Forestry; and Autumn Montegna, Urban Forestry) are taking Arbor Day up a few notches in 2013; all the way up to Arbor Month. Celebrations of Arbor Day are being expanded to last throughout the month of April, including bucket truck rides, guided walks and bike rides, volunteer workdays, a heritage Tree-sure hunt, tree plantings, urban forest lecture series and much more!

The goal for Arbor Month is to celebrate Portland's beautiful urban forest while encouraging citizens to discover Portland's nearly 300 Heritage Trees and learn how Portland's trees work 24/7: filtering our water, cleaning our air, cooling the city, providing wildlife habitat, enhancing livability, and increasing property resale value. For a detailed schedule of events please visit www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/arbormonth.

Right: Portland's 2013 Arbor Month Poster



Arbor Month Highlights

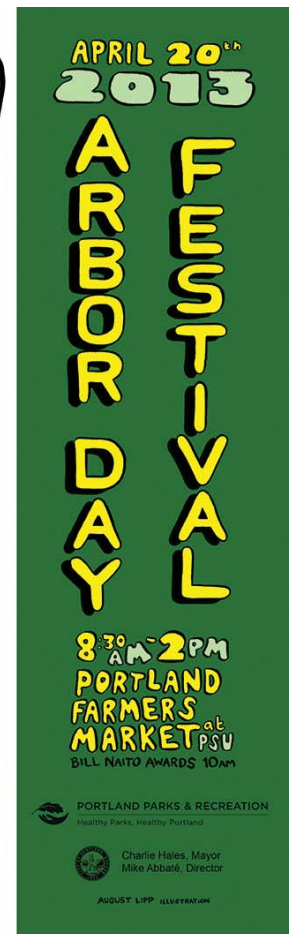
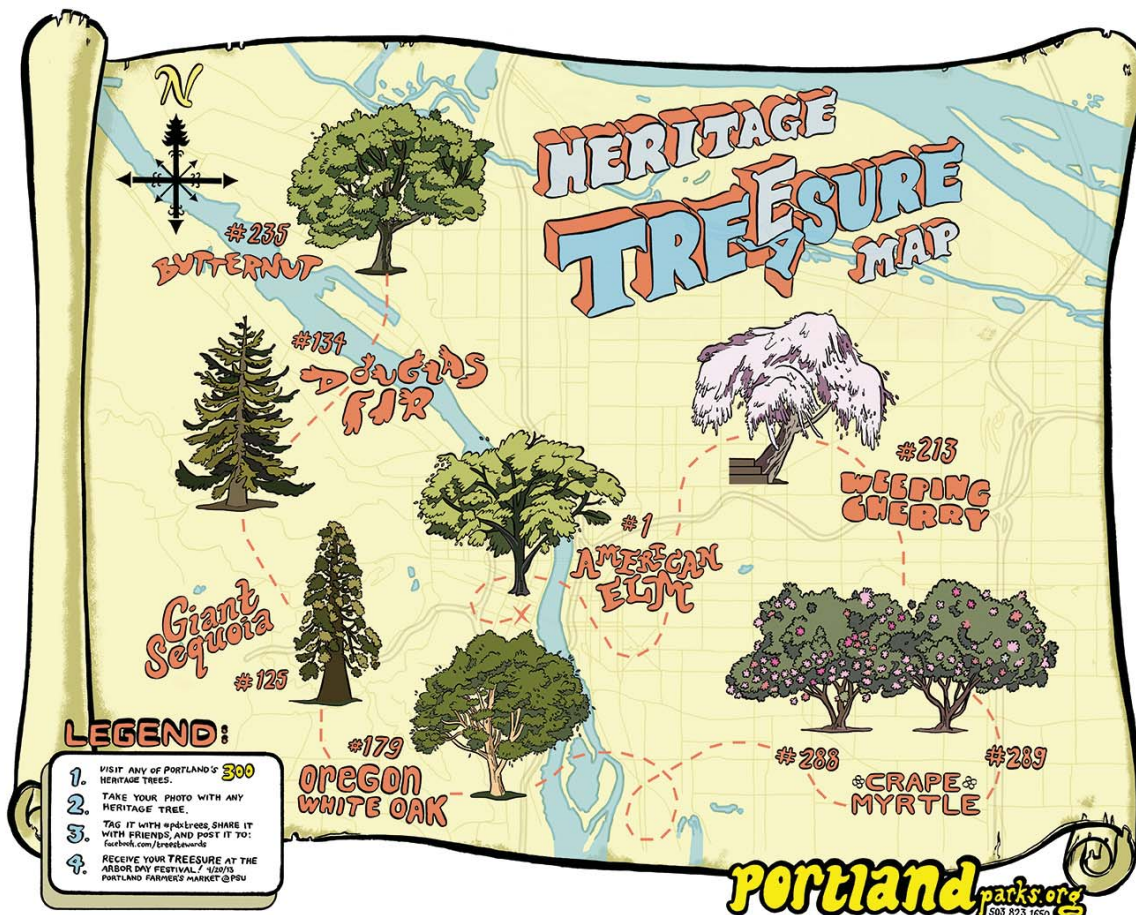
Bucket Truck Rides: Don't miss your chance to ride high above the ground in a PP&R bucket truck and experience the urban forest canopy through the eyes of a squirrel! Urban Forestry will be offering free bucket truck rides in Chapman Square at SW 4th and Madison for two hours on April 1st. Stop by during your lunch break, learn about the urban forest and see the world from a different perspective. Children (over 48 inches) and adults are welcome to ride with a signed waiver. Rides are offered for a limited time on a first come basis.

Arbor Day Festival: Join us for the festival April 20 at the Portland Farmers Market at Portland State University and celebrate Portland's 36th consecutive year as a Tree City USA. At 10:00 a.m. the Arbor Day Ceremony will commence with the Bill Naito Tree Awards and Arbor Day proclamation followed by Heritage Tree Walks by around PSU's campus with Urban Forestry staff Larry Maginnis and Angie DiSalvo. There's plenty of fun for everyone including a Hands-On Tree-magination Area, information from the Tree Steward Coalition and partner groups, and, of course Tree-sure handouts for participating in the Heritage Tree-sure Hunt.

Lecture Series: Learn more about Portland's trees and heritage by attending one of the six lectures. Weekly lunch lectures are held from noon till 1:00 in the Portland Building on the 2nd floor, room C. Two evening lectures and receptions will also be offered. *Native Heritage: Native Trees* by Judy Bluehorse Skelton, PSU professor, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11th at the Native American Student & Community Center and *Trees Pay Us Back* by Geoffrey Donovan, USDA urban forest economist, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 25th at the North Lucky Lab Tap Room.

Book Signings: On Wednesday, April 24th the World Forestry Center and Urban Forestry will host Phyllis Reynolds and Ed Jensen at a signing of their books, *Trees of Greater Portland* and *Trees to Know in Oregon*. Stop by the World Forestry Center's Discovery Museum lobby between 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. and buy a book and have it signed by these two northwest tree aficionados.

Closing Event: The Arbor Month Celebration will wrap up on Tuesday, April 30th at the dawn redwood heritage tree dedication at Hoyt Arboretum.



The Heritage Treasures Map (on the reverse side of the Arbor Month Poster) encourages citizens to visit Heritage Trees, take their picture with the tree, and post it online.

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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).