



Urban Forestry Report

Monthly 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. Efforts are guided by Portland City Code Title 11 Trees.

Inspection and permit descriptions and definitions are provided on the final pages of this report.

AUGUST 2017 TREE REMOVAL DETAIL REPORT

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES			
"A" Permits	-	80	115
"B" Permits	-	19	31
Denied Removal Permits	17	-	-
PRIVATE TREES			
"A" Permits	-	255	365
"B" Permits	-	16	23
Denied Removal Permits	21	-	-
TOTALS			
"A" Permits	-	335	480
"B" Permits	-	35	54
Denied Removal Permits	38	-	-

AUGUST 2017 CODE COMPLIANCE

	STREET TREES	PRIVATE TREES
INVESTIGATION RESULT		
No violation found	9	18
Violation found - low limbs	0	0
Violation found - other	44	32
Total	53	50

AUGUST 2017 INSPECTIONS AND PERMITS

	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED	PERMITS ISSUED	TREES PERMITTED
STREET TREES			
Planting, total street trees	911	69	283
<i>Non-development</i>	31	5	149
<i>Development</i>	318	64	134
<i>Environmental Services</i>	562	0	0
Pruning	28	141	355
Removal, total street trees	109	114	173
<i>Non-development</i>	109	99	146
<i>Development</i>	-	15	27
Root pruning	59	54	99
Other	55	5	767
PARK TREES			
Planting	0	0	6
Pruning	11	5	22
Removal	6	5	12
Root pruning	1	1	1
Other	7	1	0
PRIVATE TREES			
Planting, mitigation	-	-	340
Removal	246	271	388
Other	7	4	18
EMERGENCY RESPONSE			
Emergencies	79	-	-
TOTALS			
Planting	911	69	629
Pruning	39	146	377
Removal	361	390	573
Root pruning	60	55	100
Other	69	10	785
Emergencies	79	-	-
Total	1,519	670	2,464

Urban Forestry Staff Update

SUBMITTED BY URBAN FORESTRY STAFF

Please join us in welcoming **Alec Amahcer** to the PP&R Urban Forestry as a Temporary Tree Inspector.



Urban Forestry Temporary Tree

Alec has had a life-long interest in trees fostered by growing up in the Coastal Mountains of Oregon. In 2009, he graduated from the Oregon State College of Forestry with a B.S. in Forest Management and

earned his ISA Certified Arborist. He climbed for Luken's Tree Preservation in Olympia, WA, Oregon Tree Care and General Tree Service in Portland, Oregon before starting his own company in 2014. In his spare time he enjoys hiking, biking, climbing, relaxing and adventuring with his wife Megan, son Elijah and loyal hound Ragnar.

We are also excited to welcome **Casey Clapp** as a Temporary Tree Inspector.



Urban Forestry Temporary Tree Inspector Casey Clapp

After receiving his Master of Science degree in Environmental Conservation with a focus in Forest Resources and Arboriculture (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) and a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management with a focus on Urban Forestry (Oregon State University), Casey worked as an arborist consultant in Seattle and Portland since 2014. Casey is an ISA Certified Arborist and Qualified Tree Risk Assessor. He enjoys backpacking and ultimate Frisbee when he's not seeking out new forests to explore.

Please also join us in welcoming **Julie Fukuda** to the PP&R Urban Forestry team as a Development Services Technician II (aka "Tree Tech").



Urban Forestry Tree Tech Julie Fukuda

Originally from Tokyo, Japan Julie has lived in Portland, Oregon since 1990. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Portland State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Temple University. Julie is a graduate of the jointly administered Oregon Department of Forestry/Washington Department of Natural Resources Community Tree Management Institute (2016), and a PP&R Urban

Forestry Neighborhood Tree Steward (2015). Since 2015 Julie worked for Urban Forestry on the Tree Inventory Project. In her spare time, Julie can be found hiking among trees in the Pacific Northwest, volunteering with Friends of Trees, cheering on her kids at their soccer games, hiding out in her garden or sneaking out on plant shopping excursions.

We are also pleased to announce that **Daphne Cissell** has joined the PP&R Urban Forestry team as a Temporary



Urban Forestry Temporary Tree Tech Daphne Cissell

Development Services Technician II. Daphne joins the Tree Tech team playing a pivotal role in Urban Forestry's public relations including co-managing the 823-TREE phone line, responding to customer inquiries, processing tree permit applications and assisting tree inspectors in emergency dispatch.

Daphne has a Bachelors in Environmental Science from Portland State University and a background in ornamental horticulture. Daphne has worked at Urban Forestry since 2016 primarily doing data collection for permitting compliance and the Tree Inventory Project. Outside of work she can be found gardening, reading, riding her motorcycle, doing stained glass and spending time with her partner and two dogs.

Urban Forestry Workshops are Back!

SUBMITTED BY NIK DESAI, BOTANIC SPECIALIST I

Join our certified arborists, tree experts, and community partners as we bring tree walks, history presentations, and hands-on tree care opportunities to a neighborhood near you. All skill levels, ages, and abilities are welcome. Be sure to check out the new Neighborhood Tree Team webpage (www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/nts) for the full fall workshop and community tree planting schedule.

September 16 | Saturday, 1 – 3 pm

Fernhill Park, NE 42nd & Ainsworth

Tree Walk: The Trees of Cully

Meet the unique and beautiful trees of Cully and learn how to identify them by their leaves, buds, and bark.

<https://tinyurl.com/CullyTrees>

September 23 | Saturday, 10 am – noon

Tree Walk: Tree History in Hazelwood (Location TBD)

Explore how history and nature intersect. Trees represent layers of history from Indigenous peoples to recent arrivals, each with a unique story. Whether you are interested in trees, history, or both, you will enjoy this fun and engaging walk. <https://tinyurl.com/HazelwoodTrees>

October 4 | Wednesday, 6:30 - 8 pm | Location TBD

Tree Walk: Best Tree Care Practices of Lents and Brentwood-Darlington (Location TBD)

Take a guided tree tour with a certified arborist and get all of your tree care questions answered. The tree doctor is in! <https://tinyurl.com/LBDTrees>

October 7 | Saturday, 9 am - 11 am

Grand Central Bakery & Cafe, 4440 NE Fremont

Tree Walk: The Trees of Alameda and Beaumont-Wilshire

Meet some amazing trees on this guided tree tour, which will include tree identification and a search for Heritage Tree nominees. <https://tinyurl.com/ABWTrees>

October 10 | Tuesday, 5 – 6:30 pm

Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St.

Which Tree to Plant?

Learn which trees will thrive in your space, bring year round enjoyment, and contribute to a healthy forest. Consult with experts, sign up for a Friends of Trees planting, and talk with neighbors about their tree experiences. <https://tinyurl.com/ACTTTrees>

For more information on Tree Teams or workshops, contact: Nik.Desai@portlandoregon.gov.

Tree Inventory Update

SUBMITTED BY JEFF RAMSEY, BOTANIC SPECIALIST II

The Tree Inventory Project is wrapping up another successful season. Over 200 volunteers devoted over 2,000 hours working with Urban Forestry staff over the course of the summer to inventory 15 parks across the city, and staff will continue to collect data in additional parks through October. So far, data on over 4,000 trees representing 150 different species have been collected, revealing the diversity and environmental value of Portland's parks.

Information collected as part of this inventory will help determine which trees are in need of replacement, available spaces for new plantings, and which species are best suited to our parks and their many users. In partnership with Neighborhood Tree Teams, data will also be used to plan tree walks or other events to engage Portlanders with their parks and their urban forest. Data and online maps will be publicly accessible on Urban Forestry's website later this year.



Two members of the Youth Conservation Crew Tree Team work to inventory trees in Powell Park.

We would like to thank every volunteer who came to a work day this summer. Our work would not be possible without the dedicated support of our community volunteers. Special thanks to neighborhood tree teams, champions of the urban forest, who worked to recruit volunteers and who will continue working through the winter to plan workshops and education events focused on fostering community stewardship of the urban forest.

If you would like to join your neighborhood tree team, please email Mason Wordell at Mason.Wordell@portlandoregon.gov. If you would like to apply to have a park in your neighborhood inventoried in 2018, go to www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/treeinventory for more information!

Operations Report

SUBMITTED BY LARRY MAGINNIS, OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

Urban Forestry operations addressed three priorities during this reporting period: Dutch elm disease (DED) removals in city parks, the Rocky Butte view clearing project, and removing delisted Heritage Trees.

This year we experienced a significant outbreak of DED in Normandale Park. We unfortunately lost six trees in this location and made the decision to begin Arbotect fungicide injections to preserve the remaining 36 American elm trees in the park. The removals did create a visual impact, and we are anticipating replacing a majority of these in the upcoming planting season. Other parks that experienced DED removals are Willamette Park, which lost its last two elm trees, and the Omaha blocks where we have experienced approximately one tree loss annually.

We have kicked off the highly anticipated Rocky Butte view clearing project where tree removal work has begun after two years of planning and outreach efforts to restore the historic views. Rather than clear an entire 360 degree view, we have elected to cut view windows designed to highlight the Butte's most important views. Most woody debris and trees cut to tall snags will be left on site to create/improve habitat in the area.

As a result of our previous year's storms, a few of our most prominent Heritage elm trees sustained failures which ultimately warranted their delisting and required removal. These removals are rather large and will take well into the next report period to complete.

On a more positive note, Glenhaven Park received some much needed remediation work from previous storm seasons where dozens of trees had hangers removed and stub repairs. Most of the trees interface with school property so it was necessary to address. We also performed some clearance work on the famed Portlandia statue. The statue was previously obscured by the adjacent London plane trees that had grown across the front of the statue. With pruning the statue is now exposed much to the delight of the throngs of photographers snapping photos of it.

Our seasonal Arbotect fungicide injections are now complete and we have shifted crew resources towards stump grinding and our interagency agreement work, including trimming trees away from street signs and traffic lights.

Urban Forestry Permits

Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry (UF) issues permits for all street and park tree plantings, pruning, and removals. In certain cases, UF issues permits for private tree removals. Currently, efforts are guided by Portland City Code Title 11 Trees. Please see Title 11 (www.portlandoregon.gov/trees/title11) for details.

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.

STREET TREES

Routine street tree work not part of Interagency Agreements, Capital Improvement Projects, or Public Works Permits.

Planting, total street trees: The sum of non-development, development, and Environmental Services Tree Program planting numbers.

Planting, non-development: Requested by residential or commercial property owners. An Urban Forestry Tree Inspector (Tree Inspector) inspects the site for existing trees, overhead wires, utilities, strip width, and other site conditions and marks where trees can be planted. A 2" caliper tree is standard. The property owner purchases the tree, reports the species to the Tree Inspector, and a permit is issued.

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.

Planting, Environmental Services: UF works cooperatively with the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) and Friends of Trees (FOT) 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 Approved Street Tree Planting List and is established each year by UF and FOT. Property owners purchase and plant the tree with FOT. BES also contracts with other organizations to plant trees under their UF permit.

Pruning: A Tree Inspector discusses pruning requests with the property owner, inspects the trees and issues the permit. Conditions may be included. For certain pruning conditions, permits may be obtained online.

Removal, total street trees: The sum of non-development and development (street tree review only) tree removal numbers.

Removal, non-development: Requested by property owner through an application process costing \$25. Permits are granted if the tree is dead, dying, or dangerous. Certain approved removals are subject to a two-week public notice and appeal period.

Appeals are heard by the Urban Forestry Commission Appeals Board. Removed trees must be replaced. A Tree Inspector inspects the tree and site and marks the curb for replanting. The property owner must select a replacement tree species prior to the issuance of the removal permit. Planting may be deferred until the following planting season, depending on the season.

Removal, development: All new construction and remodeling projects over \$25,000 require a street tree review. Trees may be approved for removal during street tree review due to development conflicts and/or poor tree condition.

Root pruning: Requested by property owners or contractors in the process of reconstructing damaged sidewalks. A sidewalk permit must first be acquired before a root pruning inspection. A Tree Inspector inspects the exposed roots once the sidewalk has been removed and marks specific roots for removal.

Other: Other street tree inspections include health inspections; other street tree permits include chemical application permits and attaching temporary items to trees, such as holiday lights and signage.

PARK TREES

The majority of reported park tree 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 Portland Parks & Recreation.

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

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

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

Root pruning: A Tree Inspector inspects the exposed roots once the sidewalk has been removed and marks specific roots for removal.

Other: Other park tree inspections include health inspections, and other park tree permits include pesticide or fungicide application.

PRIVATE TREES

Planting, mitigation: Trees planted as mitigation for removals.

Removal: Requested by the property owner through an application process costing \$35. Permits are granted for trees that are dead, dying, dangerous, within 10 feet of a building, nuisance species trees, as well as some additional circumstances. Certain approved removals are subject to a two-week public notice and appeal period. Appeals are heard by the Urban Forestry Commission Appeals Board. If removal is allowed, mitigation is required in the form of replanting.

Other: Other private tree permits can include pruning

permits, such as for Heritage Trees on private property. In certain cases, permits are needed to prune native trees on private property in the Environmental and Pleasant Valley Natural Resources overlay zones.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergencies: Emergency response is reported in terms of number of inspections. Permits that may result from the emergency response are listed under their appropriate categories (e.g. Street Tree Pruning).

TREE REMOVAL DETAIL

Title 11 classifies tree removal permits in non-development situations into two categories based on the level of mitigation, or tree replacement, required.

The categories are “A” and “B” permits. “A” permits require tree-for-tree mitigation, and “B” permits can require greater than tree-for-tree mitigation.

“A” Permits: “A” permits are issued automatically for trees that are dead, dying, or dangerous.

For street trees, “A” permits are also issued when trees less than 3” DBH (diameter at breast height, tree diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground) are allowed to be removed.

For private trees, “A” permits are also automatically issued for removal of trees on the nuisance tree list, trees within 10 feet of a building, and up to 4 healthy trees less than 20” DBH.

“B” Permits: “B” permits are issued when it is necessary to apply standards and review factors to the removal decision.

For street trees, “B” permits are required when healthy trees 3” DBH or greater are allowed to be removed.

For private trees, “B” permits are required when healthy, non-nuisance trees 20” DBH or greater are allowed to be removed, or when more than 4 healthy, non-nuisance trees 12” DBH or greater are allowed to be removed per calendar year.

Denied Removal Permits: The number of removal applications where the entire application was denied. Denials are based on the species and condition of the tree, as well as the applicable standards and review factors.

CODE COMPLIANCE

Title 11 specifies required tree maintenance standards and restricts certain tree activities in order to further the City’s goals for optimizing and enhancing the urban forest. For example, the code requires the adjacent property owner to maintain sidewalk clearance of 7.5 feet above the sidewalk and 11 feet above the street.

When a code violation of Title 11 is confirmed by site inspection and permit history investigation, the responsible parties are notified and informed of actions needed to correct the violation. If corrective actions are not taken in the specified time frame, fines and fees may be imposed.

Edited by Brian Landoe, Assistant Program Specialist