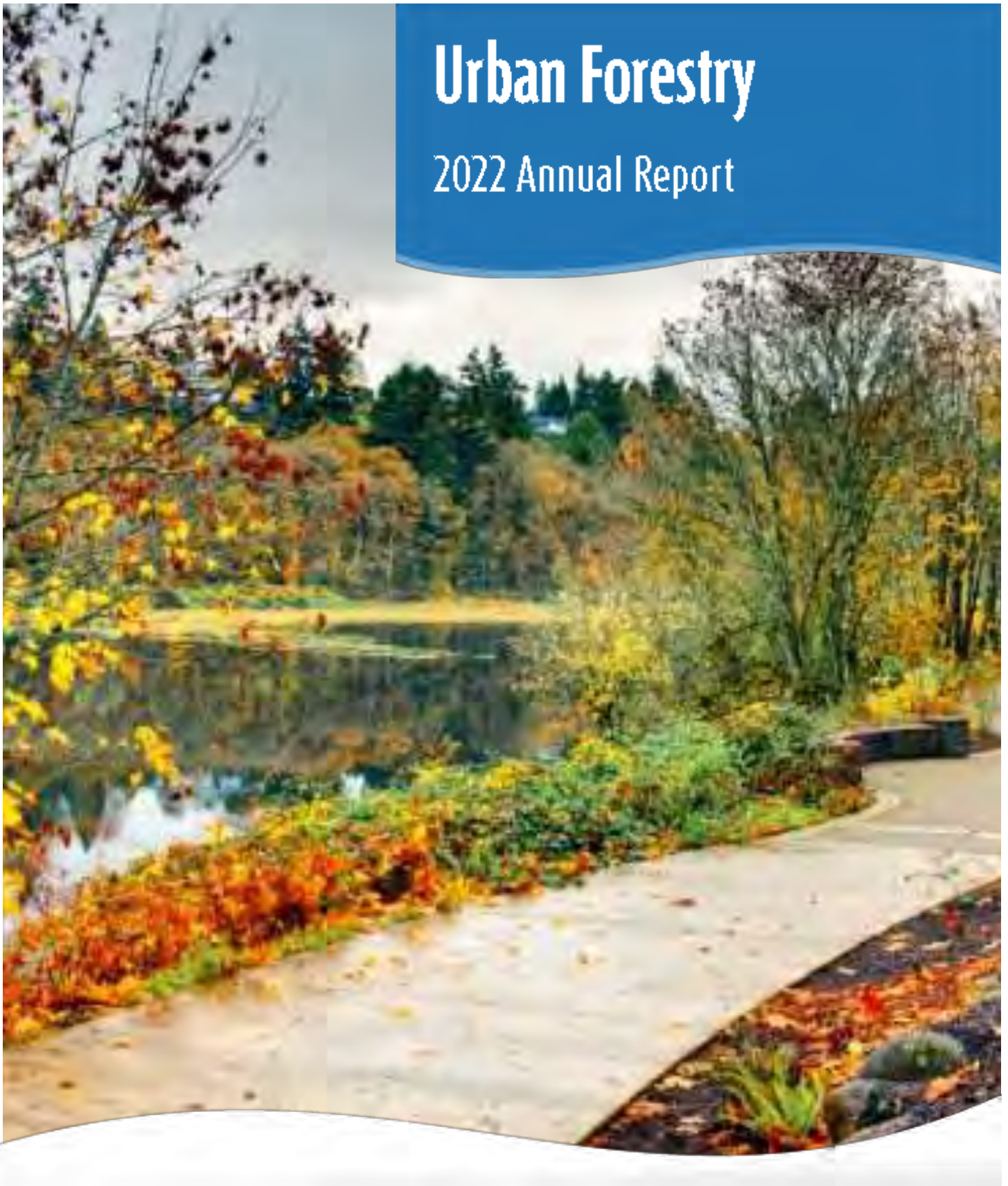


Urban Forestry

2022 Annual Report



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle
Councilmember Bart Hansen
Councilmember Ty Stober
Councilmember Erik Paulsen
Councilmember Sarah J. Fox
Councilmember Diana H. Perez
Councilmember Kim D. Harless
Vancouver City Council 2022

City Manager Eric Holmes
Deputy City Manager Lisa Brandl
Deputy City Manager Lon Pluckhahn
Interim Director of Public Works, Lon
Pluckhahn
Interim Director Vancouver Parks and
Recreation, David Perlick



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Vision, Mission, and Goals.....	4
Division Information.....	5
Funding.....	7
Accomplishments.....	8
Performance Measures.....	19
Benefits of Trees.....	20
Partners.....	22
Urban Forestry Commission.....	27
Staff Contacts.....	28



Introduction

Vancouver's Urban Forestry Program is part of the City's Department of Public Works and works closely across all departments.

Urban Forestry seeks to improve the quality of life in our city by enhancing tree canopy to provide clean air and water for current residents, visitors and future generations. Aesthetic, economic, social and environmental benefits associated with a healthy tree canopy significantly influence overall community health. Tomorrow's community vitality is closely linked with today's prudent management of the urban tree canopy, or green infrastructure.

Vancouver Urban Forestry continues to improve both the level and quality of service it provides to the community. In 2022, these efforts have grown through the participation volunteers donating more than 2,000 hours of service, the strong support of Urban Forestry's many partners and the continued interest and dedication of the community to improving Vancouver's tree canopy.

Vision

Vancouver's urban forest is a healthy, dynamic, diverse and cohesive ecosystem that is valued and cared for through community stewardship because it balances economic vitality with the conservation of natural resources now and for future generations.

Mission

The mission of Vancouver's Urban Forestry Program is to maximize the aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits that trees provide to City residents and visitors by preserving, managing, and enhancing existing trees and other vegetation and promoting the reforestation of the urban area through an active integrated program with community support and participation.

Goals

- Preserve existing trees and continue planning, maintenance and operating principles that improve canopy health.
- Restore canopy-deficient areas through tree planting to provide equitable distribution of urban forest benefits to all Vancouver residents.
- Promote an urban forest stewardship ethic within the community.
- Adhere to the City of Vancouver's Operating Principles and establish Vancouver Urban Forestry as a leader in Pacific Northwest municipal forest management.

Vancouver Urban Forestry Program

Urban Forestry is supported by the Urban Forestry Commission, a seven-member volunteer commission appointed by the Vancouver City Council. The Commission helps the City to develop good management practices to conserve the community's trees and forests, educate community members on the importance of urban trees, and organize tree plantings.

In 2022, the City of Vancouver's estimated population was 194,400. Increasing urbanization presents ongoing impacts to the health of Vancouver's tree canopy, as well as opportunities to enhance, expand, and appreciate our urban forest benefits.

In 2022, the Urban Forestry Program employed four full-time staff, which equates to about one full-time employee per 48,600 community members.

Vancouver's urban forest comprises all the trees in parks, in natural areas, along streets, and on private property. In addition to improving the livability and vitality, our community's trees - quantified as tree canopy - provide numerous environmental benefits, including reductions in air pollution, greenhouse gases and stormwater runoff. According to the Tree Canopy Report, in 2021 there were 6,066 acres of tree canopy in Vancouver.

Vancouver's tree canopy covers approximately 19 percent of the City, helping to preserve watershed health and reduce runoff, while improving the livability of our neighborhoods.



Vancouver Urban Forestry Program

Vancouver's Urban Forestry Program preserves and enhances our community's urban forest through:

- Assisting all City departments, residents and interest groups with tree issues.
- Developing and coordinating effective maintenance and stewardship programs to preserve existing trees and protect safety.
- Planning and managing the urban forest by coordinating related roles, responsibilities, policies, and projects of City departments, other agencies, and public and private partners.
- Documenting, inventorying and assessing the health and condition of the urban forest.
- Identifying areas where additional trees and vegetation, especially native and large canopy trees, can be added to improve and enhance the urban forest.
- Administering ordinances that manage street trees, private property hazardous trees, and tree conservation in development projects.
- Permitting all trees within the street right-of-way and assisting the City's Community and Economic Development Department with permitting for private trees and hazardous trees. This includes oversight of planting, major pruning, tree removal, alleviating hazardous conditions, and mitigating damage to trees by development.
- Assisting in enforcement of effective regulations and in applying planting and design standards that ensure the health, quality and long-term benefits of trees.
- Increasing awareness and understanding of the value and benefits of the urban forest through outreach and education.
- Promoting proper care for the urban forest by instilling environmental stewardship among residents and providing them with the tools and knowledge necessary to make sound tree care decisions.
- Participating in partnerships, team building and networking within the community.
- Educating the Urban Forestry staff and Commission about the history of environmental justice and racism in communities and integrate equity and inclusion into all aspects of the program.



Canopy cover delivers a variety of benefits throughout the community and to our valuable water resources, including energy savings from shade, air and sound pollution removal, and stormwater runoff reduction.

Focused Funding

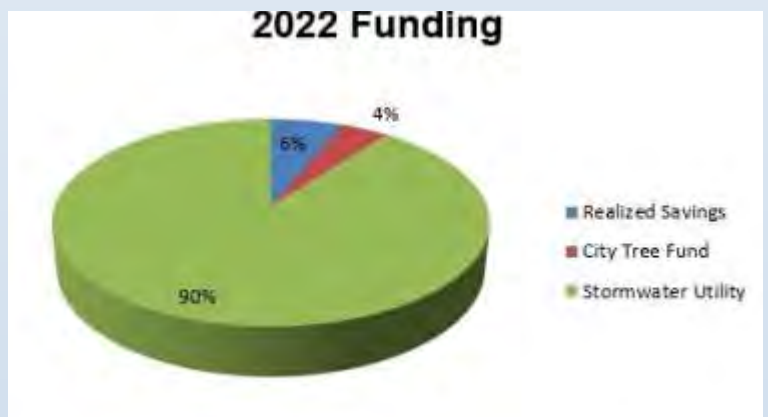
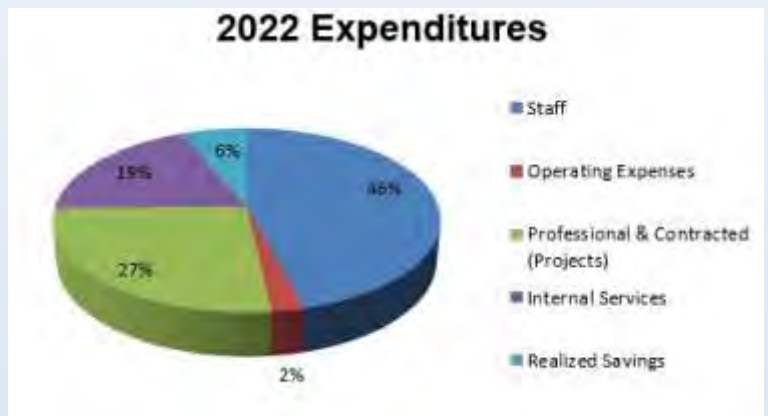
Vancouver’s Urban Forestry benefits from a mix of revenues. These include the City’s Department of Public Works Stormwater Utility Fund and the City’s Tree Fund, for a total budget of \$1,046,642.00 in 2022. Funding sources and the expenditures for 2022 are summarized in the following charts.

Including Urban Forestry in the City’s Surface Water (stormwater) Management Plan represents a comprehensive watershed approach to improving water quality. These dedicated funding sources are vital to the success of Urban Forestry. The sound public investment will pay dividends for many years to come by effectively improving water quality, decreasing runoff and flooding, improving fish and wildlife habitat, and assisting the municipality in meeting state and federal regulations.

In addition to these dedicated funding sources, Urban Forestry receives thousands of hours of volunteer time and in-kind contributions from our many partners. (See pages 22-25). These factors enable the program to be much more accomplished through an active, integrated program that has grown with support and participation at all levels

within the community. The in-kind dollars do not include contributions from other City programs based on their impacts related to the urban forest. Without such strong support, the City’s Urban Forestry Program would not be able to accomplish its mission.

In 2022, these in-kind contributions, along with grants and donations (including those for Witness Trees), totaled \$98,971.00.



Unaudited at the time of publication

Program Developments

- Urban Forestry was awarded a grant from the Washington Department of Natural Resources Urban and Community Forestry Program to partially fund the Urban Forestry Management Plan update.
- The Large-Scale Neighborhood Tree Care Activities Contract was awarded to Friends of Trees. The annual goal was increased to plant nearly 700 trees and prune 300 trees.
- City Council adopted the Climate Action Framework (CAF), a blueprint to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resiliency to climate change impacts. The CAF provides strategies and specific actions to cut carbon emissions and build community resilience across six focus areas: Building Energy, Transportation and Land Use, Equity and the Green Economy, Solid Waste and Wastewater, Governance, and Natural Systems. Urban Forestry is identified as working with natural systems to meet the goals of carbon neutrality by 2040.
- Urban Forestry developed a proactive street tree maintenance program to be implemented in 2023. This new program will address inequities in tree canopy cover while improving climate resilience by improving street tree health and condition, and planting in vacant street tree locations through an “opt in” model that builds community support and participation.
- As part of Arbor Day celebrations, Urban Forestry hosted a small-scale volunteer planting at the Land Bridge and Old Apple Tree Park. Part of the celebration included presenting the annual Gordon and Sylvia MacWilliams Evergreen Award (Mac Award) to three dedicated community volunteers, Jeff Kessenich, Kurt Koenig, and Quentin Welch. The Mac Award honors these longtime, dedicated volunteers who have contributed significantly to Vancouver’s urban forest and natural areas, planting and nurturing trees for the next generation.



Program Developments, continued

- Urban Forestry hosted the Pop-Up Arboretum series at six parks during the summer. Our parks have wonderful collections of trees, the arboretum series showcases specimen trees with fun, informative signs in multiple languages. Community members were encouraged to explore and learn about the trees in our urban forest.
- Urban Forestry assisted Building Inspectors with final landscape inspections for new single family residential permits to ensure approved plans were followed and appropriate trees are planted in appropriate locations. In 2022 Urban Forestry staff inspected more than 400 sites.
- Urban Forestry continued the partnership with the Parks Department and Public Works' Operations department on the proactive park pruning program. This program has moved the City from reactively to proactively maintaining public trees to increase longevity, reduce hazards and emergency care and maximize the many benefits of this public asset.
- Urban Forestry coordinates educational workshops targeting property owners, homeowners, and landscapers on how what they do in their landscapes has a direct impact on water quality and watershed health. Urban Forestry coordinates on average one workshop a month and one month-long comprehensive volunteer training, Tree Stewards, annually. Participants learn

about how behaviors in their landscapes can improve water quality, such as removing high maintenance lawns, planting native trees and shrubs, using organic mulch and fertilizers, preserving existing trees, reducing pesticide use and, picking up pet waste.

- Urban Forestry staff presented to the City of Vancouver Planning staff on proposed tree and landscape code updates.
- AmeriCorps member presented on Vancouver's tree canopy assessment and equity in planting to the annual Ecosystem Restoration Consortium Symposium.
- GIS staff developed a map layer and dashboard to identify low tree canopy industrial and commercial properties to target outreach to plant trees at these properties.



AmeriCorps volunteer Adela installing the pop-up arboretum signs.

Program Developments, continued

- The Urban Forestry Commission's corridor subcommittee continues to identify and implement a 'corridor planting' program. The subcommittee collaborates with Transportation Planning to identify locations. In 2022, the group identified the Columbia Bike Mobility Project to plant free street and yard trees to property owners along the corridor. In addition, the subcommittee began planning for E 18th St tree planting projects.
- Urban Forestry staff, along with other Public Works programs, are participating in Washington State's Department of Ecology Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership workgroups to inform the development of the Burnt Bridge Creek Watershed Cleanup Plan.
- With community support, staff continued to implement Vancouver's Urban Forestry Management Plan. This plan recommends directions and actions for Vancouver to optimize the benefits of trees. The plan incorporates an integrated and sustainable approach to preserving and enhancing the City's urban forest resources over the next 20 years.
- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive beetle, was detected in nearby Forest Grove, Oregon in June 2022, the first detection on the West Coast. EAB has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees in North America since it's arrival in 2002. EAB has not been detected in Vancouver yet. Staff developed an EAB management plan to guide the response.
- The City recognized Arbor Month in April, celebrating 33 years as a Tree City USA. The entire month of April was dedicated to celebrating our communities trees with a self-guided Heritage Tree Tour, hosting Pop-Up Arboretums at two parks, and family friendly online activities.



Program Developments, continued

- Urban Forestry and Volunteer Programs implemented the Naturespaces pilot program, which aims to create and restore pollinator and wildlife habitat in city parks and natural areas. The program promotes ecological education and awareness through plantings, workshops, nature walks, and invasive removal events. Planting natives and increasing urban pollinator habitat increases the climate resilience of our public spaces, reduces watering and maintenance, and promotes overall ecological health. Current sites include Downs Neighborhood Park, Countryside Neighborhood Park, and Behrens Woods Natural Area.
- Five AmeriCorps positions from Washington Service Corps were awarded for the 2022-23 service year. The City submitted a team application, with all positions serving in environmental and volunteer focused positions. Urban Forestry was appointed 1.5 positions, which support volunteerism, tree stewardship, and the Naturespaces Program.
- Staff began attending Pre-Cons (pre construction) meetings to ensure new development project managers understand the tree and landscape requirements at the beginning on the construction phase to ensure compliance.
- The celebrated Old Apple Tree Festival returned after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The festival has been held annually since 1984, commemorating the rich heritage of the tree, the region, and the apple industry. The 2022 festival returned with a community cider press and apple tastings sponsored by Urban Abundance, tours of the Land Bridge led by National Parks Service, and apple tree cuttings provided by the Urban Forestry Commission. Along with community partners providing family-friendly activities and program outreach, the festival featured professional local musical acts The Juleps, Greg and the Ottomatics, and Bobbi, Joe, and the New Guy.



Awards and Recognitions

Vancouver was named “Tree City USA” for the 33rd year and received the prestigious Tree City USA Growth Award for the 22nd year

Three Urban Forestry staff members hold Tree Risk Assessor Qualification certification through the International Society of Arboriculture.

All Urban Forestry full-time staff achieved 100 percent arborist re-certification through the International Society of Arboriculture.



Arbor Day is not like other holidays. Each of those reposes on the past, while Arbor Day proposes for the future

-- J. Sterling Morton



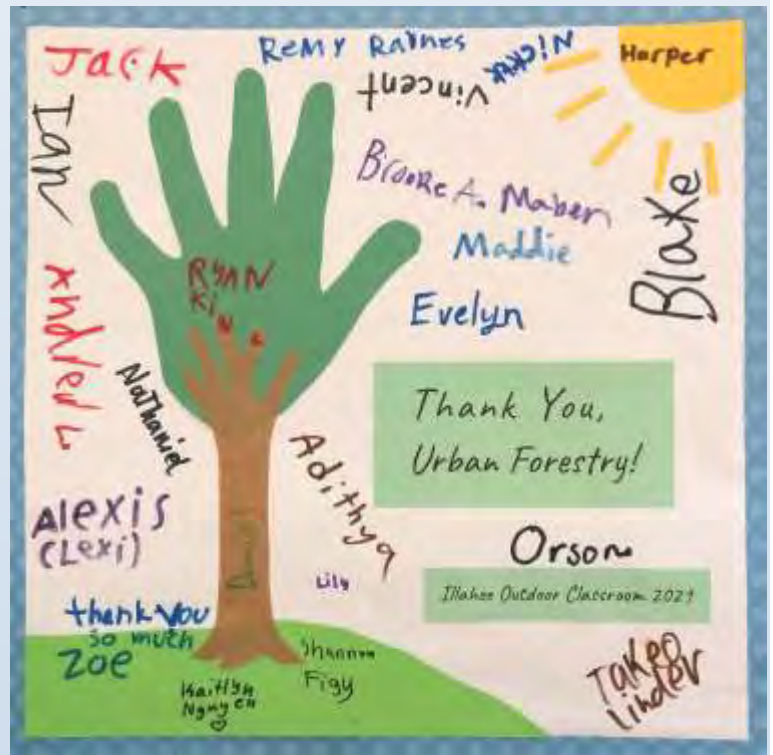
Urban Forestry in the Headlines

- “Vancouver surpasses 2020 Tree-Planting challenge,” Clark County Today, January 27. The City of Vancouver had pledged to plant 1,000 trees in 2020 as part of the Trees in Cities Challenge, a worldwide effort to create sustainable, more resilient cities of tomorrow.
- “City of Vancouver gains nearly 1,500 trees in 2020,” The Columbian, January 31. City added 1,490 new arboreal additions to its tree canopy in 2020, surpassing its original goal of planting 1,000 trees last year despite challenges by COVID-19.
- “Gardens in Clark County may need TLC after cold snap,” The Columbian, February 20. When ice damages trees and shrubs, learn how to pick up the pieces, where to look for help.
- “Proper care can help stressed trees in Clark County weather dry times,” The Columbian, July 25. Vancouver’s urban forester has been answering worried calls from homeowners ever since last month’s record heat.
- “Experts extol benefits of leaves to Clark County yards, gardens, compost,” The Columbian, September 28. Nature keeps dropping little gifts upon us, and we keep grumbling and sweating while treating them like trash.
- “Vancouver Urban Forestry Program helps environmental legacy take root,” The Columbian, October 22. Program is providing an opportunity for city residents to make a multigenerational impact and fight climate change this weekend at an annual tree giveaway.
- “Volunteers turn Vancouver traffic island into biodiverse native habitat,” The Columbian, October 23. Neighbors turn cul-de-sac island long overrun with invasive ivy and weeds into a biodiverse habitat.
- “Cultivating the city’s tree canopy: Vancouver slowly grows goal,” The Columbian, November 22. City strives to expand its urban forest in effort to battle climate change, improve health of environment, community and its residents.
- “In Our View: Increasing our tree canopy a worthwhile goal,” The Columbian, November 23. A recent assessment by consultant PlanIt Geo found the tree canopy covers about 19 percent of land within city limits—an increase from 16 percent in 2011.
- “City of Vancouver says homeowners should check on trees,” The Columbian, December 30. As property owners tend to their homes, vehicles, and driveways during the winter, they should also consider checking the health of their trees.

Tree Plantings

- Utilized the 2021 Tree Canopy Report and GIS data to identify low canopy areas, under resourced communities, which have been targeted as high priorities for tree planting. In 2022, Urban Forestry planted more than 1,300 trees at over 30 sites throughout the Vancouver community to ensure equitable benefits of our urban forest. Following is a snapshot of tree plantings throughout the Vancouver community, in partnership with volunteers, contractors, partner programs, and neighborhood associations.
- Partnered with 62 Neighborhoods and Friends of Trees to plant 417 street and yard trees at four large-scale neighborhood plantings (central, west, northeast, and southeast).
- Partnered with Hudson's Bay Neighborhood Association and the American Planners Association to plant eight new street trees in the neighborhood.
- Planted 46 new street and yard trees as part of the Columbia Street Mobility Project to increase traffic calming and shade to the corridor.
- Planted 11 new yard trees at residential properties surrounding the soon-to-be developed Vancouver Innovation Center as a traffic calming measure.
- Planted 21 new street and yard trees at First United Methodist Church to increase ecosystem services and slow traffic around the church property.

- Partnered with the Countryside Woods neighborhood to plant seven new trees in Countryside Park.
- Planted 32 new trees at David Douglas Park and at the entrance to increase stormwater management and shade throughout the park.
- Partnered with North Garrison Heights neighborhood to plant 26 new trees on public and private property in the neighborhood as a traffic calming measure and to increase shade.
- Partnered with Evergreen Baptist Church to plant 16 new trees to increase shade and stormwater management.
- Partnered with VSD Flex Academy students to plant 25 new trees on the campus for shade and air quality.



Tree Plantings, continued

- Planted 20 trees at Pioneer Elementary with students and their families as part of the Garden Club; the new trees represent a variety of species, providing a unique ongoing educational opportunity for students and teachers to engage with.
- Planted six trees at the Volunteer Grove in partnership with the Volunteer Program to recognize six dedicated volunteers that have given their time serving with the City of Vancouver.
- Planted 12 new trees at Campus Community Garden with Fort Vancouver High School Horticulture students to increase shade and pollinator habitat.
- Planted 10 trees with St Andrews Preschool on the campus to provide shade and manage stormwater.
- Planted seven new trees at Old Apple Tree Park as part of Arbor Day celebrations with community partners.
- Planted eight trees at East Vancouver Community Church to increase shade and manage stormwater.
- Planted 25 new trees at Wy'east park with neighbors to provide shade and habitat in the park.
- Planted nine new trees at Mill Plain United Methodist Church to increase stormwater management and shade the parking lot.
- Planted five new trees at Fire Station 1 in partnership with Master Gardeners in training.
- Partnered with property owners to plant 32 new street and private trees along Plomondon Street corridor with students from the Flex Academy to slow traffic and shade the neighborhood.
- Planted 28 new trees along E 18th St with students from Forth Vancouver High School to increase stormwater mitigation and habitat.
- Planted nine new trees on city parcel along E 18th St with the Urban Forestry Commission as a team building event.



Tree Plantings, continued

- Friends and family helped to dedicate and plant 16 individual Witness Trees across Vancouver in honor of their respective loved ones and significant events.
- Planted 22 new trees as part of a new Witness Tree Grove at Biddlewood Park with friends and family of Paul Danzer.
- Planted 540 native shrubs along Burnt Bridge Creek as part of Earth Day volunteer event coordinated by the AmeriCorps team to manage stormwater in the watershed.
- In the fall, 87 native and climate-adaptive trees were given away to residential property owners to plant in their yards to grow the urban forest and improve air and water quality, increase shade and provide habitat.
- Throughout Vancouver, 18 new street and yard trees were planted through the Treefund Program, an opportunity

to incentivize planting on private property through a dedicated fund. Property owners who qualify for the Utility e-billing program and purchase and plant an approved tree on their residential properties are eligible to apply for a refund toward a portion of the tree cost.

- Worked with volunteers, contractors, and City staff to plant 64 trees at 11 sites throughout Vancouver, including planting 45 trees along the McGillivray corridor, 10 trees in the downtown corridor, and nine trees at miscellaneous sites throughout the city.
- Maintained positive relationships with multiple local contractors to ensure contractual obligations are being met on all urban forestry projects.

The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



Tree Maintenance and Monitoring

- Achieved 96 percent survival of newly-planted large caliper trees through the critical first summer. The region continues to endure unprecedented drought summers that impact our trees.
- Coordinated several work parties and restoration events with 44 volunteers contributing more than 88 hours.
- Partnered with volunteers from more than 5 community groups, resulting in 147 donated hours on Urban Forestry tree maintenance and monitoring projects.
- Maintained and monitored all 2017 through 2022 plantings to ensure survival rates.
- After five years of monitoring, the tree survival rate was 96 percent for 2016 planting projects, which was the survival rate for 2015 planting projects.
- Pruned 621 young trees with staff, interns, AmeriCorps members, and

volunteers to improve structure, provide clearance, reduce storm damage and improve the health of trees as they mature.

- Urban Forestry continued partnership with Friends of Trees on the street tree pruning program in Vancouver. Volunteers are trained on proper pruning practices of young trees, then work in groups to prune young street trees in identified neighborhoods. In 2022, trained volunteers spent a total of 83 hours and pruned 149 trees in southeast Vancouver.

Removing invasive vegetation and replanting with native and climate-adaptive plants reduces stormwater volume, filters stormwater pollutants, and cools the air and our streams. These Pacific Northwest friendly plants need little or no fertilizer and less water to flourish.



Education and Outreach

- Responded to more than 2,302 requests for service and completed more than 1,067 site visits for residents with 100 percent satisfaction.
- Worked with 780 adults and 216 youth volunteers, contributing a total of 2,764 hours at tree planting and restoration events.
- The Urban Forestry Commission volunteered a total of 672 hours to further Urban Forestry's mission.
- Continued the TreeTalk workshop Series by hosting tree planting and pruning workshops, tree walks, Heritage Tree tours, and a Tree of Heaven workshop attended by 204 individuals devoting 366 hours to tree care education in 2022.
- Hosted 29 educational presentations or events throughout the community on proper tree care, tree benefits, and tree planting opportunities, reaching over 780 people.
- Incorporating Community Based Social Marketing strategies into outreach and education programs to promote sustainable behavior change and increase public tree stewardship.
- Staff, Tree Stewards, and Commissioners attended six neighborhood association meetings, presenting to 116 community members with information about efforts and benefits of improving the urban forest.
- Continued an outreach strategy to raise awareness of tree permit requirements and proper tree care. The strategy included ads in The Columbian and The Messenger, media releases, social media posts and articles in neighborhood newsletters.
- 12 community members completed the Neighborhood Tree Stewards educational program. Stewards received free education from professionals on tree-related topics with the goal to empower them to be liaisons to their communities. The series took a hybrid approach, with virtual presentations and in-person field days.



Education and Outreach, continued

- Surveys at Tree Stewards workshops showed 43 percent of participants reported an increased awareness of the role trees have in improving our water quality the active steps they can take to improve watershed health.
- Presented to 58 horticulture students at Columbia River High School the benefits of trees and proper pruning, then staff supported a hands-on pruning workshop.
- Partnered with the Water Resources Education Center to present a tree pruning workshop to six community members.
- Partnered with Fourth Plain Forward to host a tree walk through the residential and business districts discussing tree identification and right tree, right place.
- Presented benefits of trees and pruning to Master Gardeners virtually, then met at Fire Station 1 to plant new trees, prune young trees, and participate in an introduction to tree failure walk.
- AmeriCorps members coordinated tree-related educational activities at Downs Park as part of Fourth Plain Forward's Art in the Park series.
- Staff presented the Witness Tree program separately to Sons of the American Revolution conference and the Clark County Parks Foundation.
- Staff presented on benefits of trees to Pioneer Elementary School Garden Club.
- Staff presented on the updated canopy study findings to the Master Gardener Foundation.
- Staff attended the annual Eastside National Night Out, attended by east Vancouver neighbors, to share information on tree planting and benefits of trees.
- The Heritage Tree Bike Ride returned with a five-mile loop through downtown highlighting 12 trees and their historical and arboricultural significance.
- Partnered with Friends of Trees to lead a 'Bike to Bark Street Tree Ride' highlighting the new Columbia Bike Mobility Project and new and existing street trees and their benefits.
- Partnered with the Historical Society to lead a tree identification walk along Officers Row for the public.
- Partnered with Cascade Park Library to host a display at the library



Tree Stewards measuring diameter of a giant sequoia tree at Marshall Park

	Actual 2021	Goal 2022	Actual 2022
Outcome THE PUBLIC IS INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP			
Calls for assistance & information	2,142	Work Load	2,302
Site inspections	948	Work Load	1,067
Average response time (site inspections)	12 days*	10 days	15 days*
Customer satisfaction as rated by program participants (new)	98%	75%	100%
Presentations and educational events	17*	25	29
URBAN FORESTRY ADMINISTERS A VIABLE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM			
Volunteers trained (unique)	10	10	12
Volunteers participating (adults)	462	300	780
Volunteers participating (youth)	100*	200	216
Outcome THE PUBLIC TREES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IS EFFECTIVE			
Acres of total tree canopy based on latest GIS report (2011)	6,066	5,579	6,066
Technical reviews of projects completed on time	816	200	837
YOUNG TREE SURVIVAL IS IMPROVING			
Trees monitored (all projects in 5-year cycle)	6,810	3,750	6,921
Survival rate of new trees	96%	≥95%	96%
Trees pruned to improve health	609	≥500	621
Estimated acres of added canopy from monitored trees at maturity	110	60	112
NEW TREES ARE ADDED TO THE EXISTING CANOPY			
Restoration projects (contractor, volunteer, youth)	40	10	40
Trees planted	1,311	750	1,323
Tree seedlings and shrubs planted	0	500	100
Other plants distributed or planted	0	500	551
Native species composition of new plants	>50%	50%	>50%
Estimated increase in tree canopy this year, in square feet	16,388	9,375	16,538
Outcome URBAN FORESTRY IS A GOOD INVESTMENT			
Value of grants, donations, sponsorships, and reductions	\$79,411	\$35,000	\$98,971
Estimated value of benefits from newly planted trees over 40 -year period**	2.6 million	1.6 million	2.7 million
Value of program per tree cost (planted and maintained for 5 yrs)	\$784	\$700	\$667

*Impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Based on data *Western Washington and Oregon Community Trees Guide: Benefits, Costs and Strategic Planting*.

Trees Working for Us

Having a healthy urban forest in Vancouver builds a strong sense of community and improves quality of life for all residents.

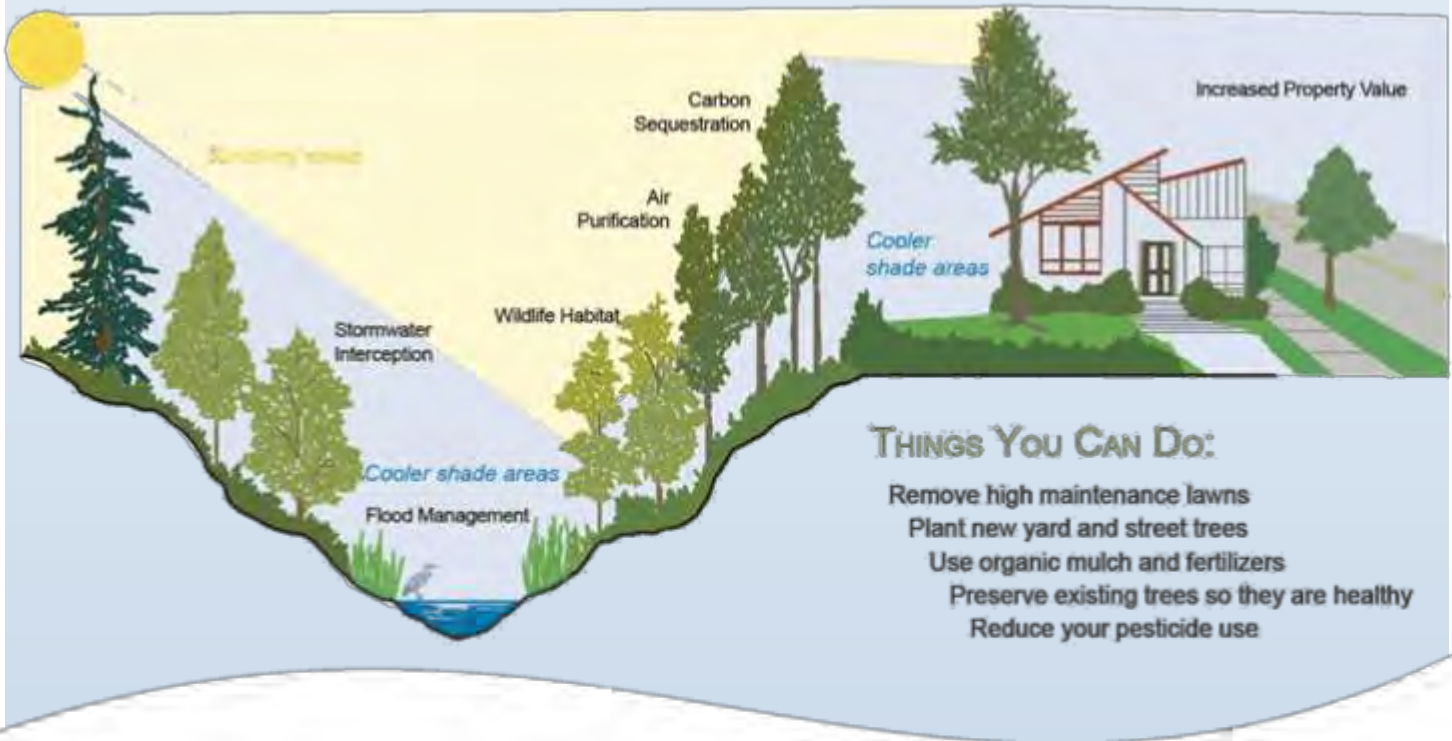
Urban trees can help the City manage stormwater as part of an integrated stormwater management plan to improve water quality, reduce pollutants, and enhance wildlife habitat. Increased tree canopy aids in Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Act compliance.

Other benefits of urban trees include city beautification, downtown revitalization, increased civic pride, outdoor recreation opportunities, natural resource education, air quality improvement, energy conservation,

shading and cooling and many other environmental, social, and economic benefits. Tree benefits can be optimized by reversing the trend of declining tree canopy within the city.

The 1,323 new trees planted in 2022 can be expected at maturity to intercept approximately 1,005,480 gallons of stormwater annually, equal to more than five Marshall Center swimming pools, and absorb more than 13,230 lbs. of pollutants each year from the air we breathe.

Overall, these 1,323 new trees as they mature will provide greater than \$3 million worth of benefits, a 250 percent return on this wise investment.



Did You Know These Facts About Trees...

- The average tree absorbs 10 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.
- Trees reduce the energy needed to heat and cool our homes by 15 to 35 percent nationwide.
- The leaves of a mature tree intercept an average of 760 gallons of rainfall a year, reducing flooding, erosion and pollution from runoff.
- A typical tree produces about 260 pounds of oxygen each year. Two trees can supply a person's oxygen needs each year.
- An average tree assists in reducing greenhouse gas concentrations by absorbing 26 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.
- Trees contribute to neighborhood livability by reducing city noise and glare and by calming traffic.
- Trees improve habitat for endangered fish, migratory birds, and other wildlife.
- Trees stabilize soil, reduce erosion and, mitigate flooding.
- For every dollar spent on Vancouver's urban forest, \$2.50 in value is returned in benefits such as energy conservation, stormwater abatement, and pollution reduction.
- Unlike many other investments that depreciate, a tree's value increases with each passing year. Houses on tree-lined streets typically command prices that are up to 20 percent higher than houses in like neighborhoods without trees.
- Visit www.naturewithin.info for more information on the environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees.



Urban Forestry strongly values our relationships with our community partners. We value volunteers and partners to help us achieve our mission. Businesses and organizations improve the quality of life in Vancouver by becoming a partner and sponsoring a tree planting project and supporting a healthy urban forest.

Neighborhood Associations

Airport Green Neighborhood Association

Arnada Neighborhood Association

Bagley Downs Neighborhood Association

Bella Vista Neighborhood Association

Bennington Neighborhood Association

Burnt Bridge Creek Neighborhood Association

Burton Evergreen Neighborhood Association

Burton Ridge Neighborhood Association

Carter Park Neighborhood Association

Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association

Cascade SE Neighborhood Association

Central Park Neighborhood Association

Cimarron Neighborhood Association

Columbia Way Neighborhood Association

Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association

Dubois Park Neighborhood Association

East Mill Plain Neighborhood Association

Edgewood Park Neighborhood Association

Ellsworth Springs Neighborhood Association

Esther Short Park Neighborhood Association

Father Blanchet Park Neighborhood Association

Fircrest Neighborhood Association

First Place Neighborhood Association

Fisher's Creek Neighborhood Association

Fisher's Landing East Neighborhood Association

Fourth Plain Village Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Associations, cont.

- Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association
- Harney Heights Neighborhood Association
- Hearthwood Neighborhood Association
- Hough Neighborhood Association
- Hudson's Bay Neighborhood Association
- Image Neighborhood Association
- Landover-Sharmel Neighborhood Association
- Lewis and Clark Woods Neighborhood Association
- Lincoln Neighborhood Association
- Maplewood Neighborhood Association
- Mountainview Neighborhood Association
- Meadow Homes Neighborhood Association
- North Garrison Heights Neighborhood Association
- North Image Neighborhood Association
- Northcrest Neighborhood Association
- Northfield Neighborhood Association
- Northwest Neighborhood Association
- Northwood Neighborhood Association
- Oakbrook Neighborhood Association
- Ogden Neighborhood Association
- Parkside Neighborhood Association
- Parkway East Neighborhood Association
- Riverridge Neighborhood Association
- Rose Village Neighborhood Association
- Shumway Neighborhood Association
- Vancouver Heights Neighborhood Association
- Village at Fishers Creek Neighborhood Association
- West Minnehaha Neighborhood Association
- Wildwood Neighborhood Association

Non-Profit Organizations

Americans Building Community
Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Washington
Clark County Historical Museum
Clark County Parks Foundation
Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center
Fort Vancouver Lions Club
Fort Vancouver Historic Trust
Fourth Plain Forward
Friends of the Carpenter
Friends of Trees
International Society of Arboriculture
Lower Columbia Nature Network
Master Gardner Foundation of Clark County
NAACP Vancouver Branch
National Arbor Day Foundation
Nature Play Designs
Parks Foundation of Clark County
SW WA LULAC Council 47013
The Confluence Project
Urban Abundance
Vancouver Dawn Lions Club
Vancouver Downtown Association
Vancouver Farmers Market
Washington Community Forestry Council
Watersheds Alliance of SW Washington

Faith-based Organizations

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
Immanuel Lutheran Church
First United Methodist Church

*Trees are poems that the earth
writes upon the sky.*

~ Kalil Gebran

Faith-based Organizations, cont

Saint Andrews Church
Mill Plain United Methodist Church
East Vancouver Community Church

Public Agencies

Bonneville Power Administration
City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
City of Portland, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Urban Forestry Division
City of Vancouver, City Manager's Office
City of Vancouver, Community and Economic Development Department
City of Vancouver Fire Department
City of Vancouver Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance
City of Vancouver, Office of Neighborhoods
City of Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission
City of Vancouver Planning Commission
City of Vancouver, Public Works
City of Vancouver, Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
City of Vancouver, Water Resources Education Center
Clark College
Clark County Green Business
Clark County Green Schools
Clark County Public Health
Clark Public Utilities
Clark/Vancouver Television (CVTV)
Evergreen School District
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District
National Parks Service
USDA Forest Service
Vancouver School District
Washington Department of Agriculture
Washington Department of Natural Resources, Urban & Community Forestry
Washington Department of Transportation
Washington Service Corps (AmeriCorps)

Public Agencies, cont.

City of Vancouver, Public Works
City of Vancouver, Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
City of Vancouver, Water Resources Education Center
Clark College
Clark County Green Business
Clark County Green Schools
Clark County Public Health
Clark Public Utilities
Clark/Vancouver Television (CVTV)
Evergreen School District
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District
National Parks Service
USDA Forest Service
Vancouver School District
Washington Department of Agriculture
Washington Department of Natural Resources, Urban & Community Forestry
Washington Department of Transportation
Washington Service Corps (AmeriCorps)
Washington State University
Washington State University Clark County Extension Service, Master Gardeners

Private Organizations/Businesses

Arborscape LTD
Bartlett Tree Experts
J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co
Joe's Farm
KIND Snacks
Seize the Bagel
Shorty's Nursery—Dennis' 7 Dees
Starbucks Corporation
SOMA Kombucha
The Columbian
TreeWise, LLC

Established for the purpose of preserving, managing, and increasing the City's urban forest thereby protecting a vital environmental, social and economic resource that benefits all residents and visitors, and for the purpose of assisting property owners and public agencies in improving and maintaining the urban forest in a manner consistent with adopted City policies. Seven members are appointed by City Council to four-year terms.

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at Vancouver City Hall, 415 W. Sixth Street and virtually. For information, to submit comments, or attend, email urbanforestry@cityofvancouver.us.

Current Membership of the Vancouver Urban Forestry Commission:

- Melissa Johnston, Chair
- Clif Barnes, Vice-Chair
- Susan Law, past Chair
- Chuleana Wheeler
- Jamie Beyer
- Khanh Tran
- Jeff Kessenich

Immediate past members of the Commission completing their service in 2022:

- Susan Sanders



Urban Forestry Contact Information



Charles Ray
Urban Forester
Phone: 360-487-8328
charles.ray@cityofvancouver.us



Nicholas Redmond
Urban Forestry Specialist
Phone: 360-487-8332
nick.redmond@cityofvancouver.us



Jesse Batty
Urban Forestry Specialist
Phone: 360-487-8327
jesse.batty@cityofvancouver.us



Jessica George
Urban Forestry Outreach Coordinator
Phone: 360-487-8308
jessica.george@cityofvancouver.us



Dorian Curtin
AmeriCorps
Phone: 360-487-8324
dorian.curtin@cityofvancouver.us

Bella Padgett
AmeriCorps
Phone: 360-487-8344
bella.padgett@cityofvancouver.us

PO Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668
Fax: 360-487-8305
www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry