

## **January UFC Program and Staff Reports**

### **6. Program Updates**

#### **AmeriCorps & Friends of Trees (FOT):**

·With the help of 128 volunteers, we planted 62 trees and over 508 native shrubs and seedlings from Dec 1 – Jan 1

·Successful start to VUF intern program: 5 local high school students participating in CTE Internship program are on-track to finish their internship on 1/27 with completed college credits.

·MLK Day of Service planned for 1/15 has 100 volunteer sign-ups to plant 21 trees and 300 native shrubs and flowers at Sam Brown Park.

#### **Friends of Trees**

·At the 11/11 crew leader training, 104 youth and adult volunteers planted 61 trees in central-south neighborhoods

·At the 12/2 south-east planting, 116 adult and youth volunteers planted 114 trees.

·Over 60 trees will be planted in Central-East Vancouver's planting on 1/6.

#### **Annual Report 2023:**

Staff will begin drafting our 2023 Annual Report. Please reflect on what you worked on in 2023 as a Commissioner and your partners to ensure they are incorporated into the Annual Report. Also please email your estimated 2023 volunteer hours to Charles Ray. If you have any questions about how to compile your volunteer hours, contact staff.

#### **Arbor Day 2024 Planning:**

The Outreach Subcommittee and staff are developing plans for Arbor Day 2024. Please share any ideas on locations, themes and any improvements.

#### **Mac Awards 2023:**

The Commission will be awarding the annual Mac Awards as part of Arbor Day. The Commission will vote on this year's nominees at the March meeting. Individuals, organizations, and businesses that have made a significant positive impact on Vancouver's urban forest are eligible for the Mac Award. Activities worthy of recognition include organizing a tree planting project, educating others about the benefits of trees or proper tree care, preserving trees during land development, donating time and/or funds to advance the mission of the Urban Forestry program, developing creative

partnerships in community forestry, or any other activity that inspires community stewardship of the urban forest. Please nominate candidates.

## **Subcommittee Reports:**

### **Outreach:**

December Outreach Meeting.

UF Website

Accessibility tool! Bottom right

Landing Page

Intro text at top... necessary? Remove or shorten? Based on goals in UFMP?

Main Links

- use broader categories of services...
- icons/pictures in middle of page....
- Or Navigation pane below main picture like on the Recycling page (like the recycling page: <https://www.cityofvancouver.us/services/garbage-recycling/> )
  - o Business, Property Development, Events
  - o Drop down sections under navigation pane.

Main Link Categories and Subpages:

- Tree Permits and Regulations
  - o Service provider list
  - o Street Tree lists
- Learn About Tree Care
  - o Service provider list
  - o Invasive Species
  - o Street Tree lists
  - o Water... prune... plant...
  - o Tree topping
  - ☒ Tree care scams!!
  - o Tree U (University)
  - o Tree Care Handbook
- Events and Education Programs

- o Calendar at top w/ UF events
- o Link direct to events... sign up easier...  
<https://www.cityofvancouver.us/government/calendar/?type=urban-forestry#tab2>
- o Workshops/Classes
- o Tree Planting
- o Tree Tours
- o Tree Stewards
- o Old Apple Tree Festival
- o Arbor Day
- o FOT link
  - Get a Tree
- o Yard Tree Giveaway
- o Link to FOT
  - Urban Forestry Plans and Reports
- o Files
  - Urban Forestry Commission
- o Give link to the boards and commission general info
- o Contact info for UFC, terms
- o Photo?
- o What contact info would we all like?
- o MJ to send email to ask
  - Awards and Recognition Programs
- o Siva Bolds
- o MAC Award
- o Heritage Trees
  - ☒ Photo of heritage tree at top
  - ☒ Need an interactive map with all trees and a downloadable printout
- o Witness Tree
  - ☒ Browse map... map is missing
  - ☒ Picture of the original Witness Tree
- o TreeCAP Program

- o Tree City USA
  - Sign up for Newsletter
- o Archive newsletters
  - Partner organizations

Related Documents at bottom of each subpage

Big picture events and goals.... 2024...

- Plantings, contractors vs. volunteer
- Goal of outreach... tabling... primary messages
- Flyering and canvassing opportunities in 2024 for tree plantings...
- o Ian will work on flyering and canvassing plan...
- o Corridor plantings, canvassing has biggest impact
- o Face to face... weekend canvassing...
  - Farmer market...
- o UFC hosting a table on February... 10th , 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- o Topics: No topping, event sign ups
- o Wish list: Spinner wheel
  - Outreach for UFMP
- o Share with community
- o Code updates based on plan recommendations.

Arbor Day Planning

- Celebrate Tree City USA
- 35 years
- Saturday... service component...
- Jessica and staff discussing upcoming tree plantings and group to plant with for Arbor day

Tree Care Handbook

- Topic list... how to organize?
- o Trees and People...
- o What not to do... lawn mowers, sun blight

- o Where to plant/placement
- o How to Prune
- o Neighbors/Property Rights/Chatting with neighbors
- ☒ Good neighbor handbook [https://www.cityofvancouver.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/neighborhood\\_leaders\\_handbook.pdf](https://www.cityofvancouver.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/neighborhood_leaders_handbook.pdf)
- o FOT Handbook

**Policy:**

No report

**Invasive:**

No report

**Pollinator:**

No report

**Corridor:**

No report.

**8. Urban Forestry Staff Report**

Since the November Commission meeting, staff has been focused on orientation and onboarding of our two new staff, fall/winter planting projects, next steps with our Urban Forest Management Plan and our workload to ensure all aspects of our program are moving forward while a staff member is out on medical leave. Nick Redmond is expected to return to work on light duty at the end of January.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, Jan 20, 10a to noon  
Tree Planting, need volunteers

Saturday, Jan 27, 10a to noon  
Tree Pruning, street trees along Columbia Way (the trees we planted with Susan years ago)

Thursday, Feb 22, 10a to noon  
Tree Pruning, Brickyard Park

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB):

We will be implementing our 2024 EAB action items which include: removal/replacement of declining ash trees (approx 20 trees); round 2 of treatment to preserve quality ash trees; and other action items. We are seeking funding from Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist with implementation of our EAB management plan.

Staff submitted Vancouver's Tree City USA and Growth Award application which was due December 1<sup>st</sup> to be recognized for the 35<sup>th</sup> year. Staff also applied for the prestigious Growth Award for updating our Urban Forestry Management Plan, Pop Up Arboretums and the Old Apple Tree Festival.

Staff submitted a DNR Grant to complete a public tree inventory. This would support our proactive maintenance programs for street trees and park trees.

Staff has been working with Parks and Operations to finalize our 2024 Park Proactive Pruning sites. Staff is also working closely with Pavement Management on our 2024 Proactive Street Tree Management Program prior to paving season.

Our site visit inspection backlog is approx. 14 days (goal is 10 day response time) and hovering around 30 requests. Development and inspection request are steady. Staff is completing final site inspections for all new development since June to ensure quality trees are planted per the approved tree plan.