

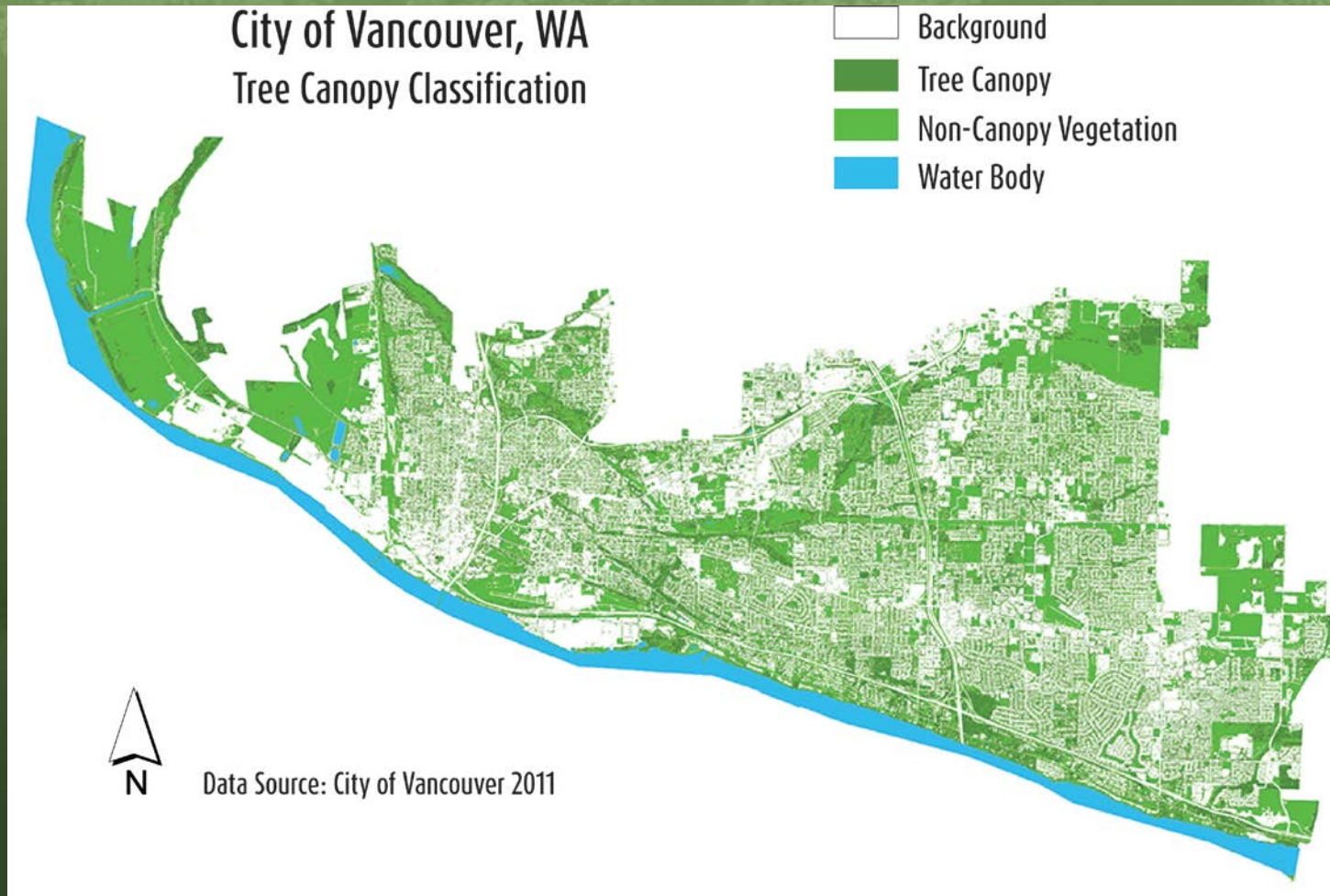
Our Urban Forest



Jesse Batty, Urban Forestry Specialist

www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry

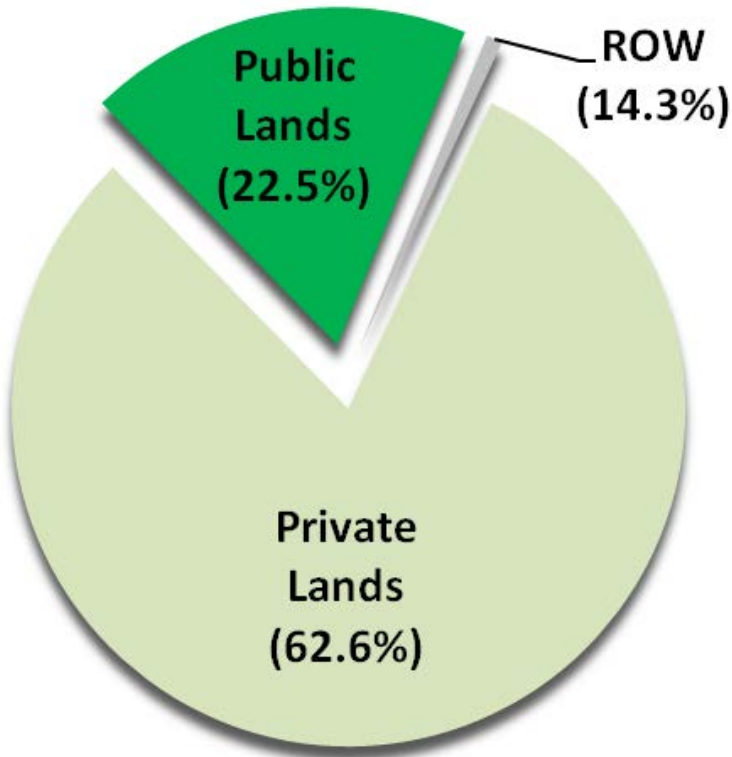
Vancouver's Tree Canopy



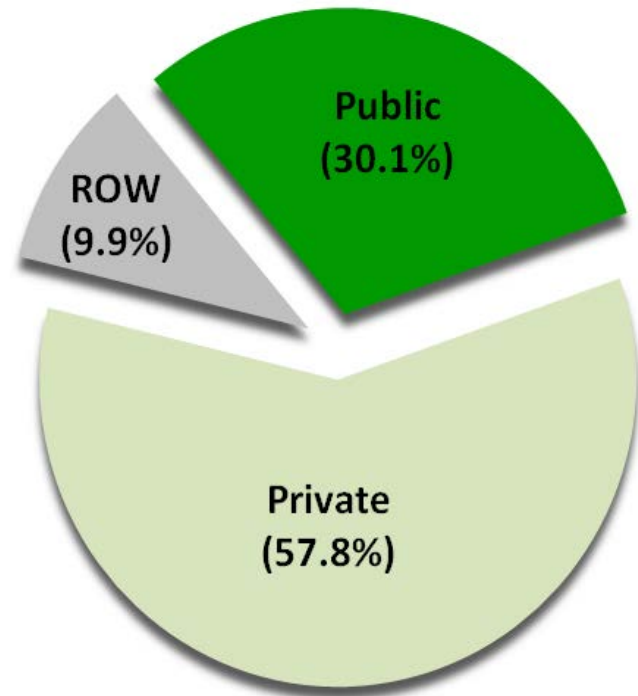
- Recommended cover for Pacific Northwest cities: 40%
- Canopy Project shows 18.6% cover

Percent of Urban Tree Canopy (a) and percent of possible Urban Tree Canopy (b) by Ownership

Percent of *Current* Urban Tree Canopy
by land ownership: current = 18.6%

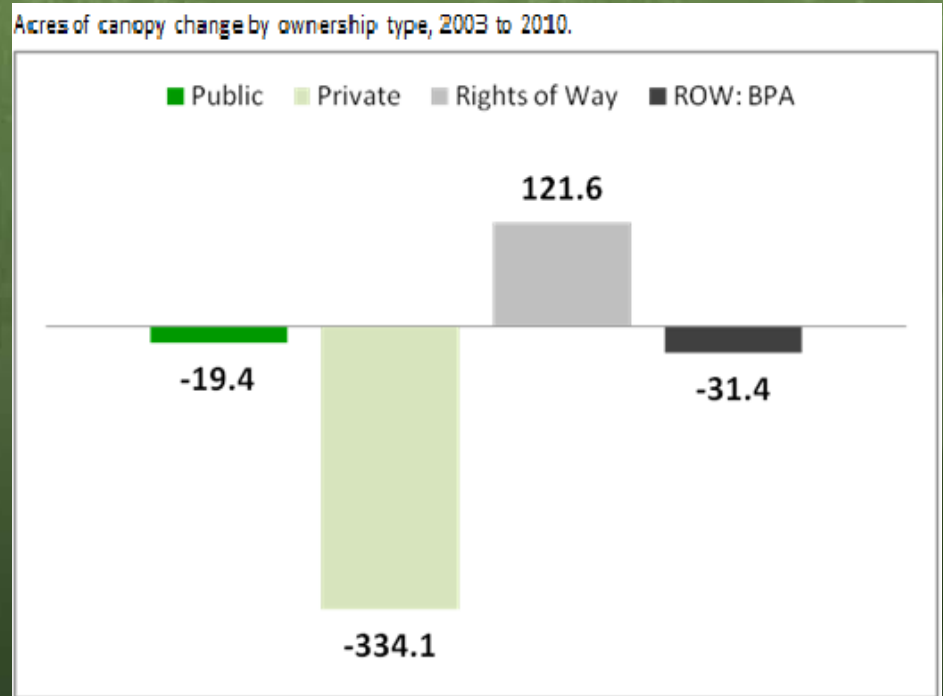


Percent of *Possible* Urban Tree Canopy
by land ownership: possible = 47.9%

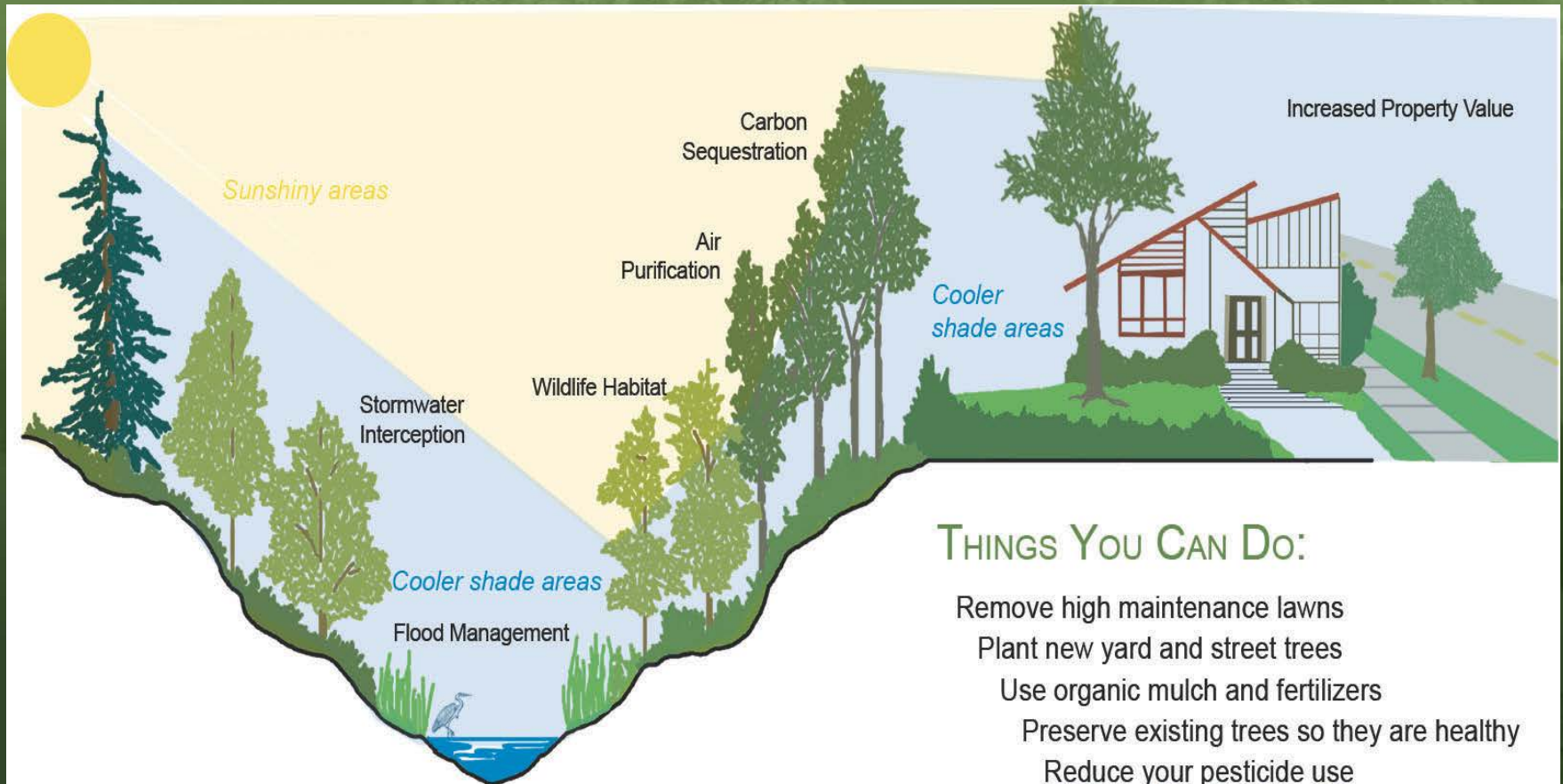


Why the Canopy Losses?

- Individual trees removed by homeowner
- Trees lost to insects, disease, storm damage or other natural causes
- Stands of trees removed as part of residential and commercial development



How Do Trees Work For You?



Trees Improve Air Quality



- 100 trees remove 13 tons of CO₂
- 100 trees remove about 1000 lbs of pollutants per year, including:
 - 400 lbs of ozone
 - 300 lbs of particulates

Trees Improve Water Quality.

- 100 mature trees intercept about 250,000 gallons of rainwater per year...
 - Decreased polluted runoff
 - Decreased soil, stream bank and hill erosion



Trees Provide Valuable Services in Vancouver.



- Annual dollar value of air pollution removal:
\$78 million
- Annual dollar value of stormwater management:
\$13 million

Trees Provide and Improve Wildlife Habitat.



- Tree shade improves habitat, especially in streams
- Trees provide food and shelter for birds, insects and small mammals
- Native trees and shrubs help preserve native wildlife populations

Trees sell houses (at higher prices).



- Each large front yard tree adds 1% to sales price.
- Mature trees can add 10%, or more, to property values.

Trees are Good for Business.

In tree-lined commercial districts...

- More frequent shopping
- Longer shopping trips
- Shoppers spend more for parking
- Shoppers are willing to spend 12% more for goods



Community trees. Vital to community health.

Tree-filled neighborhoods: safer and more sociable

- Trees absorb high-frequency noise
- Tree-filled landscapes reduce stress
- Lower levels of domestic violence
- Reduce crime
- Students have better test scores



Community trees. Vital to community health.

- Trees decrease need for medication and speed recovery times for hospital patients
- Trees increase the weights of newborn babies
- A matter of life and death?



TOLEDO STREET BEFORE AND AFTER EMERALD ASH BORER

BEFORE: JUNE 2006

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN HERMS, OSU

AFTER: AUGUST 2009



INTRODUCTION RESOURCES FUTURE RESEARCH REFERENCES

Metro nature - including trees, parks, gardens, and natural areas - enhance quality of life in cities and towns. The experience of nature improves human health and well-being in many ways. Nearly 40 years of scientific studies tell us how. Here's the research ...



Livable Cities

Throughout time people have noted that nearby nature is an important part of places that are livable and have a high quality of life. Having gardens, parks, and trees in cities leads to life satisfaction and a positive outlook. [READ ABOUT THE RESEARCH](#)

RESEARCH THEMES

- Livable Cities
- Social Strengths
- Local Economics
- Place Attachment & Meaning
- Crime & Public Safety
- Safe Streets
- Active Living
- Reduced Risk
- Wellness & Physiology
- Healing & Therapy
- Mental Health & Function
- Work & Learning
- Lifecycle & Gender

Green Cities: Good Health web site provides an overview of the scientific evidence of human health and well-being benefits provided by urban forestry and urban greening.

<http://depts.washington.edu/hhwb/>

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vancouver, showing a mix of urban buildings, green spaces, and a prominent roundabout in the foreground. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent grey box containing text. The background shows a dense urban area with various building styles, interspersed with trees and green spaces. In the distance, a range of mountains is visible under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.

Goals of Vancouver Urban Forestry

- **Maintenance and preservation of existing trees**
- **Tree canopy restoration**
- **Education and environmental stewardship through public involvement**

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vancouver, showing a mix of urban buildings, green spaces, and a large tree-lined park area. A semi-transparent white box with black text is overlaid on the center of the image. The background shows a dense urban area with various building styles, interspersed with greenery. In the foreground, a large park area with many trees and a central green lawn is visible, surrounded by buildings and a road with a roundabout. The sky is clear and blue, with some light clouds. The overall scene is a vibrant urban landscape with a strong emphasis on green spaces.

Goals of Vancouver Urban Forestry

- **Maintenance and preservation of existing trees**

Street Tree Permits

- For trees within the public right-of-way, permits are required for:
 - Planting
 - Removal
 - Major pruning
 - Removing greater than 15% of canopy
 - Removing branches greater than 3 inches diameter
 - Pruning roots
- Major pruning requires a Street Tree Worker License

Right Tree, Right Place



Right Tree, Right Place



Private Tree permits

- For trees on private property, removal permits are required for trees on properties that are:
- Undeveloped or developing
 - Zoned commercial, industrial, or multi-family
 - Residential (single-family)
 - > 1 acre
 - Able to be sub-divided, based on underlying zoning
 - Built after 1997, if trees were identified to be retained on Tree Plan
 - Protected under Critical Areas Ordinance because of wetlands, streams, wildlife habitat, steep slopes, or other designated sensitive areas

Maintenance and Preservation of existing trees

Heritage Tree Program

Vancouver's Heritage Tree program aims to preserve and recognize the significant trees in our community. The City of Vancouver believes that by preserving our natural resources we preserve a vital link to our past.



To be considered, the tree must be mature and distinctive in size, age, species, or associated with a historical event.

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vancouver, showing a mix of urban buildings and green spaces. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text. The background shows a dense urban area with various buildings, including a prominent circular building on the right, and a large green park area in the foreground. The sky is blue with some clouds, and mountains are visible in the distance.

Goals of Vancouver Urban Forestry

- **Tree canopy restoration**

Tree Canopy Restoration

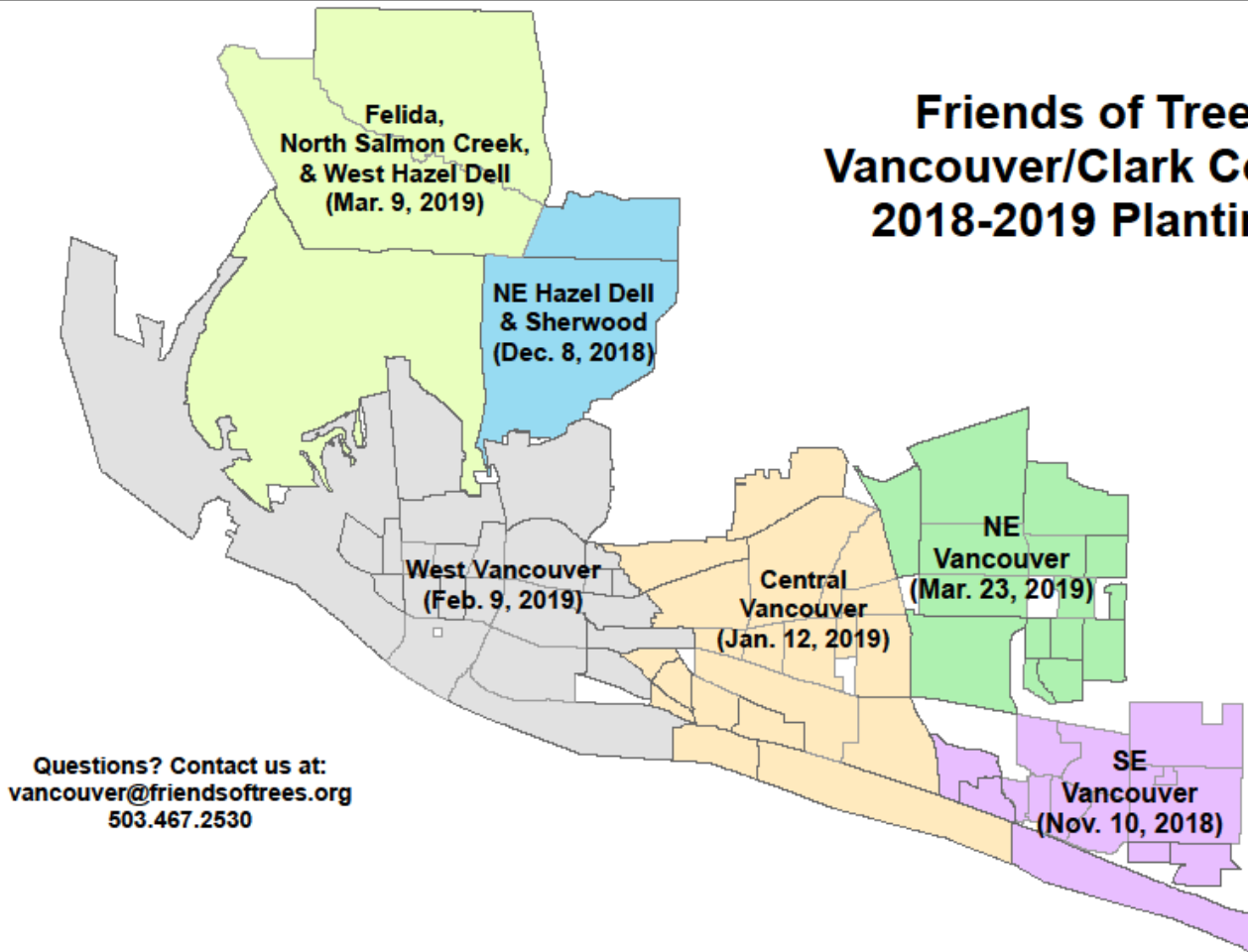
To reach our goal of 28% tree canopy by 2030, Urban Forestry is planting about 1000 new trees per year throughout the City.



PLANT IT
VANCOUVER 

Tree Canopy Restoration

Friends of Trees Vancouver/Clark County 2018-2019 Plantings



Questions? Contact us at:
vancouver@friendsoftrees.org
503.467.2530

Tree Canopy Restoration



Every tree planted in Vancouver increases neighborhood livability, adds to the values of our homes, decreases stormwater runoff, and reduces our energy costs. Plant an approved tree and receive a refund (up to 50%) for improving our community.



Maintenance and Preservation of existing trees

Witness Tree Program

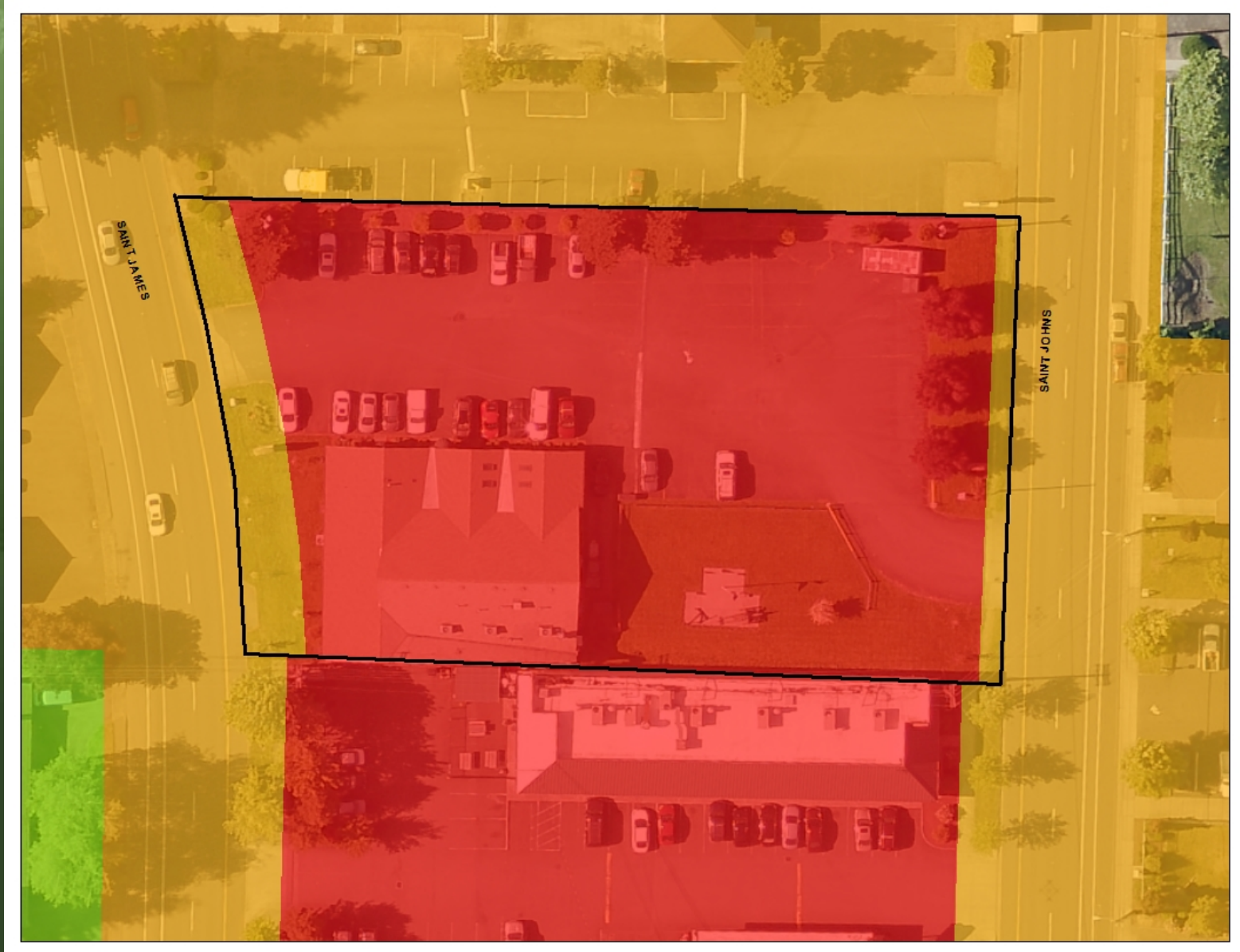


Dedicate a tree in honor or in memory of a special person or a memorable event... and it benefits our urban forest too!

"Perhaps nature is our best assurance of immortality."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Tree Canopy Restoration...how do we prioritize



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vancouver, showing a mix of urban buildings and green spaces. A semi-transparent white box with black text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Goals of Vancouver Urban Forestry

- **Education and environmental stewardship through public involvement**



Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

Neighborhood Tree Stewards is a free 7 session training from local arboriculture experts on tree identification, biology, regulations, planting, natural area restoration, proper tree care, and the benefits of trees. After the training, the Tree Stewards will be equipped to take on the task of spreading accurate information about trees to their own neighborhoods. Tree Stewards volunteer to conduct a tree planting or tree-related education project in exchange for the training and education they receive, with the help of Urban Forestry.



Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

TreeTalk Workshops are free educational workshops all about trees hosted by Vancouver Urban Forestry. Topics include: Proper Tree Pruning, Tree Planting, Understanding Hazard Trees, Tree Identification, Tree Walks, and more.



Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

Prune like a Pro!

Street Tree Pruning Workshop
Saturday, Nov. 3 | 10 am - 12:30 pm

Volunteer to prune in the
Image neighborhood, along
NE 39th Street.



[Learn more
& RSVP](#)



FREE WORKSHOP

Understanding Tree Hazards

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 6-8 pm
Vancouver City Hall
415 West 6th Street

[Learn more
& RSVP](#)

Volunteer to Plant Trees

Saturday, Nov. 17 | 1-3pm
Brickyard Park
3105 Lincoln Ave



[Learn more
& RSVP](#)

No Topping



- It Doesn't Really Work
- It's Expensive
- It Starves a Tree
- It Creates Dangerous Trees



Photo courtesy of Terry Flanagan

Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

Arbor Day is a nationally-celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. Vancouver, along with the State of Washington, celebrates Arbor Day each April with an awards ceremony, activities, and tree planting.



Invasive Trees – Tree of Heaven



Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

The Mac Award is an annual recognition of individuals, organizations, and businesses that have made a significant, positive impact on Vancouver's urban forest.



The Silva Bolds Award is a highly prestigious recognition given by the Urban Forestry Commission on a meritorious basis honoring citizens who have gone to extraordinary lengths to inspire and enrich the quality of life in Vancouver through trees.

Education and Environmental Stewardship through Public Involvement

The Urban Forestry Commission was established to advise the Mayor and City Council on local and regional tree related issues. The Commission assists the city to develop good management practices to conserve the city's trees and forests, educate citizens on the importance of urban trees, and organize tree plantings.



Persian Ironwood – Street Tree Small Space

- Rounded, upright habit
- Exfoliating bark
- Unique red tassel flowers
- Wedge-shaped leaves
- Great fall color
- Stress (drought, wind, heat, cold, etc) tolerant
- No major pest/disease issues



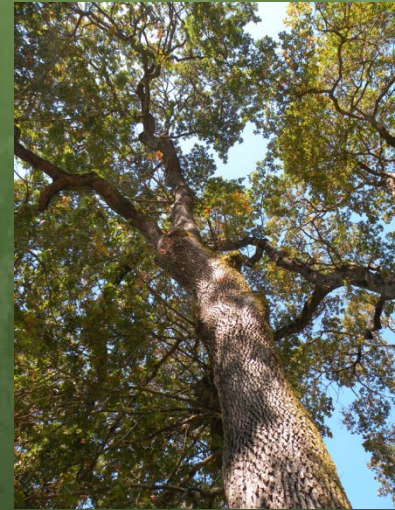
Gingko biloba - Street Tree Large Space

- Broadly pyramidal habit
- Typically excurrent leader
- Unique fan-shaped leaves
- Nice yellow fall color
- Urban tolerant/durable tree
- One of the oldest trees
- Good pest resistance
- Transplants easily



Oregon White Oak – Plant in Yard

- Native tree
- Beautiful, rounded form
- Stately tree
- Attracts wildlife
- Dependent species for Western gray squirrel
- Host plant for butterflies
- Great shade tree
- Long-lived



Trees increase neighborhood livability by improving air and water quality, reducing stormwater runoff, reducing traffic speeds, providing shade, and providing wildlife habitat. Trees also dramatically increase property values and help foster a sense of community.

...because Trees are Great!



- City of Vancouver Urban Forestry
- www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry