

Street Tree Planting Program Spring 2025

Our spring street tree planting program is considerably smaller than usual. With our current staffing levels, I feel it would be prudent to plant trees at a level the current staff can maintain. This will allow us to be able to watering during summer months if necessary. The planting numbers indicate the minimum we expect to plant this spring. If we can add staff, we will work to increase the number of replacement trees. Our priority is to plant trees at newly finished homes. We are also replanting trees along Magnolia Dr.

We continue to focus on increasing diversity of our urban forest by reducing the population of maple trees through attrition. We are also removing ash trees that are showing signs of decline from the effects of the borer.

Our spring planting program will include 47 new development plantings.

We are expecting our last contract grown trees this year. Unfortunately, one downside to having contracted trees in the past is that this spring, we are getting 40 of the same species at one time.

Other than new cultivars that are just being developed, we have been able to locate the species and numbers we need. We are continually looking at new vendors to increase our options even further.

Thank you for your continued support!

Aaron Lehnert

Forestry Supervisor

Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

2025 Forestry Division Update

2024 Year in Review

Tree sites: 31,112 (2024 - 30,408)
Filled: 27,416 (88.1%) (2024 - 27,188 (89.4%))
Vacant: 3,696 (11.9%) (2024 - 3,220 (10.6%))

Tree Maintenance:

	Total	Train Pruning	Street Pruning	Park Pruning	Other
2024	3,300	1875	1363	92	
2023	3,766	1862	1538	72	366
2022	4,326	2283	1907	128	
2021	4,056	1697	2077	278	

Tree Removals:

	Total			
2024	894	Ash 190 (22%)	Others 704 (78%)	*January storm 107 (13%)
2023	465	Ash 130 (28%)	All Others 335 (72%)	
2022	663	Ash 255 (38.5%)	All Others 408 (61.5%)	
2021	867	Ash 300 (34.6%)	All Others 567 (65.4%)	

Service Requests:

2024	Total
Storm:	384 *1,202 work orders related to Jan snow storm
Pruning:	294
Removal:	184
Stumps/Roots:	38
Planting:	28
Insects/Disease:	23
Other:	108
Total	1059

2023	Total
Storm:	318
Pruning:	211
Removal:	92
Stumps/Roots:	43
Planting:	43
Insects/Disease:	27
Other:	156
Total	890

2022 982

Tree Planting:

	New Plantings	Replacements	Total
2024	68	459	527
2023	47	481	528
2022	73	492	565

Ash Update:

Total Ash left in population 2557 (9.3% of total population)

Emerald Ash Borer Treatments

2024: 730
2023: 641
2022: 681

***Current Status of Removal Program 3,228 Ash Trees Removed To - Date**

We will continue to protect the trees treated since 2022 on a 3-year rotation. We will continue to remove ash in construction related cases. Moving forward, we will select ash trees for removal based on condition.

Staffing Update:

For most of 2024 we were considered fully staffed. At the end of 2024 we lost our part time Arborist.

Recently, we had an egress of 3 full time arborists. This leaves us with 4 full time Arborists currently.

We are advertising and recruiting to replace all positions.

Equipment Update:

New 19 inch capacity chipper delivered.

EAB Treatment History

YEAR	# of Trees Treated	Method Used	Comments
2010	273	Tree-Age G4	
2011	459	Tree-Age G4	
2012	589	Tree-Age G4	
2013	796	Tree-Age G4	
2014	734	Tree-Age G4	234 of Total 2nd Treatment
2015	980	Tree-Age G4	459 of Total 2nd Treatment
2016	948	Tree-Age G4	589 of Total 2nd Treatment
2017	961	Tree-Age G4	E. Roberta Av Now 3 Yr
2018	812	Tree-Age G4	Stardust Dr Now 3 Yr
2019	706	Tree-Age G4 & R10	
2020	1052	Tree-Age R10	
2021	705	Tree-Age R10	Trees to continue treating
2022	681	Tree-Age R10	Trees to continue treating
2023	641	Tree-Age R10	Trees to continue treating
2024	730	Tree-Age R10	Trees to continue treating

Tree Planting Assessment Charge History

2023/24

Year	Charge	\$ Difference	% Difference
2009	175.00	10	6.0%
2010	185.00	10	5.7%
Break-even	\$186.00	Cost to plant	One tree
2011	190.00	\$ 5	2.7%
2012	195.00	\$5	2.6%
2013	195.00	----	----
2014	195.00	----	----
2015	195.00	----	----
2016	205.00	+ \$10	5.1%
2017	205.00	----	----
2018	220.00	+ \$15	7.3%
Break-even	234.00	Cost to plant	One tree
2019	235.00	+ \$15	6.8%
2020	235.00	----	----
2021	235.00	----	----
2022	250.00	\$15 Increase	6.4%
2023	300.00	\$50 Increase	20.0%
2024	350.00	\$50 Increase	17%
2025	350.00	-----	-----

Tree Planting Breakdown

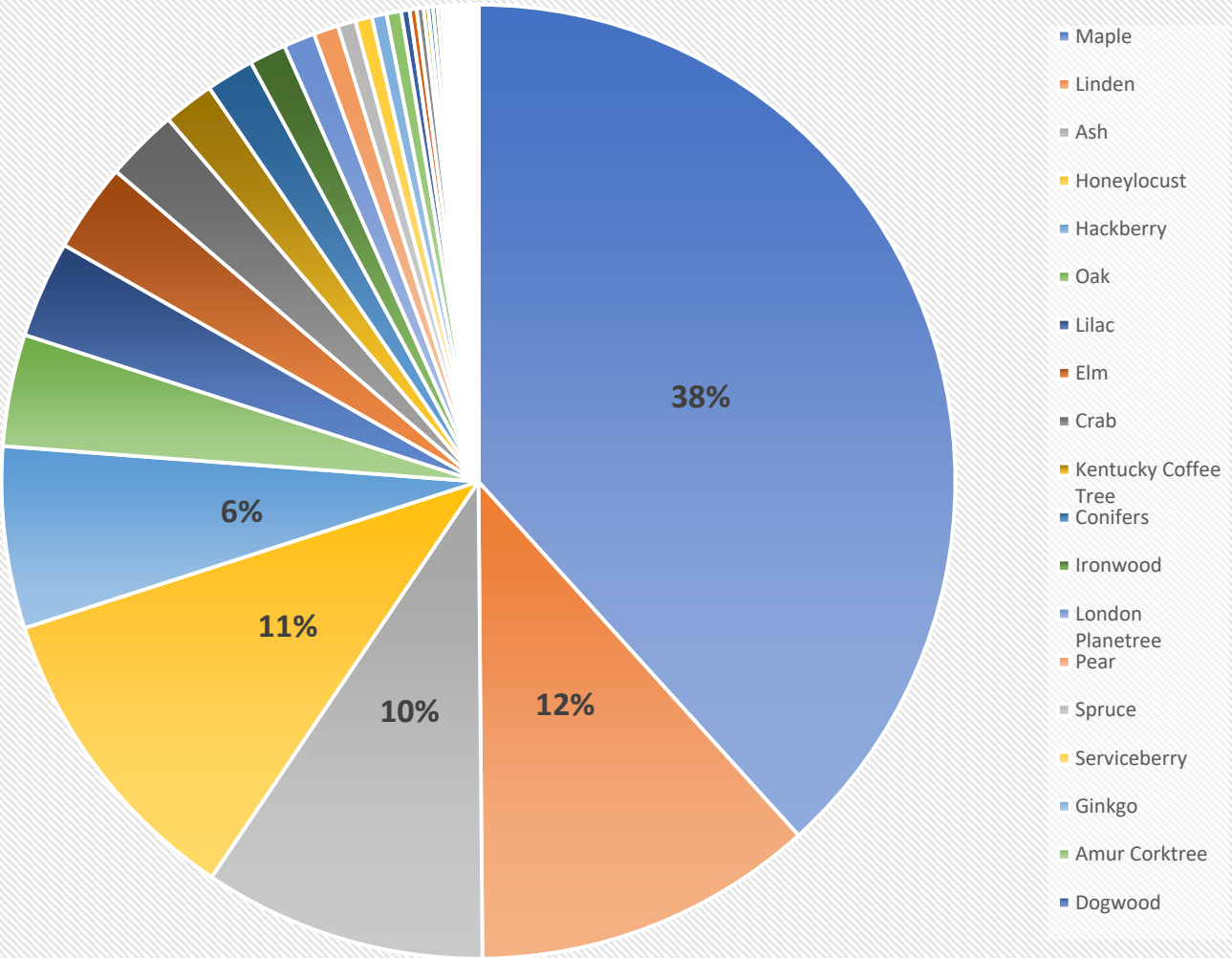
Average tree cost = \$242.29/ tree

Direct Labor cost is \$34.20/hour

Locate site, diggers and mark	.25 hr
Load tree and travel to site	.25 hr
Dig the site and prep hole	.50 hr
Plant the tree	1.00 hr
Backfill hole	.50 hr
Mulch and water in	.50 hr
Additional Waterings	1.50 hr
Total	4.5 @ \$34.20/hr. = \$153.90

Ave. tree cost @ \$242.29 + Direct Labor cost @ \$153.90 = \$396.19

Waukesha's Tree Population by Genus



City of Waukesha

Spring 2025 Tree Planting Summary

TYPE	WITH CHARGE	WITHOUT CHARGE	TOTAL
Fill In	31	3	34
Full - Streets	10	3	13
Replacements	0	150	150
Requests	0	0	0
Storm	0	0	0
Memorial/Retirement	3	0	3
Parks	0	0	0
TOTALS (Approx.)	41	156	197

Cost Assessment \$350 per tree