Focused Technical Assistance City of Camas, Washington

Overview and next steps



Our Mission is to:

Provide resources and leadership to create self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs that preserve, plant and manage forests and trees for public benefits.





Washington's Urban and Community Forestry Program provides assistance to preserve, plant and manage urban forests and trees for public benefits.

www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry www.dnrtreelink.wordpress.com



Educational:

- Resources, tools, BMPs, guides, etc.
- Training sessions



Technical:

 Strategies, plans, policies, ordinances, etc.



Financial:

- Arbor Day
 Reimbursements
- Community Forestry Assistance Grants

Urban Forestry Management Programs

Ingredients for urban forest management

- Urban Tree Canopy Analysis
- Inventory of street and park trees
- Assessment(s) of forested natural areas
- Urban Forest Management Plan based on data
- Annual planting, maintenance, risk assessment
- Annual contracts for tree work
- Ordinances (tree protection, development reg's)
- Public engagement (tree board, volunteer events)
- Professional urban forestry staff

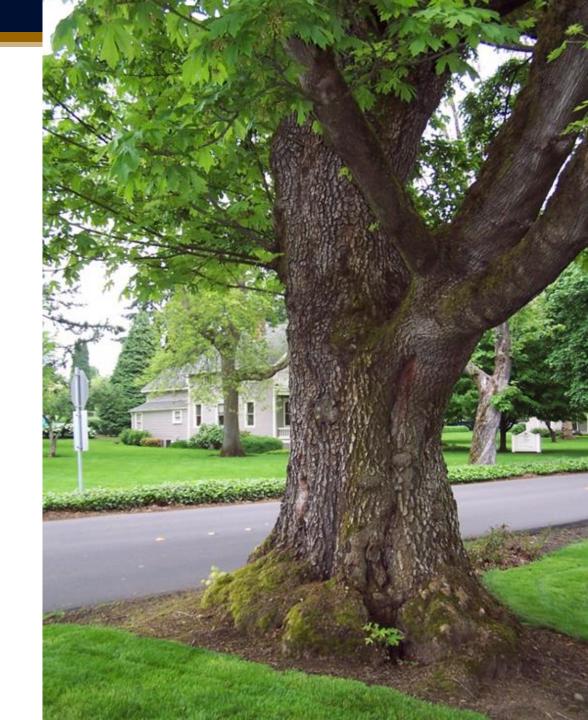
Combine ingredients

- There is no recipe!
- Urban forestry is cross-departmental
- Implement based on strengths and opportunities, fill gaps over time.



"Focused Technical Assistance"

- We are piloting a new approach to technical assistance
- Review of city urban forestry activities, opportunities
- Identify specific areas of focus
- Provide more meaningful assistance; multiple touch-points with city over a 12-mo. Period
- Completion of an Urban Tree
 Canopy Assessment (~\$30K)



Camas Focus Group: Key Takeaways

What needs improvement?

- Capacity: staffing, funding, etc.
- Communication to, and education of stakeholders (public, HOA's, developers, etc)
- Improvements to existing ordinances and policies

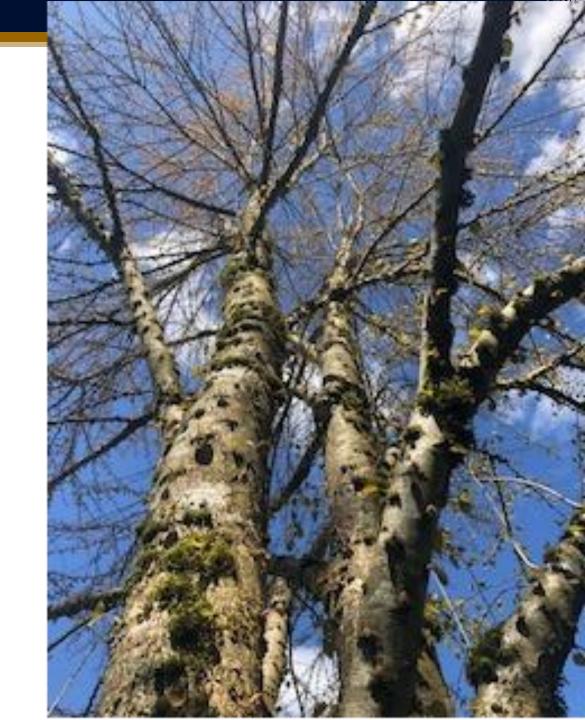
What is working well?

- Dedicated staff
- Passionate community members
- Abundant community greenspace
- High environmental quality
- Small-town feel
- Vibrant downtown
- Engaged school district



Next Steps:

- DNR to draft an outline of activities by June 30, 2023; coordinate with city staff
- Develop an MOU between DNR and City of Camas to clarify commitments by June 30, 2023
- Project kick-off on July 1, 2023 (soft launch)



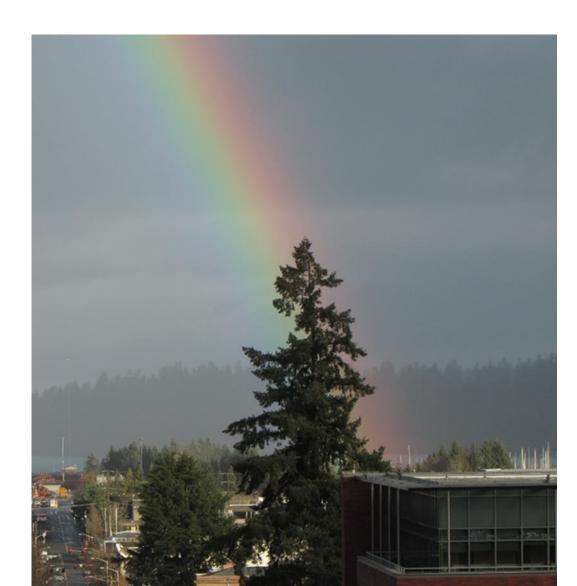
New funding for Urban Forestry in 2024:

\$6,000,000 - WA State Climate Commitment Fund

- A sizeable portion will likely go into grants
- Grants will be available statewide
- Likely some matching funds will be required
- DNR has 2 years to spend dollars starting on July 1, 2023.

2024 Grant Cycle Timeline

- September-October 2023: Grants advertised
- January 2024: Applications due
- February: Review and selection of applications
- March-June: Grant agreements developed
- July 2024: Projects start work



DNR Urban and Community Forestry Team















Ben Thompson, Urban Forestry Program Manager

StatewideBased in Olympia

Em Roberts, Urban Forestry Technician

Western Region
Based in Olympia

Daria Gosztyla,
Urban Forest Inventory
& Assessment Specialist

StatewideBased in Sequim

Zach Mellema, Urban Forest Inventory Technician

StatewideBased in Bellingham

Julia Kast, Evergreen Communities Coordinator

StatewideBased in Kirkland

Drew Lyons, GIS Analyst

StatewideBased in Tacoma

Garth Davis,Forestry Program
Manager Spokane

Conservation District

Tech assistance to Eastern RegionBased in Spokane



Thank you for your time and attention

DNR Urban & Community Forestry Program urban_forestry@dnr.wa.gov

www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry

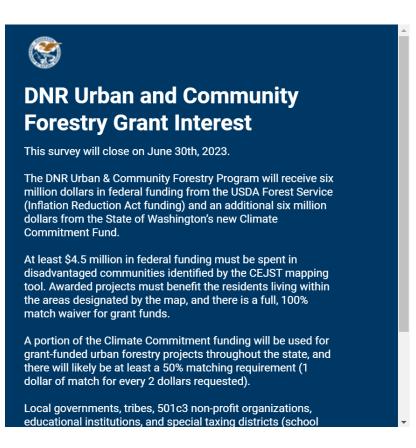
www.dnrtreelink.wordpress.com





Funding Survey, Intent to Apply for DNR Grant Funds in 2024 Grant Cycle *Survey Closes June 30, 2023*





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