

Street and Park Tree Master Plan



The Most Livable
City in America

City of Saint Paul Minnesota
2010

Street and Park Tree Master Plan City of Saint Paul, Minnesota

Prepared by:

Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation

2010



Table of Contents

Section 1:	
Mission + Vision Statements.....	2
Objectives.....	3
Scope.....	4
Intent.....	4
Overview of Master Plan.....	5
Planning Process.....	5
Section 2:	
Background.....	8
Benefits of Street Trees.....	10
Limitations in the Urban Environment.....	11
Section 3:	
Guiding Principles + Design Standards.....	14
Section 4:	
Tree Selection.....	28
Section 5:	
Street Tree Master Plan Maps.....	34
Tree Species Codes.....	76
Section 6:	
Appendix	
6.1 Street Tree Inventory.....	80
6.2 Tree Species List.....	80
6.3 Planting Guidelines.....	83
6.4 Planting and Replacement Schedule.....	85
6.5 Notification of Planting.....	86
6.6 Planting Specifications.....	86
6.7 General Maintenance and Removal.....	87
6.8 Removal of Nuisance and Dangerous Trees.....	88
6.9 Trimming.....	89
6.10 Storm Damage and Emergency Response.....	90
6.11 Drought Management.....	91
6.12 Wood Utilization.....	92
6.13 Saint Paul Tree Ordinances.....	92
6.14 Saint Paul Tree Advisory Panel	94
6.15 Public Planting Permits.....	94
6.16 Resource Guide.....	95
Bibliography.....	97

**“A SOCIETY GROWS GREAT WHEN OLD MEN
PLANT TREES WHOSE SHADE THEY KNOW
THEY WILL NEVER SIT IN”**

-Greek proverb



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

400 City Hall Annex
25 West 4th Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
www.stpaul.gov/parks

Telephone: 651-266-6400
Facsimile: 651-292-7311

Dear Saint Paul Resident:

I'm pleased to present the updated Street and Park Tree Master Plan, a guide for the management and stewardship of our urban forest. The Department of Parks and Recreation has created this document as one piece of the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan which serves as a "blue print" for future development of the city.

The Comprehensive Plan is broken into six subject-based plans, one being Parks and Recreation. Strategy 3 of the Parks and Recreation Plan, Promote a Vital Environment, calls for, among other things, increased tree reforestation implementing an updated Street and Park Tree Master Plan. This document serves as a guide and reference source for Forestry staff, policy makers, as well as residents of Saint Paul interested in planting trees on their own properties.

Trees are a vital part of our urban environment and provide a myriad of social, economic, and environmental benefits. As a part of the city's green infrastructure they clean our air, reduce stormwater runoff, and mitigate the impacts of the urban heat island effect while increasing the livability of our neighborhoods.

Information found within this master plan outlines these benefits, the guiding design principles and standards used for tree selection and planting along streets, a list of trees currently used on boulevards, challenges confronting us such as the emerald ash borer, and the planting and management tools used by Saint Paul Forestry.

Additionally, it tells of a number of new planting methods that have emerged in response to the continued need for increased species diversity and improved growth rates within the urban forest. Examples include the use of sequenced planting or the shortening of linear plantings of a single species, both to reduce monocultures that can be wiped out by future pests or diseases that target a particular species. Continued implementation of innovative solutions to forest management will increase the long term sustainability and resiliency of our urban forest.

Of course, the urban forest extends beyond boulevard and park trees and this plan provides information and links to online resources that will assist residents and businesses in selecting and caring for their own trees on private property. I hope that you find this document useful and that by working together to improve the urban forest we can continue to make Saint Paul the most livable city in America.

Sincerely,

Michael Hahm, CPRP
Director



CAPRA Accreditation

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer



National Gold Medal Award

Prepared by

Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation

Mayor and City Council

Chris Coleman, Mayor
Kathy Lantry, Council President, Ward 7
Melvin Carter III, Councilmember, Ward 1
Dave Thune, Councilmember, Ward 2
Pat Harris, Councilmember, Ward 3
Russ Stark, Councilmember, Ward 4
Lee Helgen, Councilmember, Ward 5
Dan Bostrom, Councilmember, Ward 6

Administrative and Policy Direction

Michael Hahm, Director, Parks and Recreation
Kathy Korum, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation
Rich Lallier, Operations Manager
Cy Kosel, Natural Resources Manager
Jody Martinez, Manager, Design and Construction

Advisory Committee

Chris Boche, Arborist
Rachel Coyle, Arborist
Scott Kruse, Forestry Supervisor II
Karl Mueller, Arborist
Bryan Murphy, Landscape Architect
William Pesek, Lead Landscape Architect
Greg Reese, Forestry Public Works Liaison
David Ronzani, Landscape Design Apprentice

Research and Planning Editors

Zachary Jorgensen, Urban Forestry Specialist, MN GreenCorps
Truman K Walling, Consultant, Arborist

Graphics

William Pesek, Lead Landscape Architect
David Ronzani, Landscape Design Apprentice