



**TUESDAY APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 2025 7:30 A.M.**  
**BOB CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**3200 TREMONT RD.**

1. Welcome: call to order and roll call – Chair Kim Landsbergen / Staff Veronica Trommer
  - 1.1. Introduce new Tree Commissioner Laura Oldham
2. Approval of Minutes from October 1, 2024 – Chair Kim Landsbergen
3. Public Attendance - Chair Kim Landsbergen
4. Discussion/Packet items – Chair Kim Landsbergen and Staff Sam Simmons
  - 4.1. Education/ Outreach – Staff Sam Simmons and Vice Chair JP Ratajczak
    - 4.1.1. Arbor Day 2025
    - 4.1.2. Arbor Day Afternoon Stroll at Fancyburg Park
  - 4.2. Native Trees – Sam Simmons
    - 4.2.1. Planting Native Trees vs Non-Native
5. Updates from staff: - Staff Sam Simmons
  - 5.1. General/Operational Forestry Updates
  - 5.2. Contracts
  - 5.3. Park Updates
  - 5.4. CIP
  - 5.5. Development
6. Friends of UA Parks Update – Karla Gengler-Nowak
7. Horticulture Update – Libby Roach
8. Future meetings – Topics and location
9. Adjournment – Chair Kim Landsbergen

Next Meeting – June 3, 2025

**THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND ALL COMMISSION MEETINGS.**



Upon request to the City Clerk’s office, special accommodations for people with disabilities (i.e., interpreting services, audio recording, etc.) will be arranged for any City meetings open to the public. Requests for special accommodations should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance.



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**FEBRUARY 11, 2025, 7:30 A.M.**  
**THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Due to a lack of quorum, the board was unable to meet.

**OCTOBER 1, 2024, 7:30 A.M.**  
**THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**

The City Tree Commission met at Burbank Shelter House and was called to order at 7:36 AM by Vice-Chair J.P. Ratajczak.

**1. Welcome: Call to order and roll call - Chair/Veronica Trommer**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair Kim Landsbergen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice-Chair J.P. Ratajczak |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Duke | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blythe Price              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Zanon           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Fay                 |

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Associate member Karla Gengler-Nowak, Director Debbie McLaughlin (via zoom), Parks & Forestry Superintendent Samantha Simmons, Forestry Supervisor Matt Stewart, Landscape Supervisor Brett Foster, and Administrative Assistant Veronica Trommer.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Scott Zanon, Kim Landsbergen, and Associate member Libby Roach

Motion to excuse Scott from the meeting

**Motioned: J.P.**

**First: Laura**

**Second: Kathy**

**Motion passed**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Tree Commission meeting for August 6<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Motioned: J.P.**

**First: Laura**

**Second: Blythe**

**Motion passed**

**3. Public participation**



No public participation

**4. Discussion items**

- Education Outreach/Review –
  - J.P. is working with Eliese on a class for the selection of trees for yards on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Sam, Kim and JP will be teaching the class.
  - The Spotted Lanternfly post by the city went viral. Facebook got an increase of traffic to the tune of 259% on the city website.
  - The city has raised the dollar amounts so that contracts won't have to go before City Council as often. Council will be getting updates on things that departments are doing so that they aren't left in the dark.
  - The Forestry Division will be planting fifty bare root trees this fall in Thompson and Burbank Parks. They can plant 20-25 trees a day and the root system is much better than ball and burlap.
  - Matt Stewart was involved in a forestry exchange program through UCFS (formerly SMA) with the city of Cambridge, Massachusetts.
    - The size of the city is comparable to Upper Arlington. David Lefcourt is the city arborist/tree warden. Abby Bently is the assistant city arborist. Cambridge has a population of 120,000 people and is a suburb of Boston. They have a large tax base and strong tree loss mitigation program. Abby runs the program and damage caused to every tree in the city, both public and private, is subject to collection of fines for damages. There are hefty fines for trees damaged by construction. Massachusetts has state law and Cambridge has additional ordinances to mitigate tree loss and fines. They also have an ambitious reforestation program, planting 1000 trees per year.

**5. Updates from staff**

- Forestry
  - Staff is wrapping up inventory in management areas 4 & 5 for the year. All 3 arborists have been taking turns doing street tree inventory.
  - The tree and stump removal contract are complete. The fall nursery bid closed yesterday.





- The planting contractor is the same company that planted in the spring. This is now both the spring and fall contract.
- Parks
  - Staff will be brush hogging Northwest Kiwanis Park this winter with a brush hog to remove/hinder invasive plant growth.
- Horticulture
  - Staff has been watering constantly throughout the summer due to extremely dry conditions.
  - Horticulture staff is working on cut backs for the season and getting gateways cleaned up of debris.
- CIP
  - Parks & Forestry will be requesting a new tractor for 2025 to replace our old one.
  - Northam pickleball courts were delayed until early December.
  - The Engineering contractor will be planting trees in the city right-of-way along Fishinger Rd in November as part of the Fishinger Rd project.
  - We are happy with the current sidewalk contractor; they have been completing spot repairs on sidewalks quickly. We have also been utilizing grinding and leveling, instead of just replacing sidewalk panels when able. It is much more cost effective.
  - The city will be completing a city-wide master plan in 2026. Parks & Forestry will be working on their master plan within the city's plan in 2027.
- 6. **Friends of UA Parks** – Karla Gengler-Nowak
  - Volunteers will be working at Smith Park on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Boy scout groups will be helping at Smith.
  - Volunteers will be revisiting the sloped areas at Miller Park.
- 7. **Future meetings** – topics and location
  - Meeting at MSC in the winter months but want to meet in park settings during warmer weather.



8. Adjournment

**Motioned: J.P.**  
**First: Kathy**  
**Second: Blythe**  
**Meeting adjourned: 9:02 a.m.**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Veronica Trommer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-Chair J.P. Ratajczak

\* \* \*

*The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 a.m.*

## UA City Tree Commissioners Review

### **Arbor Day Afternoon Stroll at Fancyburg Park 1 18+ YRS**

Immerse yourself in the beauty of the trees at Fancyburg Park as members of the Upper Arlington Tree Commission lead a leisurely afternoon Arbor Day stroll! Learn about dozens of different tree species, engage in trivia, and enjoy some poe-TREE as you stroll the park's walking paths. The class walks approximately 1 mile during the activity, starting at the information board near the shelter on the east side of the park. Led by members of the UA City Tree Commission and our City Forester Sam Simmons.

442015 A      Noon-12:45 pm      Saturday 4/25

Fancyburg Park Shelter      \$5 R |  
\$6 NR

### **Selecting Trees for Landscapes and Biodiversity**

With spring just around the corner, this talk concentrates on spring flowering trees for your property, considering how they can add beauty and attract wildlife. Choosing the right tree is not only a landscaping decision, but an ecological decision that can improve our community for many decades through shade, aesthetics, wildlife, and more. Led by members of the

UA City Tree Commission and our City Forester Sam  
Simmons.

441721 A            10:30 am-12 pm            Saturday            3/8

Municipal Services Center, Lower-Level Meeting Room

\$10 R | \$12 NR

# STREET TREE PLANTING IN UPPER ARLINGTON



## An Overview of the Guidelines and Recommended Species for Our Community's Street Tree Program

*Under the guidance of the Upper Arlington City Tree Commission, the City maintains over 18,000 trees within the public right-of-way. These trees enhance our quality of life by shading pavement, slowing traffic, increasing property values, and improving the local environment in numerous other ways.*

*The City encourages residents to plant trees within the public right-of-way, in keeping with the guidelines outlined in this brochure. Residents can purchase street trees to be planted through the Cost Share Street Tree Program. More information about this program is available at [upperarlingtonoh.gov](http://upperarlingtonoh.gov) or by calling 614-583-5340 to request an order form.*

*Street trees should be chosen, planted and maintained in such a way that they can thrive despite exhaust fumes, a narrow planting space, road salt, pedestrians, heat, utilities and other challenges.*

### Planning Your Streetscape

Residents must contact the City to obtain a permit before planting, pruning or removing any tree in a public street right-of-way. The right-of-way includes the tree lawn between the curb and sidewalk, and on most streets it extends well beyond the sidewalk. Street trees may be planted in the right-of-way on streets where no curbs or sidewalks exist.

Trees should be planted at least seven feet from fire hydrants and street lights, driveways and street signs, six feet from underground utility line valves or drain pipes, and 35 feet from the corner curb of street intersections. In addition, the following spacing guidelines generally apply:

- **Small Species:** at least 26 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 10 feet from the nearest tree.
- **Medium Species:** at least 30 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 20 feet from the nearest tree.
- **Large Species:** at least 42 inches from the edge of curb or walk and 30 feet from the nearest tree.



If trees are purchased through the Cost Share Street Tree Program, the City will plant them, taking responsibility for proper tree placement and the location of underground utilities. Residents or contractors who plant trees after obtaining a City permit must call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service to have utilities located (800-362-2764 or 811). Neighborhoods are encouraged to work together on group planting projects.

### Care of Street Trees

Residents are encouraged to provide routine care for street trees. New trees should be watered regularly! Once per week (one inch of water) for at least the first two summers and falls is recommended. Keeping a two-to-three foot circle of mulch, no more than three-inches deep, over the root zone is also important to avoid damaging trunks with mowers and string trimmers. Most other tree maintenance, including pruning on a six-year cycle, is provided by the City. The City will also remove dying or unsafe trees and plant replacements as needed, or repair sidewalks damaged by street tree roots.

### Recommended Street Trees

The following trees should be successful in the situations specified. However, every site should be evaluated carefully. Tree species and site must be carefully matched. The City's Certified Arborists can help identify which trees are appropriate for a given location, and species not on this list may be considered.

Many species include named cultivars, which can vary greatly in appearance and other qualities. Do your homework before purchasing cultivars to be sure you know what you are buying. Few cultivars are listed herein, but the City plants many cultivars of the species on this list. Residents may also see many of these trees on our City Park Tree Treks - self-guided tree walks through Fancyburg, Miller, Northam and Thompson parks.

### Large Species

Over 45 feet tall at maturity. Suitable for tree lawns at least seven feet wide, with no overhead utility lines.

|                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Norway Maple (select cultivars only) | <i>Acer platanoides</i>             |
| Freeman Hybrid Maple                 | <i>Acer freemanii</i>               |
| Sugar Maple                          | <i>Acer saccharum</i>               |
| Black Maple                          | <i>Acer nigrum</i>                  |
| Hybrid Shantung Maple                | <i>Acer truncatum x platanoides</i> |
| Yellow Buckeye                       | <i>Aesculus octandra</i>            |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Black Alder             | <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>                    |
| Sugar Hackberry         | <i>Celtis laevigata</i>                   |
| Hackberry               | <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>                |
| Turkish Filbert/Hazel   | <i>Corylus colurna</i>                    |
| European Beech          | <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>                    |
| Ginkgo (males only)     | <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>                      |
| Honeylocust (thornless) | <i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i> |
| Kentucky Coffeetree     | <i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>                |
| Sweet Gum               | <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>            |
| Tulip Tree              | <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>            |
| Cucumber Magnolia       | <i>Magnolia acuminata</i>                 |
| Dawn Redwood            | <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>       |
| London Planetree        | <i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>              |
| White Oak               | <i>Quercus alba</i>                       |
| Swamp White Oak         | <i>Quercus bicolor</i>                    |
| Shingle Oak             | <i>Quercus imbricaria</i>                 |
| Bur Oak                 | <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>                 |
| Chinkapin Oak           | <i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>              |
| Willow Oak              | <i>Quercus phellos</i>                    |
| Chestnut Oak            | <i>Quercus prinus</i>                     |
| English Oak             | <i>Quercus robur</i>                      |
| Red Oak                 | <i>Quercus rubra</i>                      |
| Shumard Oak             | <i>Quercus shumardii</i>                  |
| Black Oak               | <i>Quercus velutina</i>                   |
| Japanese Pagoda Tree    | <i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>            |
| Baldcypress             | <i>Taxodium distichum</i>                 |
| American Linden         | <i>Tilia americana</i>                    |
| Littleleaf Linden       | <i>Tilia cordata</i>                      |
| Crimean Linden          | <i>Tilia x euchlora</i>                   |
| Silver Linden           | <i>Tilia tomentosa</i>                    |
| Hybrid Elm              | <i>Ulmus x sp.</i>                        |
| Japanese Zelkova        | <i>Zelkova serrata</i>                    |



## Medium Species

Reaching 30–45 feet. For tree lawns at least five-six feet wide with no low overhead wires.

|                                |                                     |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Red Maple                      | <i>Acer rubrum</i>                  |
| Miyabe Maple & Hybrids         | <i>Acer miyabe</i>                  |
| Hedge Maple                    | <i>Acer campestre</i>               |
| Manchurian Alder               | <i>Alnus hirsuta</i>                |
| Red Horsechestnut              | <i>Aesculus x carnea</i>            |
| River Birch                    | <i>Betula nigra</i>                 |
| European Hornbeam              | <i>Carpinus betulus</i>             |
| Katsura Tree                   | <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>     |
| American Yellowwood            | <i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>          |
| Hardy Rubber Tree              | <i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>            |
| Goldenraintree                 | <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>      |
| Magnolia Hybrids (tree form)   | <i>Magnolia sp.</i>                 |
| American Hophornbeam           | <i>Ostrya virginiana</i>            |
| Okame Cherry                   | <i>Prunus x incisa</i>              |
| Sargent Cherry                 | <i>Prunus sargentii</i>             |
| Sawtooth Oak                   | <i>Quercus acutissima</i>           |
| Tupelo (cultivars)             | <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>              |
| Lacebark Chinese Elm & Hybrids | <i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>             |
| Wireless Zelkova               | <i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Schmidtlow' |

## Small Species

Reaching 15-30 feet. For tree lawns at least five feet wide or with overhead wires.

|                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Redbud                               | <i>Cercis canadensis</i>    |
| American Hornbeam                    | <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> |
| Kousa Dogwood & Hybrids              | <i>Cornus kousa</i>         |
| Cornelian Cherry Dogwood (tree form) | <i>Cornus mas</i>           |
| Trident Maple                        | <i>Acer buergerianum</i>    |
| Amur Maple                           | <i>Acer ginnala</i>         |
| Paperbark Maple                      | <i>Acer griseum</i>         |
| Tatarian Maple                       | <i>Acer tataricum</i>       |
| Red Buckeye                          | <i>Aesculus pavia</i>       |
| Serviceberry (tree form)             | <i>Amelanchier sp.</i>      |
| Lavalle Hawthorn                     | <i>Crataegus x lavallei</i> |



|  |  |
|--|--|
| Green Hawthorn                                       | <i>Crataegus viridis</i> 'Winter King' |
| Amur Maackia   | <i>Maackia amurensis</i>               |
| Crabapple (oval or upright forms and cultivars only) | <i>Malus sp.</i>                       |
| Sweetbay Magnolia (tree form)                        | <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>             |
| Persian Parrotia (tree form)                         | <i>Parrotia persica</i>                |
| Japanese Tree Lilac                                  | <i>Syringa reticulata</i>              |
| Peking Tree Lilac                                    | <i>Syringa pekinensis</i>              |

## Undesirable Street Trees

Under most circumstances, the following species are not suitable for planting as street trees. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) may be acceptable for site specific use, such as in yards and open spaces, or on wooded or large open rights-of-way areas. The City is also happy to consider any species selection or streetscape design proposal on a case-by-case basis, even if the proposal deviates from these guidelines, or includes unusual species. In general, shrubs and evergreens are prohibited in the right-of-way.

|                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Fir*                            | <i>Abies sp.</i>                   |
| Boxelder                        | <i>Acer negundo</i>                |
| Norway Maple (straight species) | <i>Acer platanoides</i> (invasive) |
| Silver Maple                    | <i>Acer saccharinum</i>            |
| Ohio Buckeye*                   | <i>Aesculus glabra</i>             |
| Horsechestnut*                  | <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>      |

**Undesirable Street Trees continued from page 3**

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Ailanthus  | <i>Ailanthus altissima (invasive)</i> |
| Northern Catalpa   | <i>Catalpa speciosa</i>               |
| Ash  | <i>Fraxinus sp.</i>                   |
| Birch (except River Birch)   | <i>Betula sp. (except B. nigra)</i>   |
| Flowering Dogwood*   | <i>Cornus florida</i>                 |
| Black Walnut*  | <i>Juglans nigra</i>                  |
| Osage Orange<br>(Thornless male cultivars may be considered)                         | <i>Maclura pomifera</i>               |
| Mulberry   | <i>Morus sp.</i>                      |
| Spruce*  | <i>Picea sp.</i>                      |
| Pine*  | <i>Pinus sp.</i>                      |
| American Sycamore  | <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>          |
| Poplar, Cottonwood   | <i>Populus sp.</i>                    |
| Douglas Fir  | <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>          |
| Purpleleaf Plum  | <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>              |
| Black Cherry   | <i>Prunus serotina</i>                |
| Callery Pear   | <i>Pyrus calleryana (invasive)</i>    |
| Black Locust   | <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>           |
| Willow   | <i>Salix sp.</i>                      |
| European Mountain Ash  | <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>               |
| Hemlock*   | <i>Tsuga sp.</i>                      |
| Siberian Elm   | <i>Ulmus pumila</i>                   |
| Fruit tree varieties bred for edible fruit (apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, etc.)* |                                       |
| Shrubs, evergreens, or weeping varieties of any tree species*                        |                                       |



**Upper Arlington Tree Commission**

The Upper Arlington Tree Commission is a group of seven residents appointed by the President of Council. The Commission's purpose is to advise City Council on urban forestry issues, to educate residents and to work with professional staff in support of a comprehensive municipal forestry program. Members serve three-year terms, and meetings are held the first Tuesday of every other month.



The goal of the Upper Arlington Tree Commission is to guide and facilitate the operation of a comprehensive municipal forestry program which enhances the quality of life for all Upper Arlington residents. Programs include:

- Cost Share Street Tree Program
- Commemorative Tree Program
- Tree Treks in City Parks
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Volunteer planting projects
- Street tree maintenance and replacement
- Park tree maintenance and replacement
- Invasive plant removal with the Friends of UA Parks [www.friendsofuaparks.com](http://www.friendsofuaparks.com)

Upper Arlington has received the National Tree City USA award each year since 1990. Thank you for your interest in a greener, more sustainable Upper Arlington.

