

Urban Forester Report

January 12th 2024

Last month's accomplishments:

Removals: Street Dept: working through list of various removals

Pruning: N/A

Planting: Bill Mallory, University st, North B Lline extension (71)

Park Board: TAP: Planting and Removal Contracts, Service Agreements: Bluestone, JR Ellington, Ash Tree Health Assessment Contract.

Native view Finished Tree Planting, currently working on QA check.

UFMP Rough Draft

UDO Updates passed on to Planning

Integrated Pest Management plan review and update

TCUSA application, Tree cities of the world and Growth award apps.

Ongoing:



Quarterly Risk Report- Template Update

Final Round of the Bicentennial planting

Planning for 2026.


New trailer for urban forestry on order

Community Tree Tag Draft

**CITY OF
BLOOMINGTON**
PARKS AND RECREATION

Urban Forestry



TREE CITY USA®
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

Hello! Im new around here but Im an _____ tree.

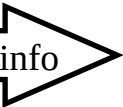
The city put me here on _____

My ID number is _____

While Im not much to look at now, 'll provide you and your neighbors with the following benefits for years to come:

- ☐ Cooling of the sidewalks for pedestrians
- ☐ Lowering nearby utility bills
- ☐ Storm water runoff and absorption
- ☐ Co2 intake and carbon sequestration
- ☐ Air pollutant filtration

Flip over for more info



~6x6 square of corrugated plastic similar to yard signs.



Tree Related Care and

Bloomington Tree



Urban Forestry



For any information related to Bloomington trees contact:

Haskell Smith 812 349 3716 smithh@bloomington.in.gov



Bloomington Tree Commission

Meeting Agenda and Announcement
Monday, December 15th, 2025, at 9:30 am
Rosehill Cemetery Office, 930 W 4th ST, Bloomington, IN 47404

Announcement

The City is committed to providing equal access to information. However, despite our efforts, at times, portions of our board and commission packets are not accessible for some individuals. If you encounter difficulties accessing material in this packet, please contact Kim Clapp, Office Manager at clappk@bloomington.in.gov and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page you are having problems with.

Present- Neil, Dave, George, Mia, Haskell, Travis, Stephanie, Julie, James (member of public)

Consent agenda:

1. Approval of minutes and memo from: November 17th, 2025 meetings
 - a. Dave proposed, Travis seconded
2. Next meeting will be **Monday, January 12th at 9:30 am, location:** Rose Hill Cemetery HQ

Discussions and presentations:

Reports:

1. Urban Forester's Quarterly Tree Assessment and Reporting (Haskell Smith)- attachment in email
 - a. 1900+ pruned, 300+ removed, plantings, inspections (~30%)
 - b. Some issues with trucks breaking down and staff this year
 - c. 25 hazard trees addressed, new tree grates coming, removed 47 high risk trees that were in TreeKeeper at beginning of year
 - d. IDNR funding awarded for ash tree management (\$50,000 with overmatch to equal 110k)- will get condition rating of around 500 trees to determine

- actions
- e. Tree Assistance Program- 16 applicants, waiting to hear back on contract (out for quote and closes Friday 12/19)
- f. In process of reapplying for Tree City USA
- g. UDO and Urban Forest Master Plan
- h. Next year- numbers for pruning about same, less planting (\$), similar #s of tree removal
- 2. Report from Environmental Commission (Dave Parkhurst)
 - a. Met November to plan for coming year, water quality committee and light pollution committee discussed, meeting again this week (no agenda yet)
- 3. Report from Mia Williams (Indiana University Landscape Architect)
 - a. Mia will attend a draft presentation for the newest tree inventory, and will request a “bigger picture” view with the Commission, happy to see IU staff using the data
 - b. Planting was curtailed this fall due to the weather, focus point was the athletics district- successful football season/tailgating did slow down/stop the plantings there, have changed locations of some planned sites, also nurseries are digging later in the fall, so window is narrowed for fall plantings
 - Haskell agrees that ideal planting season is noticeably shorter
- 4. [Optional] Report from Julie Roberts/CanopyBloomington
 - a. No report

Public comment

- a. James- lives near Cottage Grove and neighborhood is planning a protected district (protect trees from demolition which is an issue with developers in area), also a lot of Tree of Heaven coming up in the alleys and HAND is no longer able to help (too busy)
 - a. Julie- can see if Canopy can help in the area, or if Ray from Trees from Seed can help there
 - b. Dave- MC-IRIS could potentially help with the Tree of Heaven if the neighbors were amenable

New business

- a. Suggestions for tree tags on newly planted trees (George Hegeman)
 - a. Attach (zip tie to tree guard) to newly planted trees with their species and basic care and protection of the tree, potentially include QR codes for TreeKeeper, Tree Care Manual, UF website
 - b. Message from the tree itself- “Hi, my name is ____, I am a ____ tree”
 - c. Each tree planted in 2026, would cost around \$500 total
 - d. Julie moves, Stephanie seconds, all approve for Haskell to start working on this, he will get a rough draft out to the group
- b. Unified Development Ordinance 20.04.080 Landscape, Buffering and Fences Amendments (ac)
 - a. TC can review- special attention to prohibited and approved tree species- only

- include cultivars if substantially different from original species
- c. Urban Forestry Masterplan [Draft]
 - a. TC can review, best by end of week
- d. Julie- two topics
 - a. Include Greek organizations and MC-IRIS and Canopy to work on invasives removal and climate change
 - i. Mia- Heather Reynolds and BUWP do this work in a ongoing way (Steph echoes and can give support as she works with BUWP!)

Old business

Adjourn- Mia adjourns, Dave seconds

Memorandum

To be provided immediately upon conclusion of meeting, to include: 1) roll call if on Zoom 2) who voted to yes/no/abstain/made motion to approve minutes, and include who is present, who is absent, and who joined via Zoom

HANDOUTS (see attached, if available)

- Tree Commission Meeting Notes November 2025 (see attached)
- Tree Commission Meeting Memo November 2025 (see attached)
- Urban Forester's Quarterly Tree Risk Assessment (see attached)
- Tree Commission Meeting Agenda (December 15th, 2025) (see attached)

TREE COMMISSION MEMORANDUM- December 2025

Date, time, location- December 15, 2025, 9:30 AM, Rose Hill Cemetery office

Present- Neil, Dave, George, Mia, Haskell, Travis, Stephanie, Julie, James (member of public)

Absent- none

Approve November minutes- Dave proposed, Travis seconded, all approved

Approve tree tags for trees planted in 2026- Julie proposed, Stephanie seconded, all approved

Adjourn- Mia proposed, Dave seconded, all approved



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
TREE COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA**

Monday, January 12, 2026

9:30 a.m.

City Hall, McCloskey Conference Room 401 N Morton ST STE 135

Bloomington IN 47404

[Learn more about accessibility and building access in the City of Bloomington](#)

For more information about the Tree Commission, or to submit questions or comments for consideration by the Tree Commission, [send an email to Urban Forester Haskell Smith.](#)

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Tree Commission Members

Commission Member	Appointed by	Appointment Date	Term
Stephanie Freeman-Day	Common Council	2/1/2025	2/1/2025-1/31/2028
Travis Harding	Common Council	2/1/2025	2/1/2025-1/31/2028
George Hegeman	Board of Park Commissioners	2/1/2024	2/1/2024-1/31/2027
David Parkhurst	Environmental Commission	2/28/2023	2/28/2023-1/31/2026
Julie Roberts	Mayor	3/1/2024	3/1/2024-1/31/2027
Neil Tong	Board of Public Works	7/17/2023	7/17/2023-1/31/2026
Mia Williams	Mayor	2/1/2023	2/1/2023-1/31/2026
Haskell Smith, Staff Liaison	n/a	n/a	n/a

CALL TO ORDER

I. ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MEMO. - December 2025

III. AGENDA

A. Reports

- A-1 Urban Forester's Report (Haskell Smith)
- A-2 Environmental Commission Report (Dave Parkhurst)
- A-3 Report from Indiana University's Landscape Architect (Mia Williams)
- A-4 [Optional] Report from CanopyBloomington (Julie Roberts)

B. New Business

- B-1 Vote on Chair and Vice-Chair Positions
- B-2 Approval of [Urban Forestry Masterplan](#)

C. Old Business

- C-1 Discussion: Community Tree Tag
- C-2 Discussion: Integrated Pest Management Plan

D. Public Comment - anything unrelated to agenda items

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. **NEXT MEETING:** Reschedule Needed Monday, February 17th (President's Day).

Location: City Hall, McCloskey Conference Room 401 N Morton ST STE 135
Bloomington IN 47404

Handouts (see attached, if available)

- Tree Commission Meeting Notes December 2025 (see attached)
- Tree Commission Meeting Memo December 2025 (see attached)
- Urban Forester's January 2026 Report (see attached)
- Tree Commission Meeting Agenda (January 12th, 2026) (see attached)
- CoB Integrated Pest Management Plan (see attached)
- Community Tree ID Tag (see attached)