



City Looking for Tree Lovers

The City of Grosse Pointe is looking for volunteers to be charter members of the newly created Urban Forestry Commission. The Commission will be made up of five residents appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The goal of the new citizen advisory body is to enhance the management of the City's trees on its right of way and on other City owned property. One of the first tasks will be to complete an inventory of the City's street trees and develop the City's first urban forestry master plan. When approving this initiative, City Council members expressed hope of adding to its current beautiful tree assets. More trees would further enhance the tree canopy over the streets and sidewalks. City trees have been hard hit by the loss of elms and more recently ash trees through disease. The Commission will work closely with the City's newly contracted on-staff forester, who is a certified arborist. They will seek out grants and funding to supplement and improve the City's current tree replacement and maintenance programs.

Some of the official duties of the Commission will be to:

- Coordinate the City's Arbor Day program
- Coordinate the application for Tree City U.S.A. designation
- Establish and promote educational programs whereby the public may be informed on matters pertaining to urban forestry.
- Seek out grant funding, donations and other sources of outside funding to enhance the City of Grosse Pointe's urban forest and to further the objectives of the City's urban forestry master plan
- Review the list of tree species that are allowed for planting as street trees in the City, taking account of the durability and suitability of the various species
- Review and make recommendations for spacing of planting street trees including distance from other trees, from curb and sidewalks, from street corners and fireplugs, from utilities, and any other obstructions
- Review and make recommendations for the standards for street tree maintenance and upkeep in accordance with best practices for urban forestry management

If you are interested, please complete the application found on the City's website, www.grossepointecity.org, and return it to the City Clerk no later than January 16, 2017.