



URBAN FORESTRY BOARD **Agenda**

520 E. Cascade Avenue - PO Box 39 - Sisters, Or 97759 | ph.: (541) 549-6022 | www.ci.sisters.or.us

Monday, March 11, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.

The Urban Forestry Board (UFB) is accessible to the public in person in the City Council Chambers at 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759 and via the following Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83830051605?pwd=Wkd5UDVBQnJDamFqK1hhWkFCUmJCZz09>

Passcode: 257240

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 12, 2023 – Regular Meeting

3. VISITOR COMMUNICATION If speaking in-person, please use the Visitor Communication Sign-In form at the meeting. Written communication can be submitted for the record to jdumanch@ci.sisters.or.us. Written communication and requests to speak via Zoom must be received by 1:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

4. BOARD BUSINESS

- A. Consideration of recommendation to remove leaning 19-inch Ponderosa Pine in Creekside Campground. – City Forester
- B. Review of a Request for Proposals for City Forester. – Bertagna
- C. Heritage Trees. – Kollerer, McChristian

5. OTHER BUSINESS - Miscellaneous Issues or For the Board’s Information (FYI only) and Specific to Trees in Public Rights-of-Way and Parks. City Forester’s Use of Their Professional Authority/Discretion.

- A. Arbor Day. – Shoup
- B. 864 S Pine St follow-up. – City Forester

6. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

7. ADJOURN

This agenda is also available via the Internet at www.ci.sisters.or.us. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other disability accommodations should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting Kerry Prosser, City Recorder at kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this agenda includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the above referenced meeting; however, the agenda does not limit the ability of the Council to consider or discuss additional subjects. This meeting is subject to cancellation without notice.

Urban Forestry Board (UFB)
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 12, 2024
DRAFT

Board Members Present:

Patrick Burke, Chair
Therese Kollerer
Avery McChristian
Cheryl Pellerin

City Council Representative Present:

Susan Cobb, Councilor

Staff Present:

Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director
Dan Galecki, City Forester
Jackson Dumanch, Public Works Project Coordinator

Absent:

Gary Ross, Councilor

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Burke called the Monday, February 12, 2024, regular meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

2. New Board Member Introductions

Board Members and staff introduced and provided a brief background about themselves.

3. Determination of Vice Chair

Board Member Pellerin asked about the duties of the Vice Chair. Chair Burke stated that the Vice Chair would run a meeting in the absence of the Chair, adding that they occasionally cannot attend a meeting. Chair Burke nominated Board Member Kollerer for the position. Pellerin seconded the nomination. Nomination passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Burke directed the Board to the December 11, 2023, draft meeting minutes. Vice Chair Kollerer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Board Member Pellerin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Visitor Communications

Chair Burke and staff noted there was no visitor communication.

6. Board Business

A. Consideration of recommendation to remove storm damaged Ponderosa Pine at East Portal.

Chair Burke read the agenda item into the record. City Forester Galecki provided a summary of the report. Galecki described the condition of the tree after the failure of one of the two forked tops and expressed concern over the amount of rot present in the fork that fell. Director Bertagna informed the Board that the remaining fork has since fallen. Galecki stated that the tree was not suitable as a wildlife tree and recommended removal. Board Member Pellerin asked for clarification of a wildlife tree. Galecki stated that it is uncommon, but the dead bole would be left for use by wildlife and noted an example in Creekside Campground. Galecki added that a wildlife tree requires regular monitoring for hazards and recommends they only be in low-use areas. Councilor Cobb asked if the tree would not be well suited as a wildlife tree because it is in a high-traffic area. Galecki confirmed. Cobb asked for more information about the rot observed. Galecki stated that it is hard to know how deep the rot has spread. Chair Burke asked for further comment. Board Member McChristian asked if a replacement tree would be planted. Galecki recommended waiting on planting due to future work planned for the site. Chair Burke asked for a motion from the Board. Pellerin made a motion to remove the tree. McChristian seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Consideration of recommendation to remove two dead Ponderosa Pines at East Portal.

City Forester Galecki provided a summary of their report. Adding that keeping the trees as wildlife trees would not be suitable considering future construction on site could create a hazard and proximity to current and future public use. Chair Burke asked for causes of death. Galecki suspected insects. Councilor Cobb asked what happens to the tree after removal, Galecki stated that it depends, Director Bertagna stated that the bole is used as firewood for the campground. Vice Chair Kollerer made a motion to remove the two trees. Board Member McChristian seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Other Business

A. 325 S Ash St Leaning and Decayed Cottonwood (emergency removal).

City Forester Galecki summarized their report and noted that this tree experienced damage during the most recent winter storm revealing deep rot at the base affecting the root structure accompanied by a severe lean. Galecki added that this tree had already been removed as an emergency removal.

B. 385 E Jefferson Ave, Ponderosa Pine Fork, Lean, and Decline.

City Forester Galecki summarized their report and noted that the area around these trees has experienced decline and death in trees over the past 8 or 9 years due to insects. Galecki began with this first tree which is leaning and forked, recommending monitoring for future decline. Galecki noted that the fork was 'U' shaped and doesn't collect debris like a 'V' shaped fork would and could survive for many more years. Galecki then described the second tree in the report noting decline. Galecki described the informal condition known as "lions tail" noting that it is indicative of decline but not necessarily immediate death.

Galecki proposed using a drone to observe the fork in the tree. Galecki finished by stating that observation was recommended for both trees. Councilor Cobb asked Galecki if removing limbs from a leaning tree could help the tree survive, Galecki stated that it could potentially help but did not recommend at this time.

C. Leaning Ponderosa Pine near 275 N Cedar St.

City Forester Galecki described the tree and the conditions on site noting rotting stumps at the base of the tree. Galecki added that residents frequently call about concerns over the tree but no noticeable decline has been observed in the years since observation on this tree has begun. Galecki stated that the tree could survive another 10-15 years but a very strong storm could cause the tree to fall. Councilor Cobb stated that if the tree fell it could hit a car, Galecki stated it would take a catastrophic storm to cause the tree to fall.

D. Dead Ponderosa Pine near 1001 E Cascade Ave.

City Forester Galecki described the tree adding that the tree was completely dead. Galecki pointed out that there was a pitch tube at the base of the tree indicative of bark beetle infestation. Galecki compared the tree to those nearby noting the orange color in the needles and thin appearance estimating the tree to have been dead for a few months. Board Member Pellerin asked if the tree was in the process of being removed. Galecki stated it was not. Chair Burke asked Director Bertagna if removal had been scheduled. Bertagna stated that it had not been removed yet. Board Member McChristian asked when the nearby sidewalk was installed. Bertagna estimated 10-15 years ago. Councilor Cobb asked if a motion was required for removal, Bertagna stated this was just for making the Board aware. Chair Burke added that a tree with strong potential for damage to person or property no vote is required.

E. Leaning Ponderosa Pines at 325 and 540 S Pine St.

8. Board Member Comments

Vice Chair Kollerer spoke about Heritage Trees and the annual City Arbor Day celebration. Kollerer stated that to their knowledge there were no officially declared heritage trees though there is a process for declaring one and provided the Board with a list of some example candidates proposing that some be proposed to City Council for Heritage Tree status. Board Member Pellerin asked for clarification of the significance of Heritage Tree status. Councilor Cobb stated that it was to protect the tree. Kollerer stated that it was for public education about tree protection. Board Member McChristian asked if there were existing standards for declaration of Heritage Tree status. Kollerer confirmed there was. McChristian asked if there were any currently on the list. Kollerer stated there were not, but many could qualify. Project Coordinator Dumanch read the code language relating to requirements for Ponderosa Pines being declared as Heritage Trees: being approximately 200 years old or more and the size of the tree should be approximately 30 inches DBH or greater and or more than 85 feet tall. Pellerin asked if a Heritage Tree would get signage. Kollerer stated that they didn't believe that had been determined. Kollerer added that public and private trees could be declared as Heritage Trees stating that a very large private Cottonwood at the Cottonwood Café would be an example. McChristian stated the Oregon Travel Information Council (OTIC) has a statewide list

of heritage trees and someone could nominate a tree for that list and they would provide signage and enter it into their database. McChristian stated that Brittany Oxford with the Oregon Department of Forestry works on the project. Cobb stated that Heritage Trees could be a good tourist attraction. McChristian offered their assistance in work relating to Heritage Trees.

Pellerin asked who spearheads the Arbor Day event. Kollerer stated that Emme Shoup with the City organizes the event. Koller added that former Board Member Rebecca Green helped with the event and that Director Bertagna helps with procuring and organizing the planting of trees. Pellerin voiced interest in attending the event. Cobb asked about a leaning tree outside of City Hall and if it was a concern. Galecki stated that many trees in town are leaning and is aware of the tree. Pellerin asked about the property within city limits owned by Oregon State Parks and asked for confirmation that it was under State jurisdiction, Bertagna confirmed that to be true. Pellerin followed up by stating that there are significant dead standing trees and was concerned about the safety of individuals. Bertagna stated that the City is not the property owner, and the liability runs with the property owner but stated that the property owner could be notified about the trees.

McChristian asked how trees are brought to the attention of the Board. Galecki stated that observations from the public, City Staff, and himself are the main means.

Galecki stated that they missed an item under "Other Business" and added that the trees are healthy and not of concern but nearby residents occasionally express concerns about the trees on S Pine St as many lean. Galecki stated that important factors concerning leaning trees are heaving soil around the base during high wind events, splitting forks, excessing debris, and/or leaning more when under load of snow and ice are all concerning scenarios.

9. Adjourn

Chair Burke adjourned the meeting at 3:45 PM.

STAFF REPORT

TO: Urban Forestry Board
FROM: Dan Galecki, Spindrift Forestry Consulting, SAF CF, City of Sisters Urban Forester
COPY: Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director
Jackson Dumanch, Public Works Project Coordinator
RE: Assessment of Leaning Tree, Creekside RV park 2/29/2024

INTRODUCTION:

One large 19 inch Ponderosa Pine is has a strong lean, and could be an endangerment to park users.

BACKGROUND & FINDINGS:

A significant leaning tree has been observed near site 44 in the Creekside RV park. This condition has not been noticed in the past, and recently it is assumed that it is getting worse. Attached are photos of the situation. The bole is obviously out of place and learning. There is a small soil heave, but no defined cracks or disturbance.



Overall, the lean can be recognized from a distance.



FINAL RECOMENDATIONS: The 19 inch Ponderosa Pine near site 44, should be removed. Sadly it is a healthy tree, and green. Safety conditions warrant the justification of removal. Most of the time this tree could still thrive, however, one winter storm, or one summer cloud burst with topple this tree. The soft soil conditions and the recent strong prevailing winds caused this tree to become more displaced. Surrounding trees are faced with the same harsh conditions, but maintain their stature. Once this tree is removed, other close trees with eventually fill in.



CITY OF SISTERS
Public Works Department
March 13, 2024

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT: CITY FORESTER
PROPOSAL DUE DATE: April 3, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M.

City of Sisters
Public Works Department
520 E. Cascade Avenue
PO Box 39
Sisters, OR 97759
Phone: (541)549-6022

Contact Person
Paul Bertagna, Public Works Director
(541) 323-5212
pbertagna@ci.sisters.or.us

Timeline

RFP Advertised	March 13, 2024
Proposal Due	April 3, 2024 (4:00 P.M. PST)
Evaluation of Proposals	April 8, 2024
Interviews if needed	April 9-12, 2024
City Council Approval	April 24, 2024

Note: This is the City's desired project schedule. The City reserves the right to modify the schedule.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITY FORESTER

The City of Sisters is soliciting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a City Forester to provide Urban Forestry Advisory Services for City staff and the City's Urban Forestry Board. Responding firms/individuals shall be certified by the Society of American Foresters as a Certified Forester and/or certified as an Arborist Municipal Specialist by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) or the National Arborists Association.

BACKGROUND

The City of Sisters, population 3,778, is located in Northern Deschutes County, approximately 20 miles west of Bend. The City Council consists of the Mayor and four council members elected from the City at large. The Mayor is elected by the City Council and is a voting member of the Council. The City operates under a Council-Manager form of government established via Home Rule Charter. The City Manager and City Attorney are appointed by the City Council and serve at the pleasure of the City Council.

More information about the City can be found at www.ci.sisters.or.us.

The current City Forester is Dan Galecki with Spindrift Forestry

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL and DUE DATE

Respondents shall provide six hard copies of their Proposal marked "CITY OF SISTERS CITY FORESTER" by 4:00 P.M. on April 3, 2024 to:

City of Sisters
Rebecca Green, City Recorder
520 E. Cascade Avenue
PO Box 39
Sisters, Oregon 97759

Telephone, facsimile, or electronically transmitted proposals will not be accepted. Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be considered further.

ANTICIPATED RFP SCHEDULE

The City anticipates the following general timeline for the selection process. The schedule may change if it is in the City's interest to do so.

- RFP Advertised March 13, 2024
- Proposal Due Date April 3, 2024 (4:00 P.M. PST)

- Evaluate Proposals April 8, 2024
- Proposer Interviews (optional) April 9-12, 2024
- Contract Approval April 24, 2024

The selection review committee will review the submitted proposals. They may select finalists for interviewing and/or choose a finalist. After completing negotiations, the City Council will award the contract.

CONTRACT TERM

It is anticipated that the City of Sisters will enter into a three-year (3-year) agreement which may be extended upon written consent of both parties for one additional two (2) year term.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The City wishes to retain an Urban Forestry consultant to perform the work typically conducted by an Urban Forester and/or Arborists including but are not limited to, the following:

- Perform hazard/health tree assessment on city trees on an as needed basis.
- Respond to hazard tree emergencies within the same day of being notified.
- Respond to non-emergency request for services by the City within 72 hours.
- Advise the City on proper pruning and tree maintenance standards.
- Provide city infrastructure project plan review to determine tree impacts and provide mitigation and/or removal recommendations.
- Take part and advise the City on its annual Arbor Day activities.
- Assist the Urban Forestry Board with developing and updating the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan
- Oversee the GIS mapping of all City owned trees for inclusion in the Urban Forestry Management Plan, excluding City owned timber and ranch land (Wastewater Treatment Plant, Lazy Z and Edgington Road properties).
- Advise the City on tree management and removal on City owned campground, parks and open space.
- Provide management oversight for all timber stands owned by the City, (Wastewater Treatment Plant, Lazy Z and Edgington Road properties). Recommend and apply silvicultural prescriptions to accomplish improved forest stand health. Prepare logging plans, timber sale contracts, and provide administration of the contracts as needed.
- Assist our City Arborist and Hazardous Fuels Reduction consultants on an as needed basis to help manage our timber stands and Urban Forest.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CITY FORESTER

- Certified by the Society of American Foresters as a Certified Forester and/or certified as by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) as a Certified Arborist Municipal Specialist.

- A minimum of five years of experience in working in a forest and urban forest environment for private or public agencies.
- Experience and training in identifying hazard and disease trees in a developed recreational area or urban environment.
- Experience and training in applying arboriculture standards and methods in tree maintenance and pruning.
- Experience in applying silvicultural prescriptions to timber stand management for forest health and fuel reduction.
- Experience in writing logging plans and timber sale contracts.
- Knowledge of water and soil Best Management Practices (BMP's) and how to apply them in managing timber stands.
- Knowledge of and experience in GIS mapping.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following information will be taken into consideration during the evaluation process:

- Qualifications identified in this Request for Proposals.
- Familiarity with laws and regulations governing the management and maintenance of the city's urban forest.
- Expertise in the following areas:
 - Hazard and disease tree identification
 - Pruning and tree maintenance standards
 - Urban Forestry Management Plans
 - Silvicultural prescriptions for managing timber stands
 - GIS mapping
- Demonstration of the ability to respond to hazard tree emergencies and non-emergencies within the specified time frames.
- Adequate knowledge and available support staff for the range of services requested.
- A professional reputation for providing high-quality services, ability to work cooperatively with Urban Forestry Boards, City staff and citizens.
- Demonstrates sound judgment, integrity, and reliability as determined by the references provided.
- Proposed compensation as described in the Proposal Organization section below.
- Results of interview (if conducted.)

PROPOSAL ORGANIZATION

Proposals should be prepared in the following format for the ease of the selection committee in reviewing multiple proposals:

1. **Experience and Other Qualifications.** Provide a general overview of the Firm or Individual, including a discussion relative to the Qualifications section of this Request for Proposals. Include relevant contact information for the firm/individual.
2. **Response to Scope of Services.** Discussion of experience and ability to provide City Forester services as outlined in the Scope of Services section of this Request for Proposals.
3. **Compensation.** Discussion of proposed cost proposal. The City reserves the right to negotiate the compensation package to best meet the needs of the City.
 - Provide a proposed hourly rate schedule and indicate the increment of billing time associated with billing by hourly rate.
 - Provide rate for travel and reimbursable expenses.
4. **Client References/Background.** Provide a representative listing of clients, preferably municipal government clients or clients of public agencies, with contact names and telephone numbers. The City reserves the right to explore the background, previous experience, training, financial affairs, or related matters of any firm or individual under consideration for this contract.
5. **Insurance/Indemnification.** A discussion of the Proposer's ability to provide the required level of insurance coverage and indemnification of the City of Sisters, as per the Insurance section of this Request for Proposals.
6. **Community Involvement.** A discussion of the Proposer's use of local resources and/or their community involvement.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND SCORING

Proposals which conform to the proposal instructions will be evaluated. The evaluation process will begin with an analysis of each Proposal using the evaluation criteria and weighting identified below.

- Experience and Qualifications – 40%
- Compensation – 30%
- References – 20%
- Community Involvement – 10%

INSURANCE

The successful contractor must carry professional liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000. Upon successful acceptance of the contract, the City of Sisters shall be named as "additional insured." Proposals shall include delineation of the carrier and coverage limits per occurrence. The successful contractor shall indemnify the City of Sisters from all suits, actions, and claims of any kind resulting or as a consequence of any act or omission by the audit firm or its employee or contractor acting under this contract for annual audit services.

OTHER PROVISIONS AND NOTICES

Rejection of Proposals. The City of Sisters may reject any proposal not in compliance with all the prescribed public proposal procedures and requirements and may reject for good cause any or all proposals in accordance with ORS 279B.100.

Public Records. All proposals submitted are the property of the City of Sisters and are public records. Except for information marked "Proprietary," all documents received by the City are subject to public disclosure after the City selects a contractor. The City will attempt to maintain the confidentiality of materials marked "Proprietary" to the extent possible under Oregon public records law.

PROPOSER’S WARRANTY

TO: City of Sisters, Oregon

PROPOSAL OF: _____

() an individual () a partnership () a corporation (please mark the appropriate box) organized under the laws of the State of Oregon.

The undersigned, having read and considered the Request for Proposal to provide City Forester services for the City of Sisters, Oregon, does hereby offer to perform such services on behalf of the City in the manner described and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Proposal. Services will be performed at the rates set forth in the Proposal.

OFFEROR

Company Name

BY _____
Signature of Authorized Representative Please print name

PRINCIPAL OFFICE ADDRESS

Federal tax ID _____ State ID _____

Street Address _____

City _____ County _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Facsimile _____

E-Mail Address _____

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ALL PROPOSALS

March 4, 2024

TO: Urban Forestry Board, Councilor Gary Ross, Paul Bertagna, Director of Public Works, and Dan Galecki, City Forester

FR: Therese Kollerer and Avery McChristian, UFB members

RE: Heritage Trees for 3/11/2024 Urban Forestry Board meeting

We are including for your review:

- 1) Relevant pages from Sisters' code 4.05.050 "Heritage Trees" and pages regarding Ponderosa Pine Aging from WA State Department of Natural Resources, as previously reviewed at the June 12, 2023 UFB meeting
- 2) Pamphlet: "Saving Our Heritage Trees", Tree City Bulletin No. 64, Dr. James Fazio, published by Arbor Day Foundation
- 3) Nomination for heritage tree submitted by Susan G Cobb, private tree at 149 N Maple Lane, Sisters – Ponderosa Pine
- 4) Nomination for heritage tree designation of 6 Creekside Park Ponderosas for board consideration: details on each tree

Discussion for the meeting:

- 1) Heritage tree value generally and review of code guidelines
- 2) Timing of choosing and presenting first group of heritage trees to City Council by UFB
- 3) Anything else needed from City before additional trees named? Eg forms for private tree nominations? Decision if any fees involved for private tree nomination?
- 4) How to engage with our Sisters community in helping to identify heritage trees on public and private property – possibly starting with City announcements, social media and Nugget communication with focus around Arbor Day, April 26th, 2024. Include City Parks Advisory Board in outreach.

(iii) No person shall damage any public tree; allow any gaseous, liquid or solid substance which is harmful to trees to come in contact with them; cut or carve, attach advertising posters or other contrivance; or set fire or permit any fire to burn when such fire or the heat thereof will injure any portion of any public tree.

(d) Requirements of City Personnel.

(i) City personnel on official business shall notify the public works director of all activities affecting public trees.

(ii) City personnel on official business shall conduct all activities in accordance with the provisions of this section and the urban forestry standards and specifications. Except that city personnel on official business are exempt from the written authorization requirement of subsection (5)(a) of this section.

(e) Requirements of Public Utility Companies.

(i) Public utility companies and their affiliates shall notify the public works director in advance of all activities affecting public trees within the city limits.

(ii) Public utility companies holding a current franchise agreement, or similar arrangement, with the city are exempt from the written authorization requirement of subsection (5)(a) of this section to the extent the provisions of the applicable franchise conflict with subsection (5)(a) of this section.

(iii) All activities shall be conducted in accordance with the urban forestry standards and specifications unless otherwise specified in the provisions of the current franchise agreement. [Ord. [516](#) § 2 (Exh. A), 2021].

4.05.050 Heritage trees.

(1) Purpose and Generally.

(a) The purpose of this section is to provide for the protection of trees holding special significance within the city of Sisters. The preservation of mature, native trees within the city is a preferred alternative to removal and replanting. Mature trees reduce air and water pollution, provide summer shade and wind breaks, and require less water than establishing new landscaping plants.

(b) The city finds that the ponderosa pine has a historical role in the city and dominates the landscape within the city limits. The city will prioritize ponderosa pines that meet the guidelines and criteria of this section to be considered as candidates for the heritage tree designation.

(2) Designation.

(a) The public works director, urban forestry board, council, or any individual or group of individuals interested in identifying and preserving heritage trees may nominate any public tree for "heritage" status. Nominations will be made on the form prescribed by the public works director and subject to applicable fees.

(b) Subject to the provisions contained in this section, the urban forestry board will review all nominations and may recommend to the council that any nominated tree be designated as a heritage tree.

(c) The urban forestry board will consider the following criteria in determining whether to recommend a ponderosa pine tree for the heritage tree designation: (i) the tree age should be approximately 200 years or more; and (ii) the tree size should be approximately 30 inches DBH or greater and/or more than 85 feet tall.

(d) For trees other than ponderosa pines, the urban forestry board will consider each tree on a case-by-case basis and will consider, among such other criteria and characteristics the urban forestry board deems necessary and appropriate, the occurrence (rarity) of the tree species in the city, its distribution throughout the city, its historical significance, and whether the species has a low population in the city.

(e) Upon receiving a recommendation from the urban forestry board, the council may designate a tree as a heritage tree if it finds (i) that the tree meets the criteria in this section and (ii) the tree's health, aerial space, and open ground area for the root system have been certified as sufficient by a certified arborist.

(f) The city will maintain an inventory of all heritage trees as part of its urban forest management plan.

(3) Private Trees. A tree on private property may only be designated as a heritage tree if nominated by the applicable property owner or by a third party with the prior written consent of the applicable property owner. The nomination or consent of a property owner will bind all successors, heirs, and assigns. When a tree located on private property is designated as a heritage tree, the owner will record an instrument acceptable to the city noting that such tree(s) is subject to the regulations of this section.

(4) Protection Standards. Except as expressly provided otherwise in subsection (5) of this section, it is unlawful for any person to remove, prune, injure, and/or otherwise tamper with any heritage tree without the prior written approval of the urban forestry board. The public works director will be responsible for and maintain all heritage trees located on public property. Heritage trees on private property are the responsibility of and will be maintained by the property owner.

(5) Heritage Tree Removal and Pruning.

(a) No person will remove, prune, injure, and/or otherwise tamper with a heritage tree unless the urban forestry board determines that either (i) the tree is hazardous or (ii) removal of the tree is necessary for completion of a public project including, without limitation, street, water, sewer, stormwater, public building, or park projects. Prior to taking any proscribed action against any heritage tree, the applicant will provide a report to the urban forestry board from a certified arborist or other qualified professional to determine whether the subject tree is hazardous or likely to interfere with construction of the public project. Such report must identify any possible treatment to avoid pruning or removal. For purposes of this chapter, a tree is "hazardous" if it is dead or diseased, or poses a threat or hazard to safety, property, and/or the health of other trees including, without limitation, by presenting a risk of wildfire.

(b) Upon receiving a request to remove a heritage tree, the urban forestry board will hold a public hearing to determine whether pruning, removal, or other action is in the city's best interest.

(c) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in an emergency, as determined by the public works director, the public works director may authorize the pruning, removal, or other action affecting a heritage tree without the authorization of the urban forestry board.

(d) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in an emergency, and only after reasonable efforts to obtain the authorization of the public works director, a property owner may prune, remove, or take other action affecting a heritage tree on private property without authorization by the urban forestry board or public works director, but only as necessary to abate an immediate danger. Any additional work will be performed subject to the requirements of this section.

(6) Removal of Designation. The urban forestry board may recommend to council whether the heritage tree designation should be removed from a tree. The council may remove the designation if it finds that the designation is no longer necessary or appropriate, the tree is hazardous, and/or the tree no longer meets the criteria as a heritage tree under subsection (2) of this section. [Ord. [516](#) § 2 (Exh. A), 2021].

4.05.060 Penalties.

Each violation of this chapter and each separate day that a violation persists is a separate offense. Except as otherwise provided in SMC [4.05.040](#), each offense is punishable by a fine of no less than \$200.00, but no more than \$1,000. Nothing herein shall preclude city from concurrently or consecutively seeking any other remedy available at law or equity nor preclude a separate civil action for damage to or wrongful use of public property.

In addition to any other penalty, remedy, or cause of action available to city, if the injury, mutilation, or death of a public tree or heritage tree is caused by a violation of this chapter, the cost of repair or replacement of such tree, of similar size, shall be borne by the party in violation. If repair or replacement is not feasible, the violator will pay a fine in the amount of the replacement value, which replacement value shall be determined by the city in accordance with the latest edition of Guide for Plant Appraisal, authored by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers. [Ord. [516](#) § 2 (Exh. A), 2021; Ord. [266A](#) § 4, 1994; Ord. [266](#) § 4, 1994. Formerly 4.05.040].

4.05.070 Appeals.

Any written decision related to SMC [4.05.040](#) by the public works director may be appealed to and heard by the urban forestry board. To be effective, an appeal shall be filed within 14 days after the date of the written decision of the public works director on the form prescribed by the public works director along with payment of applicable fees. The appeal shall be in writing and shall be filed with the public works director. The appeal shall clearly specify the bases for the appeal. The urban forestry board shall conduct a hearing on the appeal and render its decision in writing. Any written decision of the urban forestry board may be appealed to the council. To be effective, an appeal to the council must be filed with the city recorder on the form prescribed by the city recorder within 14 days after the date of the written decision of the urban forestry board along with payment of applicable fees. After a hearing, the council shall render its decision, which shall be final. The appeal must be in writing and shall clearly specify the bases for the appeal. [Ord. [516](#) § 2 (Exh. A), 2021].

[Mobile Version](#)

Ponderosa Pine

in between remain relatively constant (Figure 60). By the third century, the bark plates have become substantially wider than the fissures, a sign of old age (Figure 61). Foresters often affectionately refer to these old, valuable trees as *yellow-bellies*. Unlike trunk diameter, maximum plate width is well correlated with tree age—a feature we will use to help us in aging trees (Figure 62).



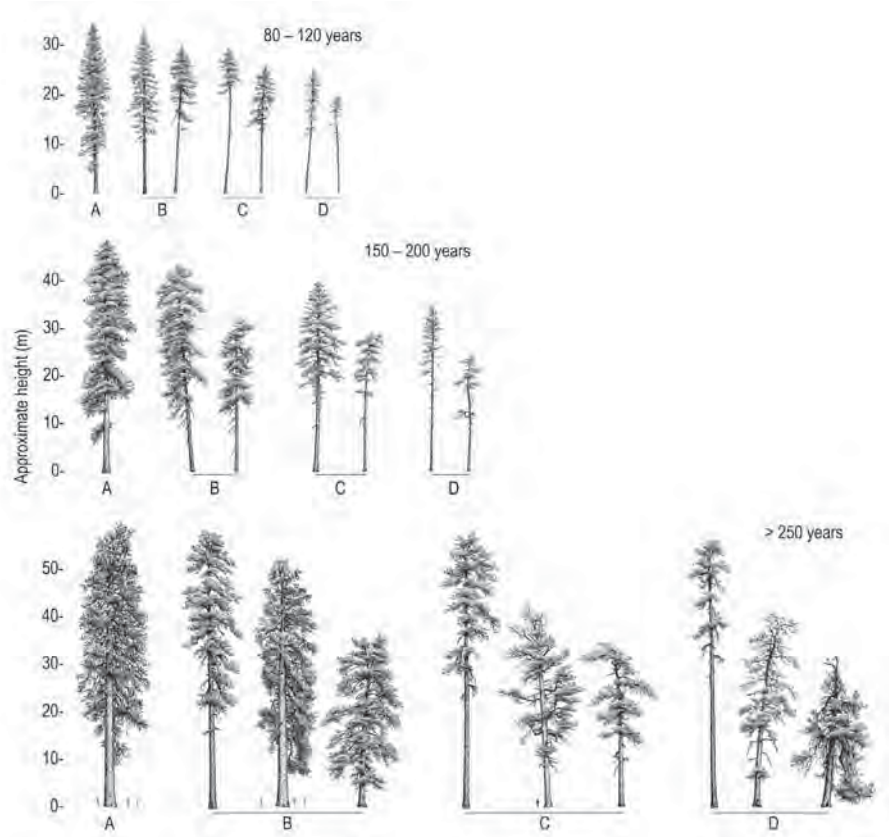
Figure 60. Bark patterns on mature ponderosa pine. Note residual charcoal in the center photo.



Figure 61. Bark patterns on old ponderosa pine. The colorful bark plates are generally more than three times wider than the darker fissures that separate them.

Ponderosa Pine

Figure 69. Ponderosa pine crown form and tree vigor in eastern Washington. Idealized forms represent three age and four vigor classes (A-high vigor to D-low vigor). Vigor is a function of site productivity and response to disturbance and environmental stress. More than one individual is shown for vigor classes B-D to illustrate possible variations. Competition-based mortality usually ensures that most trees in vigor classes C and D do not survive to the next age class. The trees depicted are the same scale in the first image, and at differing scales on the following pages.



Individual Species or Species Group Treatments

Rating system for determining the general age of ponderosa pine trees

(Choose one score from each category and sum scores to determine developmental stage)

Lower trunk bark condition	Score
Dark bark with small fissures . . . . .	.0
Outermost bark ridge flakes reddish, fissures small . . . . .	.1
Colorful plates, width about equal to fissure widths . . . . .	.2
Maximum fissure to fissure plate width \geq 15 cm (6 in) and $<$ 25cm (10 in) . . . . .	.3
Maximum fissure to fissure plate width \geq 25 cm (10 in) . . . . .	.5
Knot indicators on main trunk below crown	
Dead branches below main crown, whorl indicators extending nearly to tree base . . . . .	.0
Old knot/whorl indicators visible below main crown . . . . .	.1
No knot/whorl indicators visible . . . . .	.3
Crown form (refer to Figure 69)	
Similar to a tree in top row . . . . .	.0
Similar to a tree in middle row . . . . .	.3
Similar to a tree in bottom row . . . . .	.5

Scoring Key

$<$ 2	Young tree
2–5	Mature tree $<$ 150 years
6–10	Mature tree \geq 150 years
$>$ 10	Old tree \geq 250 years

Longevity and death

How long can ponderosa pines live? A few individuals of the Rocky Mountain form (*ssp. scopulorum*) have been recorded over 900 years old, including a 1,047 year-old tree in Southwestern Colorado. The record for *ssp. ponderosa*, the type we have in eastern Washington, was discovered while carrying out research for this book—a living tree with a ring-count of 907 growing in the Wenatchee National Forest (Figure 70).

The development of spiral grain, uncommon in young trees, often becomes more prominent with age. An examination of old logs or snags reveals little if any spiraling when the trees were younger (the wood nearer the center of the tree). While not limited to ponderosa pine, this character is most often expressed in old trees of this species. A close examination of old conifers, either on rich or poor sites, shows that spiral grain is not rare. Old trees on harsh or rocky sites typically show spiral



TREE CITY USA® BULLETIN

64

No.
Dr. James R. Fazio, Editor • \$3.00

Saving Our Heritage Trees

‘Extinction is forever!’ The disappearance of plant and animal species from the face of the Earth is an alarming situation. So is the disappearance of special trees right in our own communities. When heritage trees succumb to storms or old age, that is one thing. When they are destroyed by neglect, development or other human causes, it is quite another. Saving our heritage trees is a job for tree boards everywhere, but it is also a job for every individual who reveres the past and cares about the future.

The English poet William Blake observed, “The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eye of others only a green thing which stands in the way.” The truth of this statement is especially tragic when it comes to heritage trees.

Heritage trees are those that are important because of their great size, notable longevity, unusual form, location at the extreme of their natural growing range, or association with history. Some, like those at Mount Vernon planted by George Washington are of national importance. Others have local significance and these are found in virtually every community.

What happens to these trees is often a sad story and one that is all too common. For example, there was an old Bartlett pear tree growing on the campus of a state university. It was the last remnant of what had been a farm before expansion of the campus. Bartlett pears are known for their long life and this one was still in fair condition. It provided shade, species diversity, a little wildlife habitat and luscious pears enjoyed by the students. One day the campus planners decided that its little spot along the street would make a good pull-off bus stop. Despite some objections and opportunities to place the bus stop elsewhere, the tree was cut down. With it went a link with the past and opportunities for interpreting history to the current generation of students. By contrast, we are heartened by stories like the cucumbertree magnolia saved essentially by the actions of a single individual as reported on page 6.

Saving heritage trees extends a link across generations. It helps develop values for things beyond the material, values almost of a spiritual nature. It also reminds us, as expressed by Arbor Day Founder J. Sterling Morton, “Each generation takes the earth as trustees.” Passing along a community’s special trees is part of that responsibility as temporary stewards.



© The Repository / Scott Heckel

The lives of heritage trees are often prolonged because concerned individuals, civic groups and tree boards appreciate what they have to offer in the way of inspiration, education and scientific value. Here Rod Covey of North Canton, Ohio, speaks to a group called The Wanderers that came to visit this champion cucumbertree magnolia.

What is a Heritage Tree?

The nature of heritage trees varies widely. Great size is easy to recognize and appreciate. Historical events associated with a tree also qualify it as a heritage tree. Less recognized features may be something like the northern-most palm tree on the Pacific coast, or a tree with genes that somehow enabled it to escape an introduced pest that claimed others of its species. It may be simply a blaze that marked an ancient trail or as subtle as Montana's medicine tree that serves as a sacred shrine to Native Americans.

Famous Trees of Texas, Texas Forest Service



This special tree that grows in San Saba, Texas, was once featured in Ripley's 'Believe it or Not.' Named the Jumbo Hollis, it once produced the largest pecans in the world. In 1919 Jumbo Hollis produced 1,015 pounds of them! Grafts from the tree were budded to other pecan trees throughout the South.

Famous Trees of Texas, Texas Forest Service



Eight Texans lie in a common grave next to the tree where they were hung by the Confederate cavalry during the Civil War. The Hangman's Tree stands as a living symbol of this unpleasant page in America's history.

Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum



Oklahoma City's Survivor Tree witnessed the tragic events of April 19, 1995 when a bomb killed 168 innocent people in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. In the days that followed, alert citizens saved the tree from removal and arborists nursed it back to health. The tree stands as symbol of human resilience and an inscription reads: "The spirit of this city and this nation will not be defeated; our deeply rooted faith sustains us."

Arbor Day Foundation



Trees of unusual size are not only an inspiration but may contain genes that contributed to their longevity. Cuttings are sometimes made to provide progeny for research or commercial cultivation. This recently discovered cottonwood near Lindy, Nebraska, may qualify as a state champion for its species.

Gaining Public Support

Regardless of the reason for being identified as a heritage tree, its survival in the community is dependent on public understanding and support.

Identifying Special Trees

Some heritage trees are well known. Others are yet to be found or named. In some communities, the street and/or park tree inventory is a way to earmark the largest or most unusual trees. Another method is to sponsor a contest in which residents can nominate a tree and explain why it should be listed as a heritage tree. Except in extreme cases, heritage trees on private property require voluntary recognition of the tree. This usually implies the owner does not mind people visiting or observing it from the street. Sometimes it means granting the tree board permission to help with treatments to preserve the tree's health or even granting a conservation easement to legally protect the tree and the space around it. Methods vary, but identification is the first step toward protection – and the more citizen involvement in this process, the greater the chance for long-term support for protection.

Informing the Public

Trees deserving heritage recognition need to be made known to local residents and visitors. It is akin to the biblical teaching of not hiding one's candle under a bushel. The result is not only enjoyment and education, but the power of public opinion can be a strong deterrent to a tree's destruction. Brochures and printed maps are the most common way to share information about local heritage trees, but the electronic age has provided some new approaches.



The Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Urban Forestry Committee and Parks Department, with support from the Washington Water Power Company and the U.S. Forest Service, produced a handsome booklet and location map. Following a general map and introduction, each heritage tree has a page devoted to it. This includes a more detailed location map, a picture of the species' leaf, and information about the tree. The name of the person who nominated it is also shown.



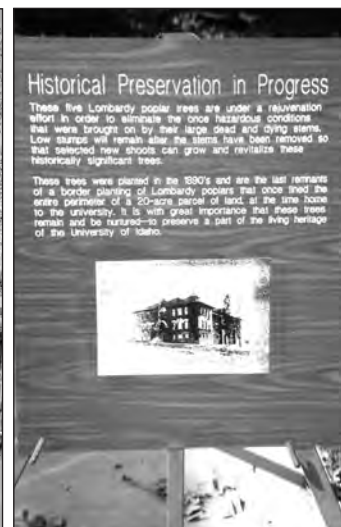
Technology now makes it faster to update heritage tree information and make it available in formats the current generation finds convenient. These include websites and even apps for mobile devices. For example, more than 281 heritage trees have been identified in Portland, Oregon. Using a free app developed by Portland resident Matt Blair, it is possible to:

Explanations Can Defuse Trouble

No tree lives forever and eventually it may become so unsafe that there is no alternative to removal. And while this may be obvious to tree people, the thought of removing a heritage tree is often a red flag to the general public. Rather than simply placing a red X on the trunk or making an announcement about a tree's impending removal, it is far better to provide an explanation of why it must go, what might be done to make good use of its wood, and – when possible – how and when the tree will be replaced.



James R. Fazio



David Rauk

Campus arborist David Rauk knew there would be an outcry when it became known that several historic trees were to be removed. In an exemplary move from the standpoint of public relations, David made a weatherproof sign and placed it in the lawn near the trees. The sign acknowledged the trees' historic importance, explained that their dangerous condition made removal necessary, and promised that regeneration from the stumps would be used to 'rejuvenate' the historic trees. Not a word of protest was expressed by students or faculty!

- Search for heritage trees and see them on a map.
- Tap a pin to see the name and view details for that particular tree.
- Take and upload a photo of a heritage tree you are visiting.
- View photos of the tree taken by other tree enthusiasts.
- Email a friend about the tree.
- Read more about the species at Wikipedia, without leaving the app.

Protecting Our Heritage

‘Leave it alone’ is not the approach that will save heritage trees. Instead, it is important to identify them, document the reasons they are special, and then provide protective care.

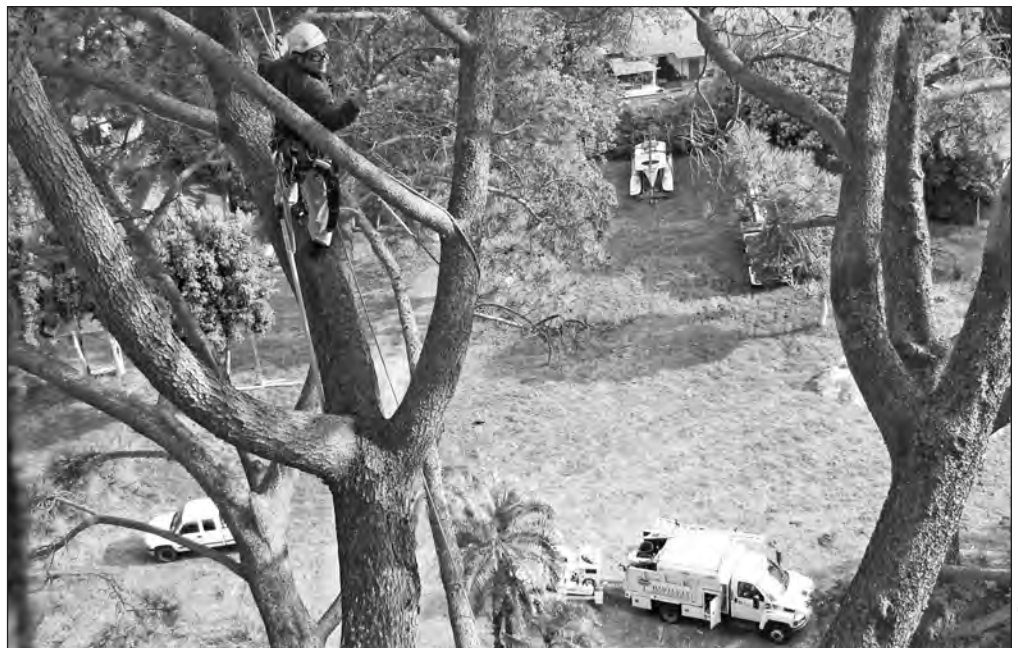
Maintenance Needs

The first step in maintenance of a mature tree is to have it inspected by a qualified, certified arborist. He/she can then

prescribe treatment that is either corrective or preventative. Some of the common problems and treatments include:

Soil Compaction	Preventative action includes fencing and/or organic mulch. Correcting compacted soil is more difficult but is possible with aeration or ‘vertical mulching’ (holes drilled at intervals and filled with gravel).
Dead Branches	Broken stubs are like ‘candy sticks’ for wood-decaying fungi. These need to be pruned off using proper cutting techniques to facilitate sealing that enables the tree to compartmentalize the wound and prevent the inward spread of decay organisms. Similarly, unbroken dead branches should be removed with pruning saws.
Special Pruning Needs	Expert help should be enlisted if pruning is needed for line clearance or if the tree is in conflict with nearby buildings, walks, etc.
Competition	Sometimes understory shrubs or grass need to be controlled in order to reduce competition for soil moisture and nutrients. In some cases, shade-tolerant trees may be thriving and may eventually overtake and out-compete the heritage tree. Removal must be done carefully to avoid chemical or mechanical damage to roots of the tree being saved.
Insect and Disease Pests	Expert inspection is needed to determine when and if control action is necessary.
Lightning	Lightning protection is expensive but warranted in the case of special trees. Installation is a job for arborists who have training and experience in this procedure. Periodic inspection and adjustment of installed devices is also necessary.

An arborist works in the top of Santa Barbara, California’s 130-foot Torrey pine. After a large branch failure, deadwood was removed and large thinning cuts were made to reduce branch weight. This local heritage tree was planted in 1888 in what is said to have been a contest to see who could grow the most unusual plants. The pine has certainly won, now the tallest of its species anywhere in the world. Torrey pine is a rare species, native only to a small portion of California.



© Bartlett Tree Experts

Protective Ordinances

As with any provision in a tree ordinance, one that addresses heritage trees must be written to be compatible with the needs and the public will of the community. Nonetheless, the identification and protection of heritage trees should be

considered by tree boards and city officials in municipalities of all sizes. Below are examples from two of the more restrictive ordinances.

Definition/Designation	Protection
<p>Menlo Park, California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ...historical significance, special character or community benefit...designated by city council. Native oaks 10" dbh or more. Other trees 15" dbh or more. 	<p>Any person who owns, controls, has custody or possession of any real property within the city shall use reasonable efforts to maintain and preserve all heritage trees located thereon in a state of good health...Any person who conducts any grading, excavation, demolition or construction activity...shall do so in such a manner as to not threaten the health or viability or cause the removal of any heritage tree. Any work performed within an area ten (10) times the diameter of the tree...shall require submittal of a tree protection plan for review and approval by the director of community development...prior to issuance of any permit for grading or construction. The tree protection plan shall be prepared by a certified arborist and shall address issues related to protective fencing and protective techniques to minimize impacts associated with grading, excavation, demolition and construction. The director of community development or his or her designee may impose conditions...</p>
<p>Portland, Oregon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City Forester must annually prepare a list of trees that "because of their age, size, type, historical association or horticultural value" are of special importance to the city. Upon recommendation of the Urban Forestry Commission, the City Council may designate a tree as a Heritage Tree provided the tree's health, aerial space, and open ground area for the root system have been certified as sufficient. 	<p>No tree on private property can be designated without the consent of the property owner. This consent binds all successors, heirs, and assigns. The ordinance further states that it is unlawful for any person, without a prior written permit from the Forester, to remove, destroy, cut, prune, break or injure any Heritage Tree. No Heritage Tree can be removed without the consent of the Urban Forestry Commission and the Portland City Council.</p>

Safety First

A difference between a traditional forester and an arborist is that a forester prescribes harvest cuts at an economically optimal period in the life of a stand of trees. The job of an arborist is to extend serviceable life of individual trees as long as possible. This means that arborists and others who care for mature and over-mature heritage trees have an added duty to protect people and property from falling limbs or failure of the entire tree. It is often a delicate balancing act of trying to preserve aged trees while at the same time safeguarding the public. In addition to regular risk monitoring and pruning and other proper maintenance of the tree itself, some common practices to achieve public safety include:

- Fencing
- Landscape design that keeps walkways and vehicles away from the tree
- Landscaping with hedges or plants that discourage foot traffic
- Warning signs (ideally in combination with another technique)



Heritage trees are precious, but so are people and their property. Supports beneath aged branches or leaning heritage trees may sometimes be needed, but should be used in combination with fencing or other methods to keep people from climbing on or going under the tree.

James R. Razio

Setting a Good Example

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.
– Margaret Mead

One Man's Story – And a Tree Saved

Rod Covey was shocked when he received a one-page notice that a large cucumbertree magnolia was to be removed “within the next few days.” Rod lived about 75 yards from the old tree in a corner of the 34-acre Auburn Knolls development in North Canton, Ohio. He soon learned that condominium association officials were nervous because two limbs broke off during a storm. They claimed the limbs were “mushy” and promised to leave the stump “as a memorial” to the deceased giant.

That was in September, 2000. Today, more than a decade later, hundreds of visitors have come to admire the old giant that has more than 400 birthdays under its bark. In addition, more than 2 million people have heard about the tree through mass media coverage. It is recognized in the *National Register of Big Trees* as the largest of its species in the entire world. And with every additional year that the tree survives, visitors and media audiences learn not only about the tree's impressive statistics, but also about the benefits of trees in general and why they deserve to be protected.

None of this would be possible had it not been for the quick and forceful action of Rod Covey. At a meeting of the condominium association, Rod pleaded for the tree to be spared. To make his point that the fallen limbs were not “mushy,” he brought one to the meeting and pounded it on the podium. No mush issued from the solid wood! “Sometimes a little theatrics work,” he later told a reporter. And

they did. The removal order was rescinded and a symbolic representation of the tree now adorns the Auburn Knolls logo. Advertisements feature the harmony of luxury condominiums and the trees that surround them, a place ‘Where you make a statement without saying a single word.’ It is because of people like Rod Covey who do speak up that many of our wooded neighborhoods and our nation's heritage trees still exist.



© The Repository / Scott Heckel

*Rod Covey provides information about North Canton's cucumbertree magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*) that he saved from premature destruction. The ancient tree is 79 feet tall with a diameter of nearly 8 feet. It was alive as a sapling when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock.*

Savannah's Candler Oak – A Witness to History

Savannah, Georgia, has a long history of protecting its special trees. It all began with the city's founder, General James Oglethorpe, in 1733. This good gentleman from England was a humanitarian who sought a better life for the downtrodden in his homeland. When he came to America, he laid out a street pattern in the new colony that made Savannah one of the first planned cities in the new land. There were 120 residents at that time and the struggles of settlement in the wilderness must have been intense. Nonetheless, the town trustees set aside a 10-acre central square and open spaces in each quarter of the new city. But they went even further. It is said that they carefully left old trees in their midst and started a nursery to provide trees for the future. And they had a motto: “Not for themselves, but for others.”

The city's Candler Oak is evidence that the founding spirit lives on in Savannah. This live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) is not the largest of its species, but it is part of local history. It was already a large tree in 1791 when the land around it was dedicated for use as a seaman's hospital. The Savannah Poor House was also built there and this

evolved into a medical college. During the Civil War, the site was captured by General Sherman and a barricade was constructed around the tree to confine wounded Confederate prisoners. In 1930, the Warren A. Candler Hospital was constructed and operated for the next 50 years. By 1982, the old tree was showing the effects of stress and neglect. It was that year that the Savannah Tree Foundation came forward to make saving this oak its first preservation project.

In 1982, the land was in private ownership but the developer generously donated a 6,804 sq. ft. conservation easement around the tree now known as the Candler Oak. That was the first step toward saving it from the path of development. Next came rehabilitation. Asphalt was removed from the root zone and a comprehensive schedule of maintenance was developed by tree experts. Included were soil tests, watering, mulching and fertilizing. With care and monitoring by the Savannah Tree Foundation, the tree rebounded and continues to charm tourists and provide eco-benefits to the residents of Savannah.

The Live Oak Society

In 1934, Dr. Edwin Stephens, president of what is now the University of Louisiana in Lafayette, had a novel idea. To promote the culture, distribution, preservation and appreciation of the South's iconic live oak trees, he founded the Live Oak Society. But this group is made up only of trees! To be

nominated, the tree must have a circumference of 8 feet or greater. The largest one is president. Only one human is permitted in the Live Oak Society, according to the by-laws. That person is the chairman and is responsible for registering and recording the Live Oak Society members. There are currently over 7,000 members in 14 states. Long live the Live Oak Society!



© Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

Dr. Edwin Lewis Stephens with wife, Alice, in 1936. His good idea is carried on today by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation.

Adopt Your Own Heritage Tree

Is there a special tree on your property? Perhaps it was planted by a departed parent, or was a favorite place to play in your youth. Why not adopt it as your own heritage tree. See that it receives good care to preserve its health. Consider adding a small sign or plaque. By all means, record its story as part of your family history.

A good way to help save heritage trees of community-wide importance is to call them to the attention of your city officials and the media. If your city or state has a listing of heritage trees, request that it be added.

Tree boards that create heritage tree programs or publicity can qualify for points toward the Tree City USA Growth Award.



Elizabeth Lynch

Historic Candler Oak was added to the Georgia Landmark & Historic Tree Register in 2001. Its 107-foot spread sheltered wounded Confederate soldiers and today is under the watchful care of the Savannah Tree Foundation.

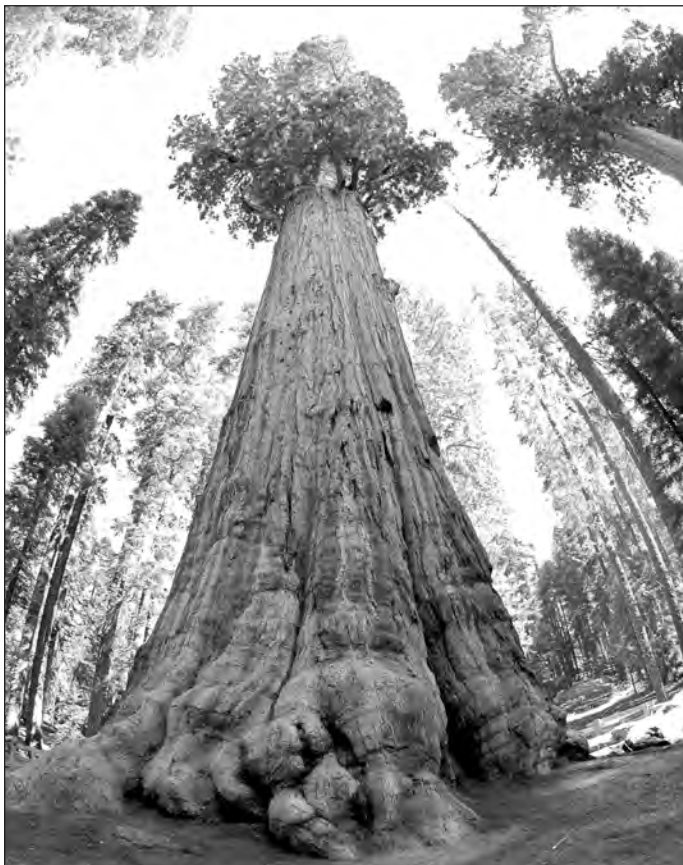
The National Register of Big Trees

The nonprofit organization, American Forests, has long been a champion for champion trees. In 1976, it published the milestone *Famous and Historic Trees* by Charles Randall and Henry Clepper to help commemorate our nation's bicentennial. Even earlier, in 1940, it began keeping an official record of the country's largest trees. Today, nearly 900 species and varieties are in *The National Register of Big Trees* and most states and many communities have followed this model with official records of the largest trees in their state or city.

To be eligible for the register, a tree must be native or naturalized, i.e. introduced and now established, reproducing and spreading naturally. Norway maple would be a good example. Hybrids and minor varieties are not included.

Anyone can find and nominate a big tree. If it is larger than the current champion, it takes its place. Due to mortality or lack of nominations, there is usually a list of trees currently without champions. Determining the 'biggest' is based on total points in the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Trunk circumference} \\ \text{(in inches) measured} \\ \text{at 4 } \frac{1}{2} \text{ feet above} \\ \text{the ground.} \end{array} + \begin{array}{r} \text{Height (in feet)} \\ + \\ \text{crown spread} \\ \text{(in feet)} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{4} \text{ average} \\ \text{crown spread} \\ \text{(in feet)} \end{array} = \text{Total points}$$



The "General Sherman" is the National Champion of giant sequoias located in Tulare County, California.

Wikimedia Commons

For More Information

For additional sources of information about heritage trees, please visit arborday.org/bulletins and click on No. 64.

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A private tree nomination for heritage tree designation in the City of Sisters

'Heath,' is a big Ponderosa Pine right next to the south east corner of the house at 149 N. Maple Lane, Sisters, OR.

Per a certified arborist's initial review of the tree on 3/3/24, the tree has a 33" DBH, is 73' tall, is vigorous, and has bark plates ranging from 2" to 8". Based on this initial examination, the tree is likely older than 200 years. To reduce risk of fire to the home, the tree was limbed-up twice over the past 19 years and both times with great care. The tree's history follows.

If confirmed to be 200 or more years old, it began growing before the establishment of the Sisters' USPO in 1888, a time when sheep herders passed by in the spring and fall to graze. It grew as logging cleared trees around it and when the City of Sisters was established in 1946. It continued to grow as it was surrounded by ranch lands and when those became trailer parks in an area named, 'The Edge of the Pines.' It witnessed the logging industry leave where homes began replacing the trailers and as of 2007 a house was built by N. Head, Craftsman Homes by Design, right next to it – preserving and honoring it by not removing it nor damaging its roots.

The house was bought immediately, by me partly because I loved that great big beautiful tree standing beside the home like a guardian. In 2018, my niece Kari and I, named the tree Heath in honor of my 97- year-old father, Lt. Col. Franklin Heath Cobb, Jr., who had died in April, that year. Heath's name was added to the monument at the Village Green, where the city honors all military people who have lived and died in Sisters.

I would appreciate the City Urban Forestry Board considering my private owner nomination of this tree as a heritage tree: Heath, a big beautiful Ponderosa Pine in the Edge o' the Pines area of Sisters, OR.

When the applicable form is made available, I will file the instrument with the City requesting heritage status and accept that I will be subject to the City's related regulations, which will also bind all successors, heirs and assigns.

Nominated by:

Susan G Cobb

Date:

3/3/24

149 N. Maple Lane, Sisters, OR
Ponderosa Pine "Heath"



**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #1**

Location: lawn area between footbridge
over Whychus Creek and
adjacent parking lot, near park
bench on pathway

Coordinates: 44.28862° N, 121.54285° W

DBH: 57”
Est Height: 135’

Comments: 3-4’ vertical scar at base,
very large plates



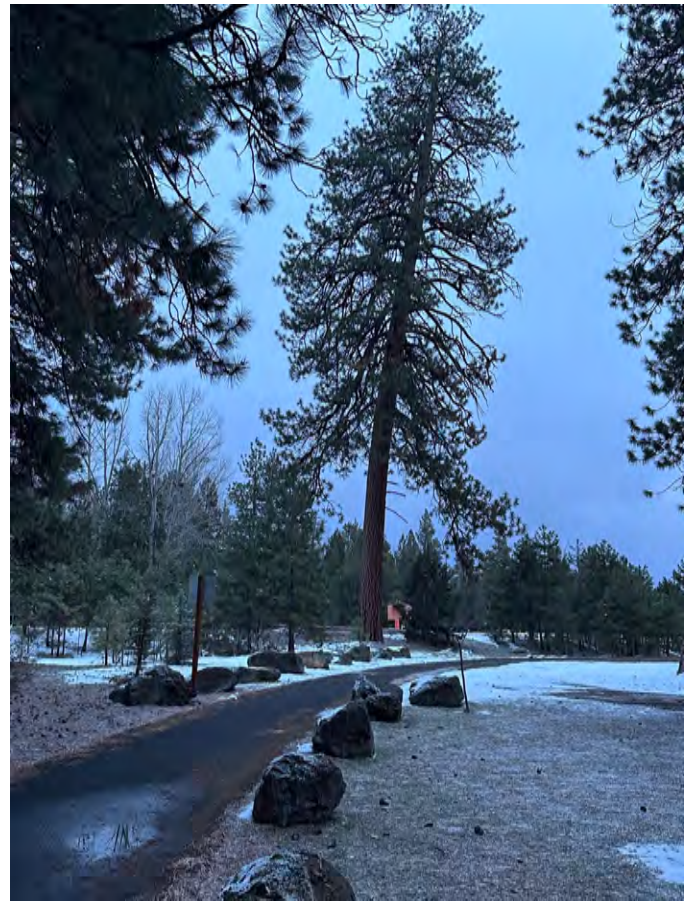
**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #2**

Location: between park pedestrian path
and Hiway 20, just past end of
low Hiway 20 railing

Coordinates: 44.28817° N, 121.54126° W

DBH: 60”
Est Height: 150’

Comments: Very visible from Hiway 20
very large plates, some
partially dried branches , many
dried needles, tree may be
struggling.



**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #3**

Location: Near Campsite #54 firepit and
across the pedestrian path
from Tree#2, near hiway 20

Coordinates: 44.28936° N, 121.54235° W

DBH: 42”
Est Height: 117’

Comments: Long vertical scar on lower
trunk, cause may have been
lightening strike



**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #4**

Location: Near Campsite #64, on top
edge of shallow sloped basin

Coordinates: 44.28936° N, 121.54235° W

DBH: 45.5”

Est Height: 105’

Comments: Beautiful trunk, large plates



**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #5**

Location: Campsite #1, near large rock

Coordinates: 44.28736° N, 121.54344° W

DBH: 33.75”

Est Height: 103’

Comments: tall for its DBH



**Creekside Park – Heritage Tree
Nomination #6**

Location: Adjacent to playground area,
near end of wooden fence and
near to the large dead and
topped pine

Coordinates: 44.28708° N, 121.54152° W

DBH: 38”
Est Height: 111’

Comments: healthy tree, missing some
lower branches, forked trunk,
has discoloration of bark on
lower few feet of trunk,
possibly due to irrigation



Please join us for the City of Sisters' annual Arbor Day Celebration!

When: Friday, April 26, 2024, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: Creekside Park (meet at the parking lot)
649 OR-126
Sisters, OR 97759

Trees are an essential part of the unique character and identity of Sisters. As our community continues to grow, we strive to be stewards of our abundant natural beauty through preserving and maintaining our urban forest for future generations to come.

Since 2007, City of Sisters has been designated as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. Each year, we celebrate Arbor Day with a proclamation reading by the Mayor and ceremonial tree planting with the help of local students and community members.

For questions, please contact:

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