

URBAN FORESTRY PARTNERSHIP WARREN



WARREN COMMUNITY FORESTRY GOALS

1

ESTABLISH URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM POLICY FRAMEWORK

2

COMPLETE TREE INVENTORY

3

DEVELOP TREE MANAGEMENT AND PLANTING PLAN

STRENGTHS

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: A citizen Environmental Committee supports trees.

TREES ARE A PRIORITY: Some city employees prioritize setting ambitious urban forestry goals and are willing to make future commitments to improve the urban forest.

CHALLENGES

STAFF CAPACITY AND EXPERTISE:

Urban forestry responsibilities are divided; the forester oversees street trees, the department director manages park trees, and contractors guide tree decisions during development. An effort to coordinate programs could benefit efficiency and effectiveness.

PUBLIC PERCEPTION: Some residents may lack an understanding of the value of community trees.

INSUFFICIENT FUNDING: There is no budget for tree planting and only a minimal budget for a forestry program.

OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATION: Pursue technical training for staff; promote ISA-Certified Arborist credentials.

POLICIES AND GUIDING DOCUMENT DEVELOPMENT: Invest in the urban forestry program framework and adopt quality standards and guiding policies for future growth. Allocate some resources to updating ordinances and a city master plan.

INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF RESOURCE: Inventory park and street trees. Utilize Macomb County urban tree canopy analysis.

ENGAGE PUBLIC: Empower established Environmental Committee and Beautification

STRATEGIC PLANTING: New tree plantings consider species diversity and maximizing tree benefits.

SOME POLICY COMMITMENT: New developments are required to plant trees according to planting specifications.

LIMITED POLICIES: Minimal policies to support an urban forestry program.

NEED GUIDING DOCUMENTS: No guiding documents, such as an urban forestry management plan or emergency response plan.

OUTDATED DATA: Historic records and landscape plans offer some data but no formal tree inventory information is available. Antiquated zoning ordinances make it challenging for the city to prioritize and promote a healthy tree canopy and green infrastructure implementation.

Commission to take action on targeted projects, education, and public engagement.

FUNDING OPTIONS: Increase funding opportunities and resources for tree planting efforts through grants and other creative funding solutions, such as crowdfunding for specific planting projects. Outreach to City Council for additional support for specific goals.

PARTNERSHIPS: Seek support from state, county, and non-profit groups. Attend regional workshops. Take advantage of available technical assistance. Share resources with Macomb Community College and Wayne State University.

CURRENT CANOPY COVER: 17.4%

Tree City USA: NO
Tree Ordinance: NO
Current Tree Inventory: NO

Tree Planting: 0% of Program Budget

Tree Donation Program: NO
Active Management: YES
Active Volunteers: YES

Tree Work: COMBINATION
Tree Planting: CONTRACT

Public Street: 545 Miles
Public Parks: 342 Acres

Community Contacts:
Michelle Katapodes, Planner 1
mkatapodes@cityofwarren.org

Henry Bowman, Parks and Rec Director
hbowman@cityofwarren.org

NEEDS

Additional Funding	Tree Inventory
Community Support	Management Plan
Partner Support	Master Plan
Maintenance Support	Planting Plans
Technical Training	Citizen Advocacy
Tree Ordinance	Outreach and Education



POWERED BY:



URBAN FORESTRY PARTNERSHIP WARREN



CODE AND ORDINANCE OVERVIEW

This document provides a quick reference for how community forestry is incorporated into the local regulatory framework. It can serve as initial guidance for future updates and potential action. The matrix below gives an overview of the forestry and landscape standards included in local ordinances, based on those elements typically included in robust programs. While this overview determines whether an element is included and the

corresponding location within local legislation, it does not provide an in depth review of the quality of each element nor how well it is actually functioning in practice. A more detailed matrix is kept with the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development and can be made available upon request to support local updates. For more information on Green Macomb and your community, please visit: green.macombgov.org.

ORDINANCE/CODE ELEMENT	YES	NO	LOCATION
Tree Ordinance		●	
Responsible Party: Public Tree Planting	●		Ch 38-Sec 2
Responsible Party: Public Tree Maintenance	●		Ch 38-Sec 2
Responsible Party: Public Tree Removal	●		Ch 38-Sec 2
Tree Board/Commission/Department and Duties	●		Ch 2-Sec 105,107, Ch 33-Sec 62,68
Tree Canopy Guidelines		●	
Dead/Diseased Tree Removal	●		Ch 38-Sec 12, Ch 21-Sec 47
Public: Tree Planting	●		Ch 38-Sec 13, Zoning-21B.71
Public: Tree Preservation	●		Ch 38-Sec 11,17
Public: Tree Removal/Maintenance	●		Ch 10-Sec 15, Ch 33-Sec 61, Ch 34-Sec 53, Ch 38-Sec 9
Public: Permit required for work on trees	●		Ch 38-Sec 5
Public: Restricts mutilation of trees	●		Ch 22-Sec 234, Ch 23-Sec 4, Ch 38-Sec 8
Development: Tree Planting	●		Ch 35-Sec 60,70, Ch 38-Sec 16, Zoning-10A.03
Development: Tree Preservation	●		Ch 38-Sec 10, Zoning-10.13
Development: Tree Removal		●	
Development: Tree Replacement		●	
Development: Requires landscape plan, inclusion of trees and vegetation in site plans	●		Zoning-4D.47,10.13,10A.03,21B
Parking: Tree Planting	●		Zoning-16.06, 21B.54
Parks: Tree Preservation	●		Ch 23-Sec 4
Woodlands: Tree Preservation		●	
Businesses, Community Centers, Pools, etc: Tree and landscaping requirements	●		Ch 38-Sec 10, Zoning- 21B
Greenbelts, Berms, Planting Screens, Fences, etc: Tree Requirements	●		Ch 35-Sec 66, Zoning-4D,11.06
Greenbelts, Berms, Planting Screens, Fences, etc: Landscaping Standards	●		Zoning-2.26,4D.15,4D.44,11.06, 21B.55
Approved/Suggested Species List	●		Site Plan Application
Prohibited Species List	●		Ch 38-Sec 3,3.5
Plant Material Guidelines: Species, Size, Spacing	●		Zoning-4D.10

SPECIFICATIONS & STANDARDS MANUAL

A Specifications and Standards Manual can be created to organize all relevant information used to guide tree management into a single document. It houses information regarding species, sizing, spacing, planting, removal, replacement and maintenance requirements. Ideally, the manual would be referenced in the ordinance, but would be kept separate. Maintaining the document outside the ordinance allows for easy changes and in depth explanations. Like any city plan, the Specifications and Standards Manual should be revisited every few years to make updates.

SPECIES LISTS

It is best to maintain species lists outside the code of ordinances to more easily respond to changing environmental conditions and new diseases, which may effect urban canopy. This revision can be implemented during the next round of ordinance updates.

RESOURCES

Guidance for creating and updating tree ordinances:

www.releafmichigan.org

www.isa-arbor.com/education/onlineResources/treeOrdinanceGuidelines.aspx

www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/planning-policy/tree-ordinances/

