

Urban Forestry



City of Reno
 Parks, Recreation & Community Services
 (775) 334-2270
www.cityofreno.com



July 2007

A dedicated staff of arborists and a professional urban forester maintain over 22,000 publicly owned trees in City of Reno parks and along public streets. Their work is vital to both public safety and tree preservation.

Reno's Urban Forester and Arborists

- Renew the urban forest by planting trees in neighborhoods and parks.
- Prune trees for health and safety: remove low limbs that obstruct vision and traffic signs and school zones; trim broken limbs that could fall; shape young trees to avoid future problems.



- Remove dead, diseased and hazardous trees.
- Identify and control serious tree insect and disease problems using the least toxic controls.
- Respond to tree-related emergencies 24 hours a day.

Reno's Urban Forest

Our urban forest encompasses trees and vegetation on both public and private property within the city limits.

Reno's Urban Forest Adds Value

Reno's urban trees provide environmental, economic and social benefits.

Trees:

- **Shade homes** and buildings, keeping us cooler and saving energy.
- **Improve air quality**, filtering dust and other pollutants out of the air, absorbing carbon dioxide and giving off oxygen.
- **Add privacy** and help reduce noise and glare.
- **Provide food** and shelter for birds and other wildlife that are often displaced in urban environments.
- **Reduce stress!** Evidence exists that the sight, smell and touch of plants reduces our stress level.



Stewardship of the Urban Forest is Our Legacy to Future Generations

Urban Forestry Works with the Community

- Issues permits, following an inspection request, for any tree-related work proposed within city rights-of-way including tree removal, pruning, planting or for any work within the root zones of public trees.



- Reviews Community Development Plans for landscaping requirements within the city rights-of-way and suggest appropriate tree species.
- Provides educational seminars for those in the tree and landscape industry.
- Provides free technical advice, publications, and a list of local certified arborists to homeowners, local businesses and other organizations.
- Partners with other organizations for maintenance and education.

Tree Work Permits

Title 8, Chapter 32 of the Reno Municipal Code requires that a tree work permit be obtained before removing, pruning, planting or working within the root zone of publicly owned trees. Since the root zone is not visible, property owners are advised to apply for a permit when working with or near a publicly-owned tree. Call 334-2270 with questions or to apply.

Reporting Tree Concerns

Reno's arborists grow concerned about trees that appear to be dead, dying, or diseased, that have large broken limbs, low limbs, or limbs blocking traffic signs, signals or intersection sight lines. The Urban Forestry section of the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department prunes or removes publicly-owned trees according to the type and severity of each problem.



To report concerns about trees causing a public hazard call Reno Direct at 334-INFO.



Trees on Private Property

Property owners have a legal responsibility to maintain their trees so they do not pose a danger to public travel and safety or obstruct traffic signs, signals and the clear sight line at the intersections of roadways. Owners must remove any dead trees or limbs on their property that create such a hazard.



The Reno Urban Forestry Commission

The Reno Urban Forestry Commission (RUFC) is an advisory board of volunteers appointed by the Reno City Council. The RUFC's goal is to create, maintain, and promote a safe, healthy, and attractive urban forest for the enhancement of the natural environment of Reno.



The RUFC advises the City Council in the establishment of priorities relating to the City's Urban Forestry program and provides information to the public regarding Urban Forestry policies, programs and practices. The RUFC also participates in many public outreach and educational events and maintains a tree donation account with non-tax dollars to help fund activities and projects.

For additional information about the RUFC and their events, or to discover resources about trees, visit www.cityofreno.com.