

Kerns Street Tree Inventory and Tree Plan

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Street Tree Inventory Findings

Why Street Trees?

Street trees are a valuable asset to the community. Beyond aesthetic benefits, street trees improve air and water quality, provide shade, increase property value, and contribute to the safety and livability of the neighborhood.

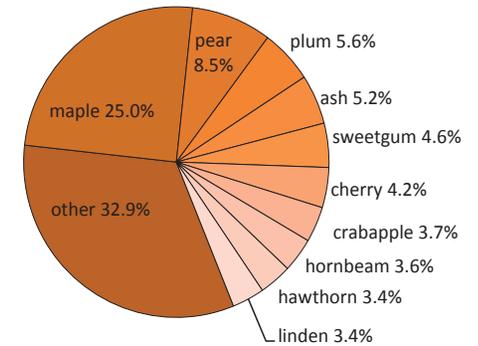
Kerns Tree Inventory and Tree Plan

In 2014, the Kerns Tree Team worked with PP&R Urban Forestry to organize volunteers and conduct a street tree inventory. Over the course of three work days, 40 volunteers contributed 200 hours collecting data on tree species, size, tree condition, and site characteristics for all 3,140 street trees in the neighborhood.

After analyzing the results, the Kerns Tree Team created a vision statement, set goals, created objectives, and made property owner recommendations designed to improve the health of the community's urban forest. The result is the Kerns Tree Plan, which will guide the team's stewardship activities in future years.



Most Common Street Trees in Kerns



Inventory Findings

- Kerns has 3,140 trees of 91 types.
- Kerns' street tree population is dominated by maple, pear, and plum and does not meet the recommended species diversity guidelines.
- Young trees are under-represented in Kerns.
- Only 25% of street trees are large form varieties, and 174 large spaces are available for planting.
- More than half of the trees in poor condition are in the Rosaceae family and more than 55% of hawthorns are in poor condition.
- Large sites represent only about a quarter of planting spaces. In some areas, planting all available spaces may not be enough to equitably distribute canopy.
- 63% of all street tree planting spaces are currently stocked with trees.
- The replacement cost of the street tree population is valued at \$14.4 million.
- Kerns' street trees provide \$401,000 annually in environmental services and aesthetic benefits.

Kerns Tree Plan

VISION STATEMENT

The Kerns Tree Team works to improve the quality, diversity and quantity of the Kerns tree canopy as well as promote tree education.

GOALS

1. Create a Tree Team.
2. Increase species diversity of trees.
3. Increase canopy by planting more trees. Include large form trees.
4. Improve quality of canopy by replacing dead and poor condition trees.
5. Educate neighbors, both residential and business, about the value of trees to our neighborhood.
6. Maintain current canopy through pruning and inspection.

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Go to a KNA meeting, present inventory findings, suggest a tree board person, ask if anyone wants workshops.
2. Work with Heather to add tree info website, Facebook and NextDoor.
3. Create email.
4. Follow up with owners of poor and dead trees.
5. Follow up with available space addresses with up to 4 tree spaces.
6. Contact new homeowners.
7. Decide on meeting times, dates and locations.
8. Decide long term objectives.
9. Possible workshops for middle school students.

LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Join the Tree Team to help set and achieve long term objectives!

How you can help

Join the Kerns Tree Team!

Take a leadership role and help us achieve our goals. Join the team to help plan tree events, meet other neighbors interested in tree issues, and advocate for tree planting and maintenance in Kerns.

For more information, contact PP&R Urban Forestry at trees@portlandoregon.gov.

Learn how to maintain your street trees

Trees need occasional pruning to remove dead wood, provide clearance for sidewalks and streets, and to promote good form. Not sure how to prune? Contact your Tree Team for guidance and PP&R Urban Forestry for your free permit.

Plant the right tree in the right place

Consult with a Tree Team member for guidance on choosing the right tree for your space and PP&R Urban Forestry for obtaining your free permit.

Replace poor condition and dead trees

Keep the urban forest growing by replacing dead trees with healthy, young trees. Contact the Tree Team for help or questions.

Water young trees

During the first two years after planting, water is critical to the survival of your tree. A slow, deep watering of 15-20 gallons per week during dry spring and summer months is better than frequent light watering.

Contacts

Kerns Tree Team

kerns.tree.team@gmail.com

Kerns Neighborhood Association

kernspdx.org

General meetings are at 6 pm, third Wednesdays of the month (except in August or December) at Pacific Crest Community School, 116 NE 29th Ave.

Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry

www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/trees

503-823-TREE

Friends of Trees

www.friendsoftrees.org

503-282-8846

Download the complete map and report

www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/treeinventory



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



www.PortlandParks.org
Mayor Charlie Hales
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