



# **URBAN FORESTRY**

**Title 11 Fund Report**

**Fiscal Year 2019-2020**



**PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION** <sup>SM</sup>

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



*Volunteers measure trees and collect data during Park Tree Inventory.*



**PORTLANDPARKS.ORG**

Commissioner Amanda Fritz | Director Adena Long

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# REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

as of June 30, 2020

	BEGINNING BALANCE FY 18/19	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	END BALANCE
Tree Planting and Preservation Fund	3,504,932	905,497	316,825	4,093,605
Urban Forestry Fund	968,183	87,361	59,598	995,946
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,473,115</b>	<b>992,858</b>	<b>376,423</b>	<b>5,089,551</b>

*A Yard Tree Giveaway recipient selects her new trees.*



## 11.15.010 TREE PLANTING AND PRESERVATION FUND

[portlandoregon.gov/citycode/article/734790](http://portlandoregon.gov/citycode/article/734790)

The Tree Planting and Preservation Fund enables the City Forester to mitigate for lost canopy as a result of unmet tree preservation or planting standards. Fund contributions come from several sources:

- Payment made in lieu of tree replacement as part of a tree permit issued as stated in Chapter 11.40;
- Payment made in lieu of preservation or planting where site or street characteristics or construction requirements make it infeasible to meet the requirements of Chapter 11.50;
- Payment of restoration fees for enforcement actions for private Trees; and
- Voluntary contributions.

Title 11 outlines the following allowable uses for the Tree Planting and Preservation Fund:

- Planting trees on public or private property, including streets. Planting trees includes the cost of materials and labor necessary to install and establish a tree for a five-year period;
- Purchasing conservation easements for the perpetual retention of trees and tree canopy. Such conservation easements shall allow the City to replace trees that are removed when they die or become dangerous; and
- Acquiring land to permanently protect existing trees or groves.

*Volunteers learn to plant trees at Ventura Park in East Portland.*



# TREE PLANTING AND PRESERVATION FUND

## Expenditure Highlights

### TREES PLANTED

PROGRAM	NUMBER OF TREES
Learning Landscapes	94
Parks, Developed	48
Parks, Natural Areas	4,484
Yard Tree Giveaway	760
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,386</b>

#### Learning Landscapes, 94

PP&R partnered with volunteers and organizations to plant trees at schools and in community spaces. Students, teachers, and community members worked together to select sites and species. On planting day, students and volunteers gathered to dig holes, plant, water, and name their trees. Youth, adult volunteers, and contractors planted trees at Oliver Lent Elementary School, Sitton Elementary School, and the Roseway Park Blocks. Partners included Depave, Portland Public Schools, and the Roseway Tree Team.



*Kindergarten students helped plant this douglas-fir tree at Sitton Elementary in North Portland.*

### **Parks, Natural Areas, 4,484**

Native trees are planted as part of larger natural area restoration efforts in partnership with many PP&R friends groups. Sites included Baltimore Woods, Columbia Children's Arboretum, Council Crest Park, Fanno Creek Natural Area, Forest Park, Gabriel Park, George Himes Park, Kelley Point Park, Kelly Butte Natural Area, Madrona Park, Marquam Nature Park, Marshall Park, Mt. Tabor Park, Oaks Bottom Park, Powell Butte, Rosemont Bluff, Terwilliger Parkway, Wahoo Creek, Whitaker Ponds, Willamette Park, and Woods Memorial Natural Area.

### **Parks, Developed, 48**

At developed parks, new sites for trees were selected to increase tree canopy and enhance recreation experiences, with a focus on large form, evergreen, and native trees. Sites included East Delta Park, East Holladay Park, Peninsula Park, Sacajawea Park, and Ventura Park.

### **Yard Tree Giveaway, 760**

PP&R offered free yard trees for Portland residents at events in East and North Portland. Residents received up to two trees at events held in Cathedral Park, Centennial, and Hazelwood, which are low-income and low-canopy neighborhoods. Fifteen different species were offered with a focus on large-form, evergreen, and native trees. In addition to trees, participants received instruction on planting and care, a watering bucket, and mulch. PP&R is currently conducting a long-term monitoring effort to determine the success, survival rate, and health of free yard trees.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE EXPENDITURES**

- Tree planting expenditures are guided by the citywide tree planting strategy, *Growing a More Equitable Urban Forest*. Plantings are focused in low income, low canopy areas of Portland where the need is greatest. [portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/705823](http://portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/705823)
- FY21 expenditures will include an expansion of the Yard Tree Giveaway and development of a right-of-way planting program, resulting in increased spending and an 900 additional trees planted.
- PP&R Urban Forest anticipates annual expenses from the Tree Planting & Preservation Fund will increase to an average of around \$900,000 over the next five years. Actual expenses will be contingent on sustainable fund revenue.

## 11.15.020 URBAN FORESTRY FUND

[portlandoregon.gov/citycode/article/514534](http://portlandoregon.gov/citycode/article/514534)

Restoration fees, civil penalties, or civil remedies resulting from City or street tree enforcement actions are paid into the Urban Forestry Fund. The purpose of the fund is to enhance the urban forest through the planting of street or City trees, and to increase public awareness of trees, tree care, and the values of the urban forest.

Title 11 outlines the following allowable uses for the Urban Forestry Fund:

- To replace, establish, and maintain street or City trees illegally removed or damaged;
- To plant, establish and maintain street or City trees where, in the judgment of the Forester, they will enhance the values of the Urban Forest;
- To provide education, outreach, and technical assistance to the community; and
- Other forestry-related actions or programs, as determined by the City Forester.



*Community members celebrated Arbor Day by planting trees in East Holladay Park.*

# Expenditure Highlights

## **PARK TREE INVENTORY**

Funds supported the Tree Inventory Project, which has twin goals of providing data to support more-informed management of Portland's public trees while educating the public about the benefits of these public assets. In summer 2019, staff and volunteers completed the inventory of over 25,000 trees in developed parks. To date, more than 1,800 volunteers have given over 22,000 hours to this community science project.

### **Data collected on park trees will be used to:**

- Assess the equity of environmental services provided Portland's park trees, and identify new areas for planting on PP&R properties.
- Connect the public to their parks, providing open data downloads for research and analysis, as well as interactive web maps and guided tree walks.
- Provide an overview Portland's park trees, including species diversity, functional type, size, age, and condition. This information will inform future parks tree plantings, ensuring long-term survival and contributing to a climate-resilient forest by:
  - Building species diversity to reduce the threat of catastrophic pests or diseases;
  - Building functional diversity, to maximize the environmental and public health benefits that evergreens, natives, and large form trees provide; and
  - Meeting goals for maintaining and expanding canopy cover in parks, especially in low-income and low-canopy areas of the city.
- Create maps of park trees accessible to all PP&R work groups, facilitating maintenance, removal, and planting requests, as well as providing key information for capital development and planning.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE EXPENDITURES**

- FY21 expenditures will include an expansion of the Youth Conservation Crew Tree Crew. The Tree Crew employs youth to develop green job skills and care for street and park trees.
- FY21 funds will be used to support tree maintenance and other forestry programs. Funds will compensate for reduced funding from the General Fund and tree permit revenue loss due to COVID-19, in order to maintain current Urban Forestry service levels.



*Students get hands-on tree planting experience at Sitton Elementary School.*



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