

HAILEY TREE COMMITTEE

Urban Forestry Plan | 2012-2015

The Hailey Tree Committee will be responsible for ensuring the maintenance of and adherence to this plan.

The Vision for the Hailey Community Forest

By the year 2025 Hailey will have a well maintained community forest that will provide aesthetic beauty to the city to soften the linearity of its structures, and a sense of place and belonging by ensuring landmarks for the future. The forest will have a diverse species population with no one species comprising more than 15% of the population, species appropriate for the region, a good mix of age and class sizes, and low-maintenance trees to reduce operating costs. The trees that make up the urban forest will be predominantly medium-sized trees, and be strong-wooded. The citizens of Hailey will help reduce labor costs by volunteering to inventory, plant and maintain trees, be educated on tree-related issues by attending educational sessions, and motivated to maintain adequate tree canopy cover by planting appropriate trees on their property and engaging professional arborists for their care and maintenance. Hailey will understand the importance of having healthy trees in the city in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices (BMP's) and industry standards relative to municipal arboricultural standards, and provide necessary funding to ensure the sustainability of the community forest.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the City of Hailey Tree Committee is to create, draft and recommend a community forestry plan concerning selection, planting, maintenance, and removal (when necessary and under the professional recommendation of an ISA certified arborist) of trees, shrubs, and other plants in the city to ensure that the citizens of Hailey will continue to benefit from a healthy, diverse and growing community forest.

Vision Statement

The Vision of the City of Hailey Tree Committee is to maintain the health of the existing public trees in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices (BMP's) and industry standards relative to municipal arboricultural standards while providing educational materials, public outreach, and protection of public health and safety to the citizens of Hailey to increase the awareness of the value of maintaining private trees.

Needs established by the Hailey Tree Committee to realize this vision

1. Funding
2. Tree inventory and inventory maintenance in partnership with the City of Ketchum

3. Tree maintenance policy
4. Community education and volunteerism
5. Ongoing communication and collaboration with elected and appointed officials, related City boards and commissions, and City staff

Successes since inception of Hailey Tree Ordinance and Tree Committee in 2008

- Tree Ordinance adopted 2008
- Adopted Bylaws 2008
- Annual Arbor Day celebrations since 2008
- Undertook large risk mitigation effort in partnership with Idaho Power and local contractors
- Established criteria for contractors working on public trees
- GIS-based tree inventory started in 2009 using TreeWorks software and Community Forestry Consultants of Spokane WA
- Interlocal Agreement adopted by Resolution with City of Ketchum regarding cost sharing for community forestry management
- Tree City USA award in 2009, Growth Award in 2010
- Idaho Transportation Community Transportation Enhancement Grant awarded in 2010 for design, development and construction of Fox Demonstration Garden (Hailey was granted maximum award amount of \$30,000)
- Public outreach efforts including publication of Tree Tips in *Our Town* newsletter, etc.

Goals to complete in FY2012

1. Complete Tree Selection, Planting, and Maintenance Guide
2. Work with City staff to keep website up to date with current educational and operations information
3. Plan and host, in partnership with Hailey Parks & Lands Board and other stakeholders such as the Hailey Arts Commission, Arbor Day celebration that will be signature spring event for entire community
4. Establish spring training for City staff in partnership with City of Ketchum
5. Establish regular public outreach through press releases and publications in *Our Town*
6. Establish Annual Work Plan per Tree City USA (TCUSA) requirements with goal of written narrative regarding planting, removing, and maintaining City trees which will act as a guide for staff
7. In partnership with City of Ketchum, update existing TreeWorks inventory and train staff and volunteers with goal of 75% completion of inventory
8. Strategically attend Hailey Parks & Lands Board meetings with goal of greater understanding of collaboration between two entities to achieve common objectives; ask HP&LB to attend HTC meetings for same reason
9. Identify risk trees and determine criteria for mitigation and replacement
10. Continue to work with City staff and Planning & Zoning Commission regarding recommendations for the approval of landscape plans

11. Update emergency response tree care contractor's list annually, and ensure that all department heads have a copy of that list

Goals to complete in FY2013

1. Bring Community Forestry Consultants back for TreeWorks updates and training with goal of 100% completion of inventory
2. Using TreeWorks, establish routine maintenance schedules and work orders for pruning, planting, pest and disease mitigation, and removal when necessary and under the professional recommendation of an ISA certified arborist
3. Establish line item funding for community forest maintenance
4. Identify staff member who will join International Society of Arboriculture as a professional member with the goal of further training and potential certification
5. Establish training budget for staff to attend professional training such as Idaho Horticulture Expo
6. Establish annual "State of the Forest" update for City Council

Goals to complete in FY2014

1. Identify City staff member to train and certify as International Society of Arboriculture arborist or other identified level of certification which benefits the City of Hailey and its citizens
2. Ensure that contracted tree care companies follow current safety standards and current standards that maintain the health and longevity of the tree
3. Develop a standardized tree planting policy and ensure that it is consistently followed

Goals to complete in FY2015

1. Re-inventory the public streets to identify and prioritize adequate sites for tree plantings
2. Re-inventory the public parks in partnership with HP&LB, to identify and prioritize adequate sites for tree plantings
3. Re-inventory public trees and/or urban tree canopy every five years
4. Continue to ensure adequate funding for the Urban Forestry Plan