



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
www.ci.longview.wa.us

Agenda

City Council

*Mayor Spencer Boudreau
Mayor Pro Tem Kalei LaFave
Council Member Ruth Kendall
Council Member Angie Wean
Council Member MaryAlice Wallis
Council Member Keith Young
Council Member Erik Halvorson*

Thursday, October 2, 2025

6:00 PM

2nd Floor, City Hall

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with RCW Chapter 42.30, that the City Council of the City of Longview, Washington, will conduct a special meeting in the Longview City Hall Council Chamber, 1525 Broadway, Longview, on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 6 p.m. The topics of discussion follow. Final disposition shall be taken on no other matter.

The City Hall is accessible for persons with disabilities. Special equipment to assist the hearing impaired is also available. Please contact the City Executive Office at 360.442.5004 at least 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend the meeting.

If you are participating virtually, you may submit written comments to the City Clerk's Office with the subject line "Public Comment for Disbursement to City Council."

Virtual attendees may comment verbally during public hearings only and is only permitted for registered attendees. To participate, please contact the Clerk's Office in advance. Use the "raise hand" feature during the hearing, and the Clerk will unmute participants in the order received. If calling in by phone, dial star - 9 to raise your hand.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82394132374>

Telephone options (dial any of the following numbers):

1-253-215-8782 or 1-346-248-7799 or 1-408-638-0968 or 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 823 9413 2374

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. FLAG SALUTE
3. ROLL CALL
4. WORKSHOP

25-00774 URBAN FOREST DISEASE TREATMENT (APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR)

5. ADJOURNMENT

*** Any invocation that may be offered at the Council meeting shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen, to and for the benefit of the Council. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Council, and the Council does not endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker.**

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

NEXT SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOPS:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025 – 6:00 P.M. – AD VALOREM TAX & ALLOCATION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025 - 6:00 P.M. - ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA (LOBBYIST PRESENT)

Preserving Our Urban Forest: Disease Treatment Plan

October 2, 2025
Longview Parks and Recreation
Urban Forestry Division



**PARKS &
RECREATION**
CITY OF LONGVIEW

Tonight's Agenda



Purpose &
Overview



Urban Forest
Threats



Why It Matters



Options for
Treatment &
Removal

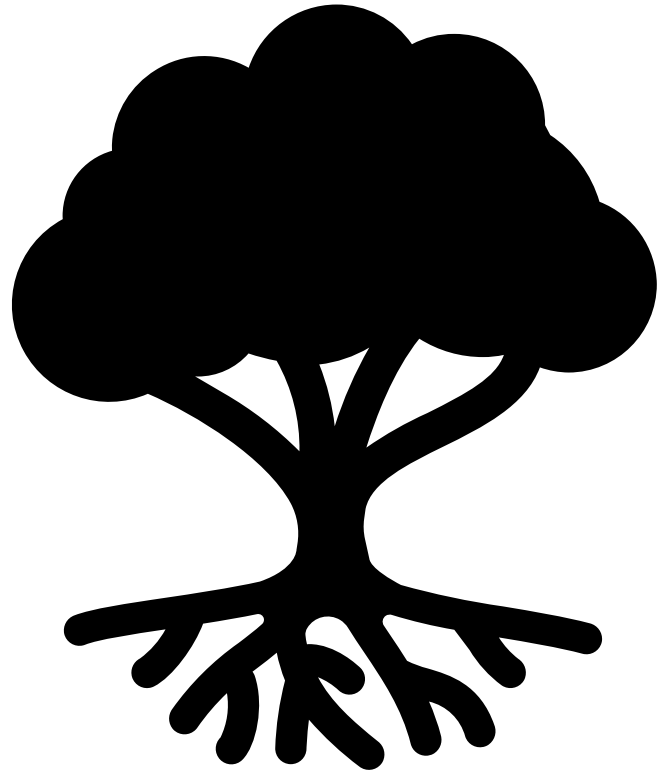


Funding
Pathways



Recommendation
& Next Steps

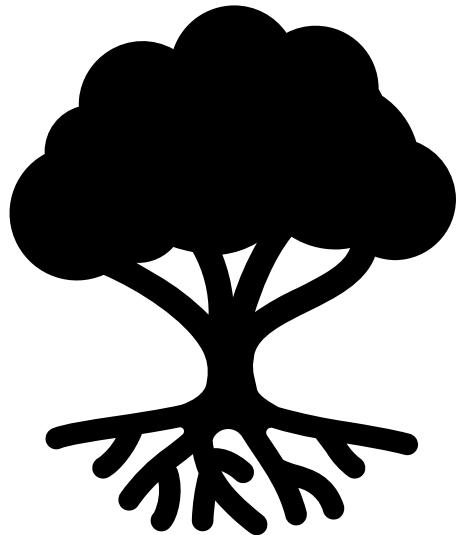




What & Who is Urban Forestry

- Division founded in early 1960s
- Funded through General Fund until 2014, now Stormwater funded
- UF cares for ~13,000 trees
 - ~10,500 Street Trees & 2,500 Park Trees
 - ~396 Different Tree Species
- 6 Full-Time, 2 Part-Time, & Summer Seasonals
- 1984 - Designated Tree City USA
- 2020 - Designated Tree City of the World

Threats to Our Urban Forest – Trees in Danger

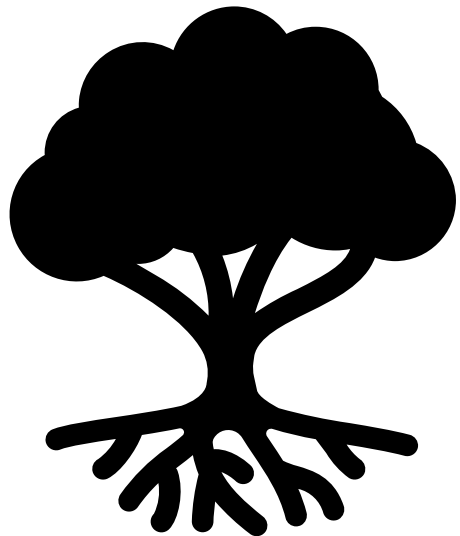


Elm Trees: 793

Ash Trees: 1108

Total: ~1900 Trees; 14% of Urban Forest

Threats to Our Urban Forest – Beetles!



Dutch Elm Disease (DED):

Deadly fungal infection spread by elm bark beetles. Blocks water flow, causing leaves to wilt and trees to die.

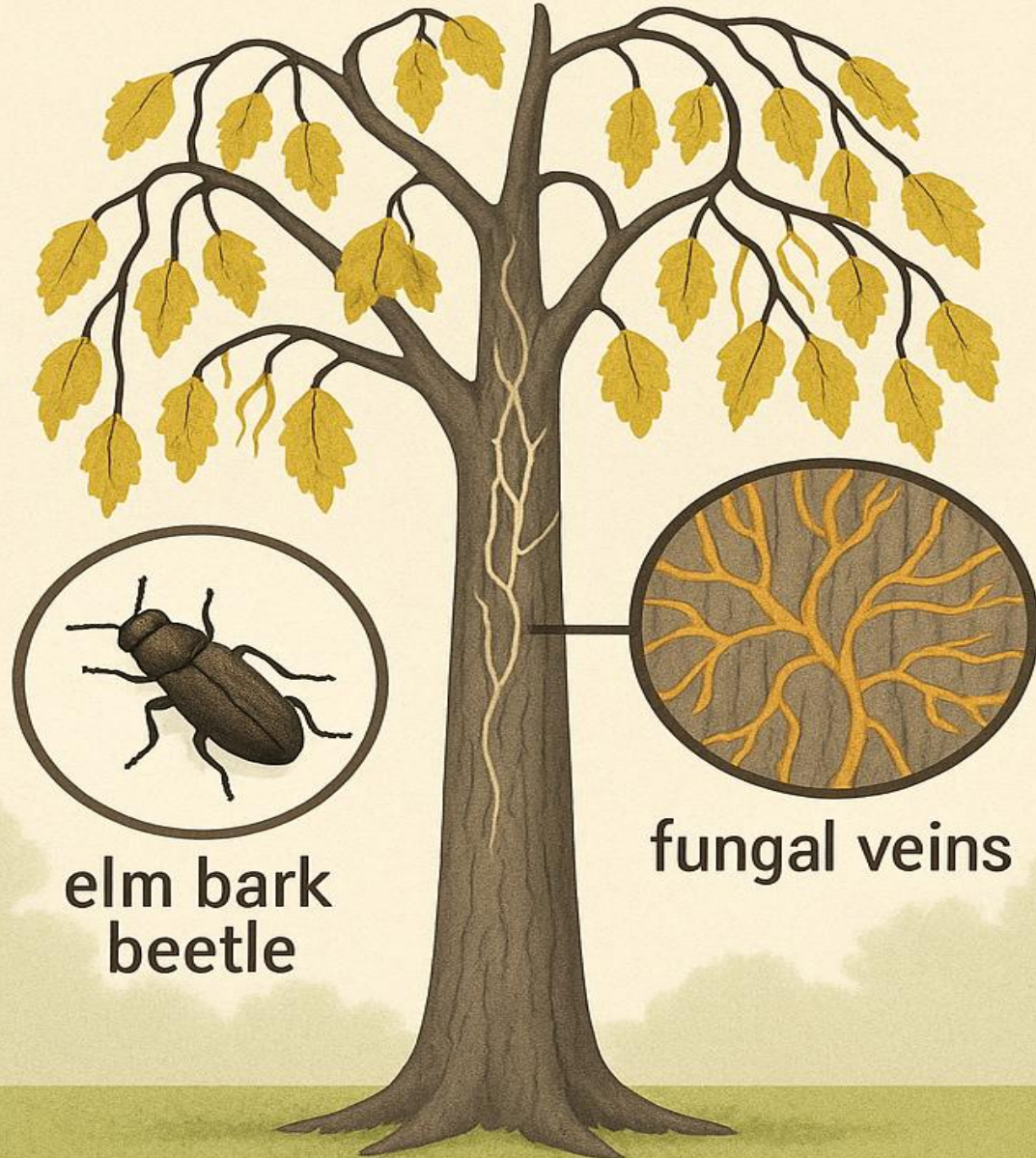
- [Identifying DED](#) – Video Link

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB):

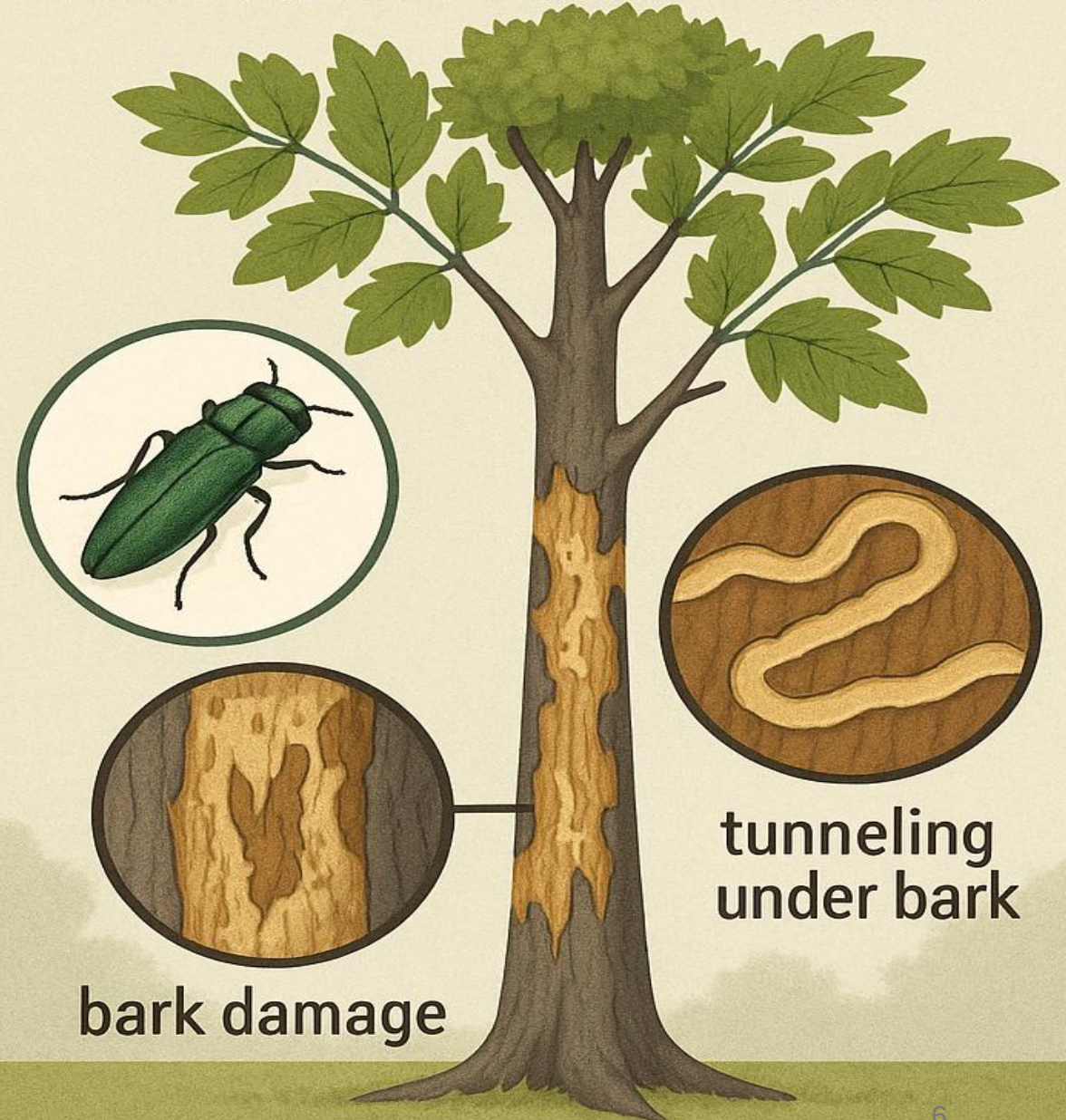
Invasive beetle that tunnels under bark, cutting off water and nutrients, eventually killing ash trees.

- [Identifying EAB](#) – Video Link

DUTCH ELM DISEASE



EMERALD ASH BORER



How To Spot a DED Infected Tree:

Elms:

- Flagging Leaves
- Plugged Xylem
- Root Grafting
- Bark Beetle Galleries



How To Spot an EAB Infected Tree:

Ash:

- D Shaped Holes
- Bark Scar / S-Shaped Galleries
- Crown Dieback
- Abnormal Branch Shoots

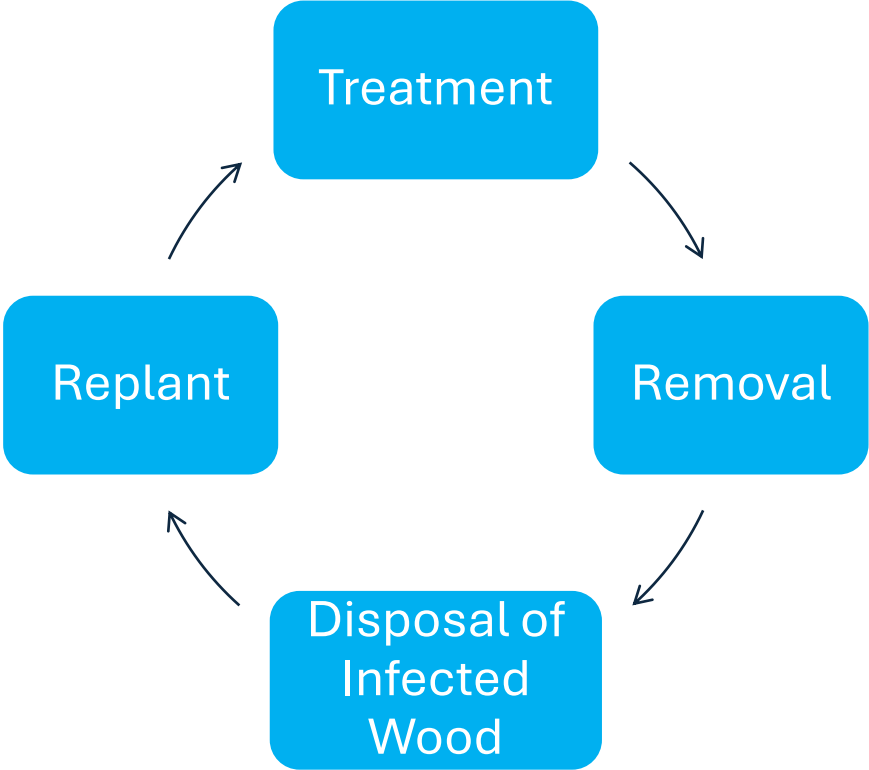


How Beetles Kill Trees

Ultimately, each beetle infects the tree in different ways, but the result is the same: the **tree loses its ability to transport water**, leading to its gradual decline and death.

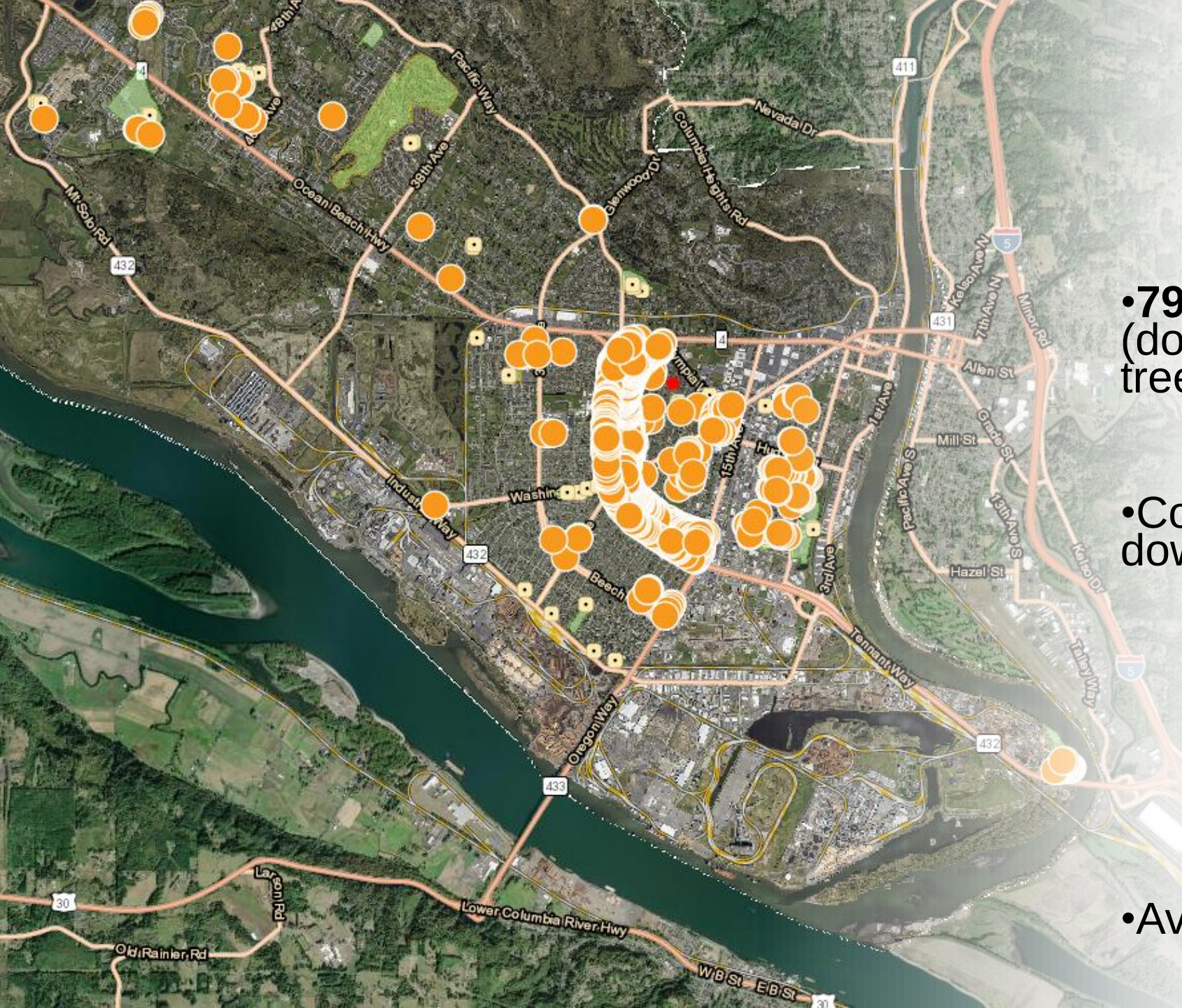


How do we Protect our Urban Forest?



Current Elm Inventory

- **793 Elm trees** citywide (does not include private trees)
 - 610 targeted for treatment (shown below)
- Concentrated Areas broke down by location:
 - Nichols (Non-Lake side): 90
 - Around the Lake: 397
 - Kessler (Non-Lake side): 96
 - R.A. Long Park: 23
 - Library: 4
- Average DBH 36"



Current Ash Inventory

- **1108 total Ash trees** citywide (does not include private trees)
- Concentrated Areas broke down by location:
 - Beech Street: ~30
 - Roy Morse Park: 47
 - Lake Sacajawea: 52
 - Mint Farm: 160
- Average DBH: 10"-12"

"Ash trees are younger and smaller, but concentrated in vulnerable clusters."

Why Acting Now Matters



DED & EAB threatens a **significant portion** of our historic tree canopy.



Elm trees add value to our parks, neighborhoods, and historic identity.

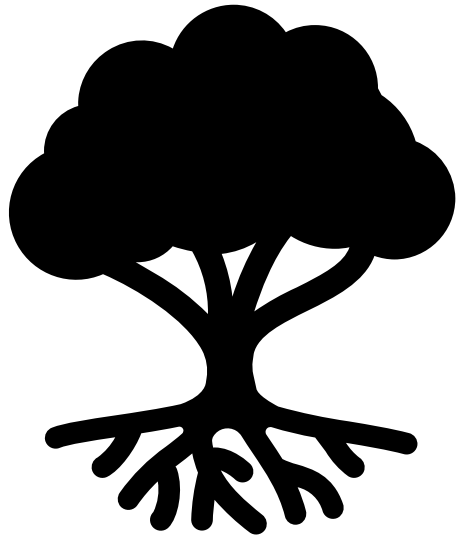


Once infected, trees must be removed within 2-5 years, **costing more** in the long run and impacting our landscape legacy.



Combined, these diseases affect ~1900 trees in our Urban Forest (~14% of our trees).

Strategic Approach



Dutch Elm Disease (DED)

- 2023 – First DED Tree identified in Longview
- 2-year treatment cycle
- Geographically phased approach
- Replace 20–25 trees/year (~40 years)
- Balance proactive and reactive replacement

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

- 2-year treatment cycle (largest Ash trees only)
- Replace 40–50 trees/year
- Prioritize Green & White Ash removals
- No known cases in Cowlitz County yet; presence in Portland suggests arrival in 1.5 - 3 years



Treatment Plan Options: Overview

Option A: Internal	Option B: Contracted
<i>Based on the treatment of ~ 300 trees</i>	
Primary costs: FTE Salary & Supplies	Primary Costs: Contracted Labor & Supplies
Yearly Cost: ~\$127,500	Yearly Cost: ~\$144,500

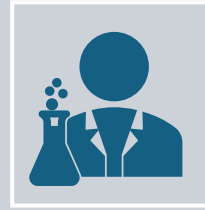
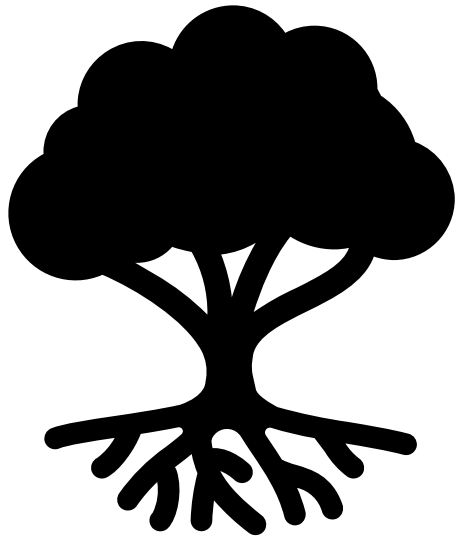


Treatment Plan

Option A: Internal

- **Product Cost:** ~\$12,500
- **Equipment needs:** 5 macro-injection systems = ~\$5,000
- **Staffing:** 1 COL *NEW* FTE = Up to \$110,000; ~200
- **Total:** \$127,500 per year

Treatment Plan Option B: Contracted



Same chemical plan
as Option A, done
by outside
contractor:

Chemical Cost:
~\$12,500

Equipment
Cost:~\$5,000

Contracted
Yearly:
\$127,000



Total Costs Year One: **\$144,500**



Treatment Plan Option Summary

Option A: Internal - Yearly	Option B: Contracted - Yearly
Chemical Cost: \$12,500	Chemical Cost: \$12,500
NEW FTE: \$110,000	Contractor Labor: \$127,000
Equipment: \$5,000	Equipment: \$5,000
Total: \$127,500	Total: \$144,500
Cost over 10 Years: \$1,275,000	Cost over 10 Years: \$1,445,000

Removal & Replacement Plan Options: Overview

Option A: Internal	Option B: Contracted
<i>Based on the removal of 25 Elm and 40 Ash trees.</i>	
Primary Costs: Purchase of Equipment	Primary Costs: Contracted Labor
Yearly Cost: ~\$343,000	Yearly Cost: ~\$585,000

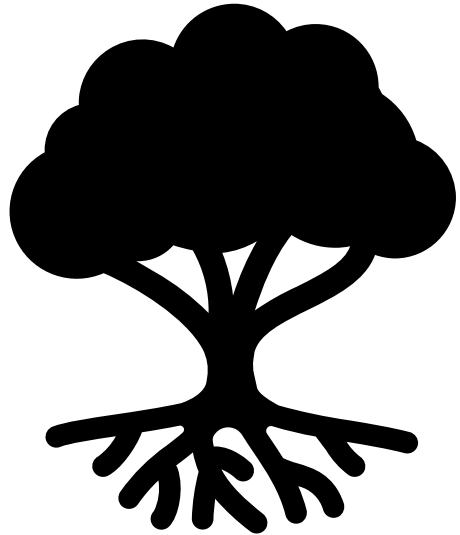
Tree Removal & Replacement

Option A: Internal

- [Sennebogen 728E Tree Care Handler](#) – \$920,000 (15-yr life)
- **Large Diameter Chipper** – \$361,000 ([Bandit 2090](#)) (15-yr life)
- **Skid Steer** - \$150,000 (10-yr life)
- **Tree Replacement Budget Increase** – \$10,000
- **Depreciation:** \$354,000, delayed until year 6 of ownership.



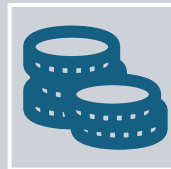
Tree Removal & Replacement Option B: Contracted



Contract Labor: ~\$575,000



Includes removal of 25 Elm and 40 Ash trees yearly



Replacement Tree Budget Increase: \$10,000

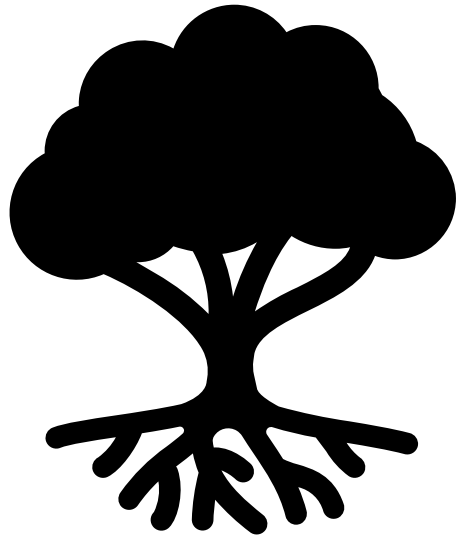
Removal & Replacement Plan: Option Summary

Option A: Internal	Option B: Contracted
Equipment: \$333,000 (yearly for 5 years)	Contractor Labor: \$575,000 (yearly)
Vehicle Depreciation (starting year 6): \$354,000	Replacement Tree Budget Increase: \$10,000
Replacement Tree Budget Increase: \$10,000	Yearly Total: \$585,000
Yearly 1-5 Total: \$343,000	
Yearly 6-10 Total: \$364,000	
Total Cost over 10 Years: \$3,535,000	Cost over 10 Years: \$5,850,000

Treatment + Removal & Replacement Plan Options Summary

Option A: Internal	Option B: Contracted
Treatment: \$127,500	Treatment: \$144,500
Removal & Replacement: ~\$343,000	Removal & Replacement: \$585,000
Yearly Cost: ~\$470,500	Yearly Cost: \$729,500
Total Cost over 10 Years: ~\$4,765,000	Cost over 10 Years: \$7,295,000

Options for Funding & Implementation



Loan Options

- Private Financing (ex. US Bank)
or
- Vendor Financing



Loan Payment Options

- Stormwater Rate Increase (~\$1.16 per month)
or
- General Fund (~\$470,500 yearly)

Our Ask: A Forward- Thinking, Preservation- Focused Plan

Recommended Action

- Direction to bring back a formalized plan for funding of preferred Treatment and Removal Options, with discussed preference for funding.

