

2016 Year End Report

Urban Forestry

The year started out cleaning up the results of the December 2015 storm damaged. We finished the final cleanup, stump grinding and brush grinding in mid-March. The man hours and equipment use pretty much ruined the budget for the year.

Celebrated Arbor Day with 2 events, the first was replacement of a Washington State tree that was damaged in the storm at Lake Sacajawea. The second event was at an elementary school which won a contest run by the Recreation Department.

We sprayed fruit trees again this year, which occurred earlier than normal due to the early warm weather.

The warm weather also started the hand watering of trees earlier than normal, the water truck was a blessing and we also handed out 35 Gator bags to residents and merchants to assist with new planting establishment.

The summer months consisted of trimming in preparation for the Go 4th celebration and requests from property owners.

At the end of June Martin Pietsch retired from the City and took with him 35 years of tree care experience.

In late summer the aphid complaints increased and a few residents and business owners attended meeting to express their displeasure.

We also had a large number of requests to remove tent caterpillar webs from trees in late summer.

Two Urban Forestry presentations were given to separate Rotary clubs in the last quarter of the year.

We also participated in a presentation to the Community Tree Management Institute class to discuss the pros and cons to contract tree care versus in house tree care.

Trees were ordered and delivered in October for the fall planting. All were installed along with many from the nursery that were large enough to put into the street and park system. 233 trees were planted in 2016.

Fall leaf cleanup used 1343 man hours. Many loads of leaves were delivered to residents for garden use and composting.

A total of 2924 trees were pruned in 2016.

General Parks

Along with Urban Forestry much of the General Parks labor in the first quarter of the year was spent on storm damage repair from the previous December storm. There were many ruts, bare spots, and other Park damage to be repaired after the cleanup was complete.

We completed spring aeration, edging and weed whipping of the entire City prior to the first major growth of the turf occurred.

The mowing route started earlier than ever in 2016. A full mow crew was in action by the first week in March.

We completed moss and pre-emergent weed control application in early spring.

Complete bark dusting and path rock renovation at Asian island.

Completed another year of softball field preparation for leagues and tournaments

Preparation and set up for July 4th started in late May.

Pressure washing of playgrounds, trash cans, benches and picnic tables was completed prior to increased park use.

Demo and refurbish of RA Long center plaza area completed prior to Squirrel fest

Hanging baskets were installed and irrigation supplied to them along Commerce and Hemlock walk.

Tree lighting constructed and installed along Commerce

Fall tree planting and leaf clean up

Preparation set up take down and storage of Christmas lighting done again this year

Had our first ever Disc golf tournament

Vandalism labor costs for the year were \$26758

City Council Strategic Initiatives Completed in 2016

Parks Comprehensive plan updated and completed
Donation policy updated
Neighborhood Park Grants offered, applied for and awarded
Continued Tree City USA accreditation
Continued the aphid complaint discussion for future actions
Playground replacement schedule
Rest Room replacement and retrofit schedule

Performance measures for efficiency and effectiveness from Program Budget Worksheet

Holiday lighting-stayed within target hours
Festivals and events-over by 52 hours
Vandalism hours-under target by 73 hours
Wildlife control-under target by 4 hours
Infrastructure maintenance-under by 214 hours
Path maintenance-under by 43 hours
Softball field preparation-under by 356 hours
Mowing hours-under by 190 hours
Weed control-under by 31 hours
Applicators on staff-met goal of 2
Shrub beds maintained-2 under goal
Restroom clean 7 day schedule-met goal exact
Restroom cleaning 4 day schedule-met goal exact
Restroom cleaning hours-66 hours under target
Restroom vandalism hours-27 hours from target
Trash and mutt mitt dispensers' serviced-met goal exact
Acres under automated irrigation-met target
Sites irrigated-met target
Lake Sacajawea fish stocking-not done due to DNR testing
Lake flushing days-under due to Fisher Lane renovation
Invasive species control-over target by 35 hours
Aquatic applicator on staff-met target
Sites hand watered-met target
Sites watered with truck-met target

2017 General Parks and Urban Forestry Goals

Improve safety and sense of security for park users

- Police and contract security

- Barrier free access to park facilities

- Lighting and security cameras

- Shrub and tree pruning to allow visibility

Continue to expand staff and their development/advancement to maintain additional areas of responsibilities

Instill Community Pride and Ownership

- Public Awareness

- Diversity Involvement

- Increase Volunteerism

Become a recognized leader in the Community

Find and secure other Funding Sources

- Grants

- Donations