

## ARBOR DAY AND NEVADA SHADE TREE WEEK

Twice a year, Nevada celebrates the many services provided by trees, on Arbor Day, and during the Nevada Shade Tree week. On each occasion, the governor issues a proclamation that recognizes the importance of tree planting, and the benefits and services trees provide. If you are interested in getting involved in either event, contact the Urban and Community Forestry program coordinator.



## URBAN FORESTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

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## NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY



## URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM

### Mission

Provide technical and financial assistance to Nevada's communities to grow, manage, and conserve urban forest resources for multiple social, ecological, and economic benefits.

### URBAN FORESTRY

Urban forestry is the planning, establishment, protection, and management of trees and associated plants, individually, in small groups, or under forest conditions within cities, their suburbs, and towns. The process integrates the economic, environmental, political, and social values of the community to develop a comprehensive management plan for the urban forest with the ultimate goal of enhancing residents' quality of life.



## TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Division's Urban and Community Forestry Program provides educational, technical and financial assistance to Nevada communities to improve tree care in urban environments. The program supports International Society of Arboriculture-approved continuing education to certified arborists, covering topics such as proper pruning practices, tree risk assessment, safety, tree identification, etc. The program also supports arborist education for Spanish speaking green industry professionals throughout the state. Program staff give regular presentations to school and civic groups on a host of urban tree-related topics.

During recent years, the program has focused on providing assistance to Nevada municipalities for developing comprehensive urban forest management plans, based on tree inventories. Recently completed urban tree inventories offer the most complete picture of Nevada's urban forests ever, and present a unique opportunity for municipalities to improve tree care. These inventories give valuable information on tree canopy makeup, age and size classes, and management priorities. Using the USDA Forest Service-developed program, iTree, municipalities can use inventory data to place a monetary value on the services provided by trees each year. For example, urban trees in Reno provide over \$12 million in environmental services to city residents and visitors.



## URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM

As funding becomes available, the Urban and Community Forestry program provides Nevada communities with grants for a variety of activities, from education for green industry professionals, to urban tree inventories, management, and tree care. If you are interested in applying for a grant related to urban forestry, please contact the Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator. Forestry Division staff can assist in developing successful grants applications. All grants are provided by pass-through funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, and are reviewed by the Nevada Shade Tree Council.

### TREE CITY USA



Current Tree City USA Communities in Nevada

Tree City USA is a national program that recognizes the efforts municipalities make in caring for urban trees that provide a host of benefits such as: shade, reduced wind speeds and dust, as well as beauty. Qualifying communities certify on an annual basis that they meet specific criteria for tree care excellence. Tree City USA standards that must be met are: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. The Urban and Community Forestry Program promotes the Tree City USA program in Nevada, and approves municipal applications for status.



### NEVADA BIG TREE PROGRAM

The Nevada Big Tree Program recognizes the largest example of each tree species in the state, and maintains a register of state champions. Currently, there are 264 species on the register, and new champion trees are added every year. Trees are measured by standardized methods, developed by American Forests, the organization that recognizes national champions. Nevada currently has one National Champion, a Bristlecone Pine in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest which is 38 feet in circumference! You can see the updated Nevada Register of Big Trees on the Nevada Division of Forestry, Urban and Community Forestry Program website. If you would like to nominate a Big Tree, contact the Nevada Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator. Many species do not have a state champion – become a big tree hunter and you will be recognized on the official state registry!

