



URBAN FORESTRY ANNUAL REPORT

2020

Ongoing projects

- Started 5th year of multi-year pruning cycle
- Continued work on City Commission initiatives via 2-phased approach:
 - BMPs and Ordinance revision approved
 - Forestry Plan development through City Manager's office progress
- Initiated strategic planning with Covington Urban Forestry Board
- Provided interdepartmental assistance, including:
 - Working with legal on mitigation agreements
 - Working with code enforcement to assess tree risk
 - Working with zoning and historic preservation to ensure the NDC is understood by users, as well as NDC re-write



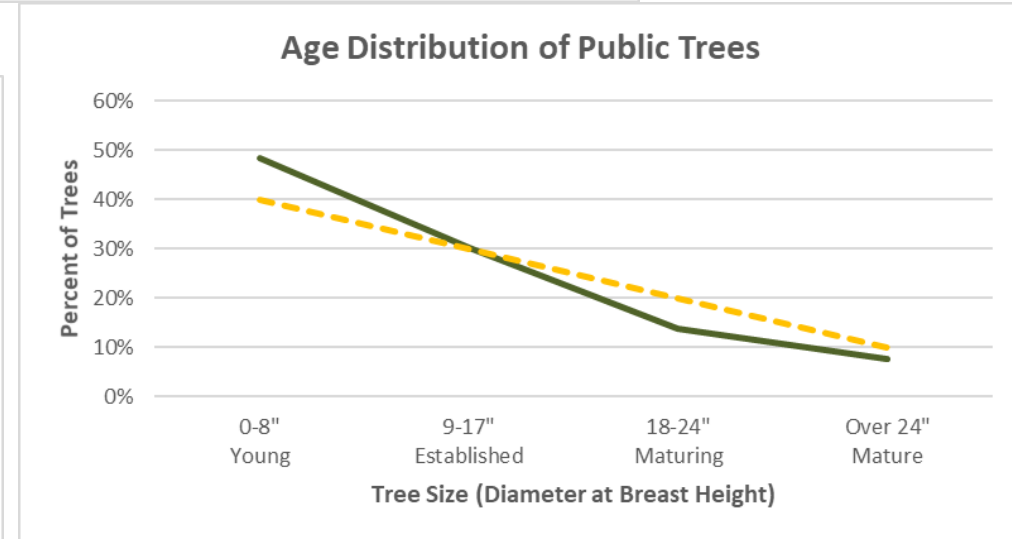
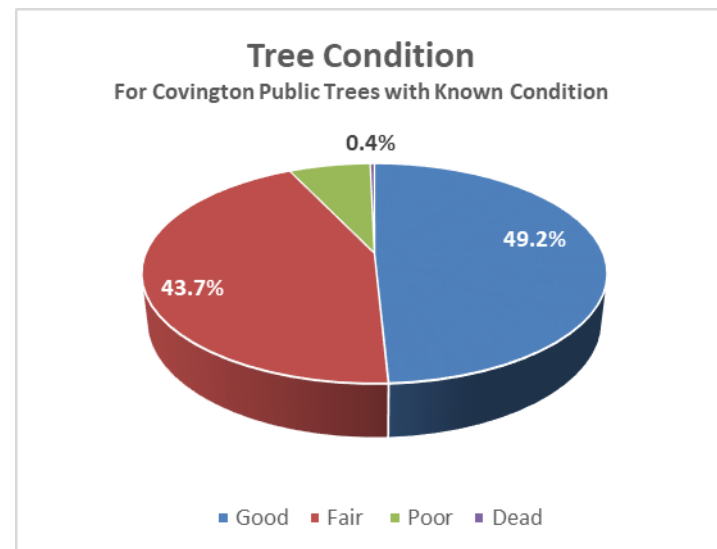
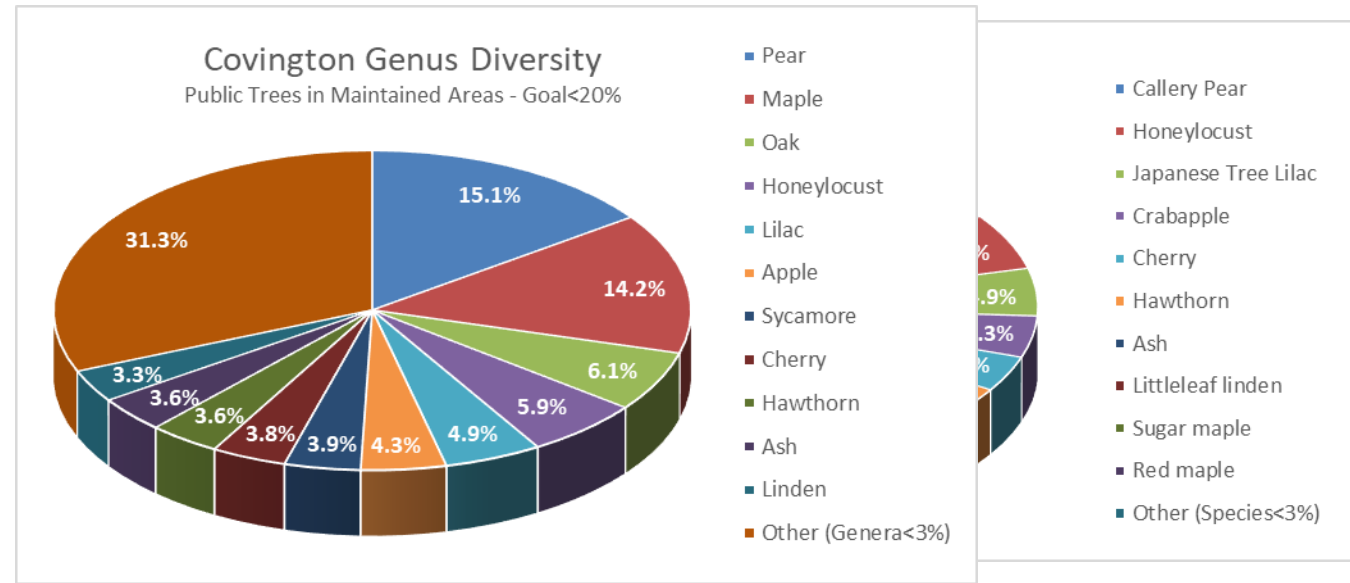
Planting Projects

- Spring Planting – 17 trees planted internal staff
 - Pandemic
 - watering
- Fall planting – 68 trees planted with internal staff
 - 3 large Lindens (*Tilia*) planted in Mainstrasse promenade
 - New wells filled along Scott
 - Wallace Woods grant
 - Partially covered by funding from mitigation and insurance payments



Trees by Numbers

- Trees Planted: 85
 - Species: 17
- Trees Pruned: 855
 - 500 Young tree training
 - 355 Larger tree pruning (both pruning cycle and citizen requests)
- Trees Removed: 83
- Condition only known for 12% of street tree population



Prune proactively

Waukegan, WI

the frequency of pruning documented a decline in pruning was not completed for a year when trees had been pruned that a pruning cycle of

pruning is a reactive approach to tree maintenance. Identifying trees that are in poor health or which lead to safety hazards can also reduce storm-related damage, improve our services and provide our citizens (Vogt

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period, which generated over 130 calls for assistance regarding down trees. The resulting work required three crews and two contractor crews 7 days to fully complete. In response to this, Elgin acquired a grant to allow them to remove over 800 trees of highest liability in the city. When a storm of similar nature occurred in fall of 2017, it generated only 32 calls for assistance, and two city crews were able to handle the event within 24 hours.



Overall Budget

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|
| Employee Pay and Benefits | \$623,844 | Covers all pay, workers comp, insurance, as well as other duties like snow removal, parking lot or concrete work, tree inspections, and seasonal's pay |
| Agricultural Supplies | \$34,000 | Tree plantings, supplies for chainsaws, other small equipment and upkeep, chemicals for landscaping, landscaping plantings (like new 6 th street landscaping), mulch, grass seed, etc. |
| Maintenance & Repair | \$11,200 | Repairing parking lots, buildings |
| Technical supplies | \$9,000 | Equipment, rope, safety gear |
| Communications | \$6,900 | Tablets, wifi, phones |
| Rent & storage | \$5,000 | For rental stump grinders or excavators |
| Contractual expenses | \$4,000 | For tasks we don't have the ability to do (like crane pruning) |
| Travel & Training | \$3,000 | Continuing education – ISA credits, conferences, certifications |
| Office supplies | \$3,000 | Adobe access, paper, ink, etc. |
| Other materials & supplies | \$3,000 | Concrete, etc. |
| Dues & subscriptions | \$500 | ISA memberships |
| Equipment parts | \$400 | Weed-eater heads, etc. |

We also had 443 hours of volunteer time through the forestry division, which has an estimated value of \$9,303 – an enormous contribution from our community!

Community Urban Forestry Survey

- Summary of results

2021 Goals

- Continue working with the Assistant City Manager's office on the development of an Urban Forest Master Plan. Hire contractors and solicit feedback from the community to ensure a long-term plan that meets all of Covington's needs.
- Continue to improve our support services to other departments and divisions to better improve our citizen service
- Complete first year of young tree training program and continue into second year.
- Continue to stay ahead of pruning cycle with inventory, and young tree pruning; get back on track with pruning cycle after hire of new pruner
- Increase community engagement as pandemic allows.

