



Tree Board 2021 Annual Report

City of Lake Forest Park

Introduction

This report summarizes the work conducted by the Tree Board for calendar year 2021 as well as the current commissioner term status.

- The Lake Forest Park Tree Board advises the City Council, with a primary responsibility for making policy and regulatory recommendations concerning the management of trees and forest canopy in Lake Forest Park.
- Additionally, the Tree Board holds the responsibility of providing outreach and education to the community on tree-related issues, including, but not limited to, organizing public events involving trees.

Tree Board Members*

Commissioner	Term Expires	Status
Margaret Cassady (^)	2/28/24	Active
Julia Bent	2/28/22	Active
Richard G. Olmstead	2/28/23	Active
Timothy Hohn	2/28/23	Resigned in August 2021
David Kleweno	2/28/23	Resigned in March 2021
Gordon Smith	2/28/22	Resigned in June 2021
Doug Sprugel	2/28/24	Active
Marty Byrne	2/28/23	Active
Bryn Homsy	2/28/24	Active

[^] Chair

* There is currently one vacant board position.

Planning Staff & Council Liaison

Staff Member	Title
Lauren Hoerr	Assistant Planner
Cameron Tuck	Assistant Planner
Ashley Adams	City Arborist

City Council Liaison	Title
Mark Phillips	Councilmember

Work Plan Accomplishments

Public Outreach and Education on Trees

- Champion Tree Contest: The Lake Forest Park Tree Board initiated a Champion Tree Contest to celebrate Arbor Day and teach local students learn how to identify and measure champion trees. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic hindering the Board's ability to conduct outreach, the Tree Board decided to hold a contest spanning a period of weeks. The contest ran from April 30th to June 30th and submissions were received from students ranging in age from preschool to high school seniors. The largest tree identified was a big-leaf maple with a diameter of approximately 75 inches.

Participants in the contest were honored with awards and gift certificates to Swirl Frozen Yogurt, and the three contest winners were celebrated in an article in the City's eNewsletter.

- LFP Farmer's Market Tabling Event: The LFP Tree Board sponsored a table at the Farmer's Market in October. The City Arborist, three Tree Board members (Margaret Cassady, Richard Olmstead, Marty Byrne) and one Tree Board member-elect (Bryn Homsy) attended the event. The event was a success with a constant flow of people and questions coming in for the entire four hours. Common questions revolved around tree health and condition, invasive species control, and LFP tree rules and regulations. In addition, the Tree Board gave away approximately 80 Douglas fir seedlings and 40-yard waste bags to interested homeowners. They included instructions on proper planting and yard waste disposal. There were 40 Douglas fir seedlings leftover from the event, which were donated to the LFP Water District plant exchange program. The event was a great opportunity for the Tree Board to interact with residents and participating again is recommended in the coming year.

Tree Planting and Maintenance Events

- WaterWorks Grant-funded Ivy Removal Project: King County awarded the City a WaterWorks grant to fund invasive plant control, the purchase of replacement plants, and riparian restoration along McAleer Creek. The project began in 2020, and the work done so far has been a success, with a professional restoration crew having eradicated ivy and other invasives along a quarter mile stretch of the creek. Further invasive removal work was performed at the site in June and August, and native plants were planted at the site in November. The invasive removal work done over the summer has been productive. Additional plantings will occur during Winter and Spring of 2022.

Tree Board column in the LFP eNews.

- The Tree Board initiated a semi-regular column in the monthly LFP eNews in January and contributed four essays on subjects ranging from the natural history of some native trees, to the affect of the June "Heat Dome" on our trees in LFP, to the choice of living Christmas trees as an environmentally conscious choice. Look for this to be a continuing feature of the LFP eNews.

Illustrated Tree Walks in Lake Forest Park.

- In collaboration with the LFP Stewardship Foundation (David Hepp), the Tree Board (Richard Olmstead, Julia Bent) is updating the popular pamphlet "Tree Walks of Lake Forest Park." The original pamphlet was prepared by David Hepp and The Urban Forest Task Force and published in 2008. Many changes to the trees in the neighborhoods visited by the tree walks have occurred in the last 13 years. To enhance its usefulness and aesthetics, as well as to accommodate residents who want to make use of their smart phone to access the tree walks, the text has been updated to reflect changes in the neighborhood trees and to include color photos to help users identify the trees described in the guide. Illustrated tree walks have been prepared for the Horizon View and Sheridan neighborhoods and made available on the LFP City [website](#) for users to download. The LFP Stewardship Foundation is seeking funds to publish a second edition of the pamphlet.