



**Minnesota Tree Care
Advocate
2015 Annual Report**

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For copies of this report, e-mail request to vmcc@umn.edu.

Minnesota Tree Care Advocate

Minnesota Tree Care Advocate is an organization of University of Minnesota trained volunteers throughout the state all dedicated to community forestry and is currently comprised of two community forestry programs including Tree Care Advisor, Tree Steward and Citizen Pruner. Minnesota Tree Care Advocate works to educate members of the community about their urban forest so that they in turn can volunteer in their neighborhoods and community.

Minnesota Tree Care Advisors

The Minnesota Tree Care Advisor program, founded in 1993, aids in the development of environmental stewards through education and promoting volunteerism. TCA Volunteers provide communities throughout the state with a valuable pool of educated stewards to support and enhance our urban and community forests.

Quick Facts about TCAs

- ♦ The average active TCA volunteered 69.7 hours in 2015.
- ♦ In 2015 the average active TCA spent 19.79 hours on update training.

Tree Care Advisors helped plant approximately 5,000 trees in 2015

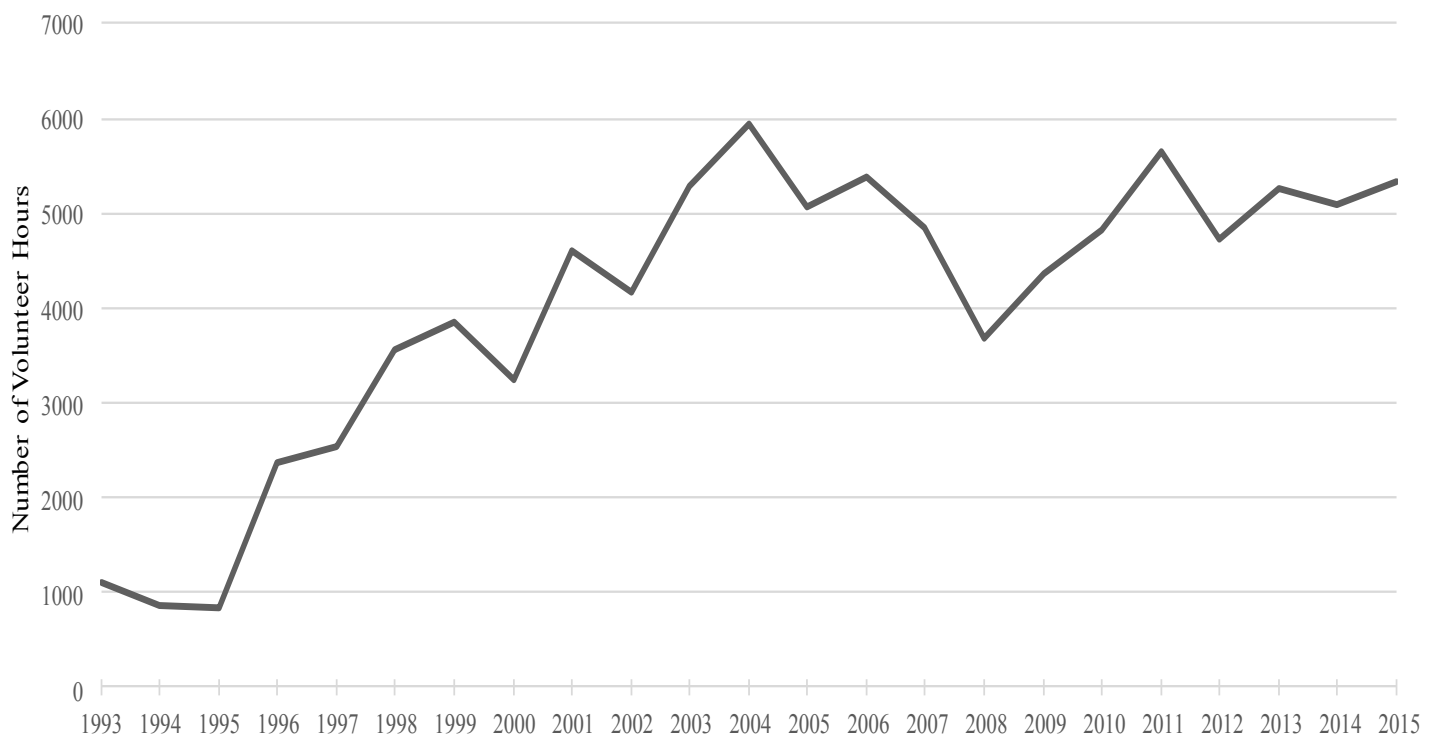
By some estimates, if these trees reach even 25 years of age they could intercept a total of 83,880,000 gallons of stormwater and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) by 20,695,000 pounds.

Estimates were made using i-Tree Design at www.itreetools.org.

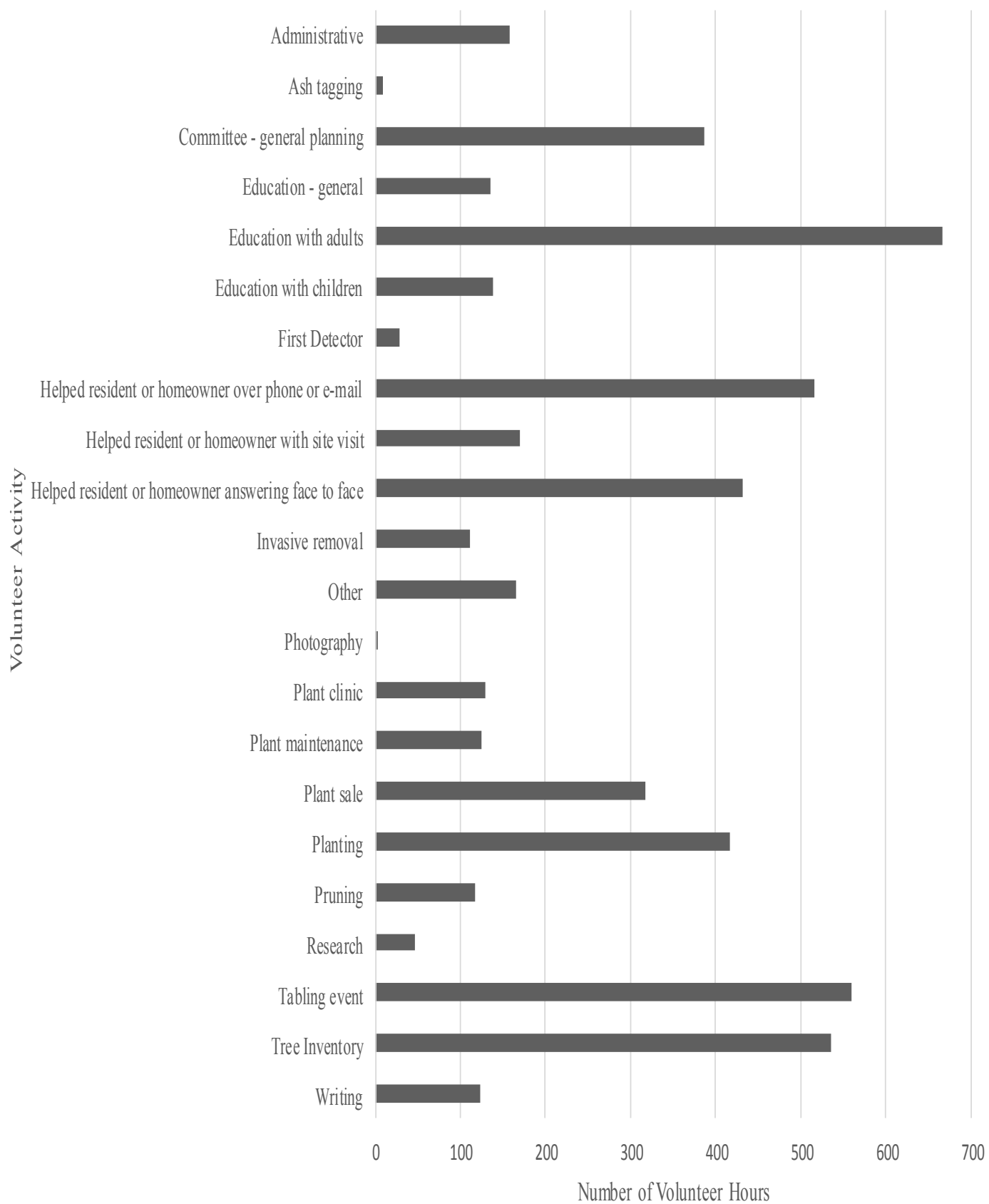
Minnesota Tree Care Advisor

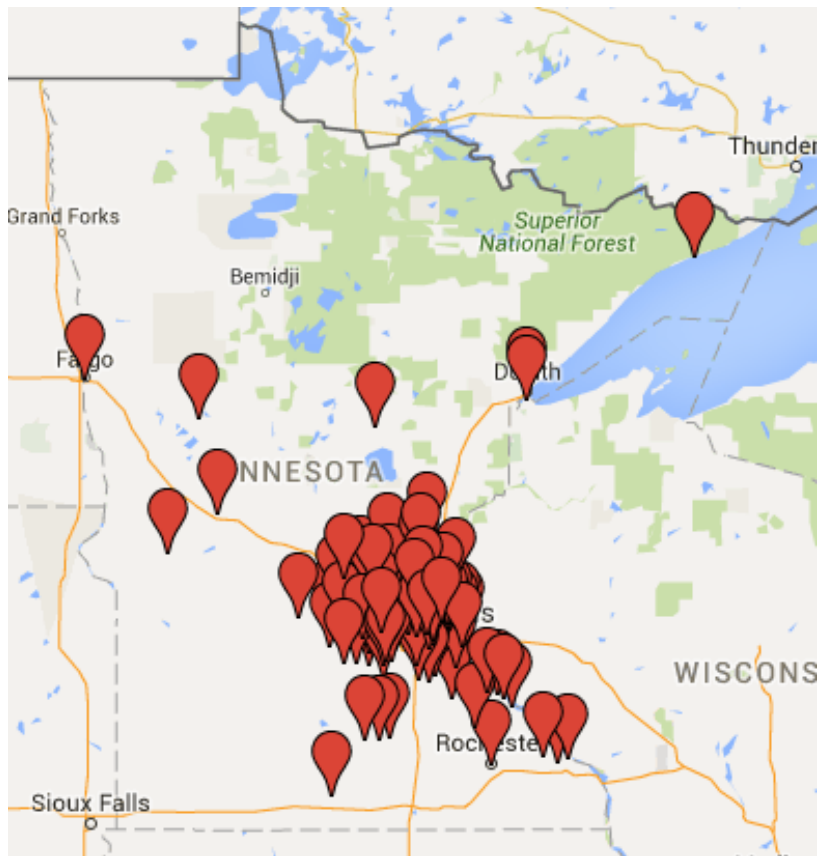
Over 475 volunteers have walked through the doors of the TCA program since 1993. These volunteers, up to the end of 2015, have put in a total of 92610.28 volunteer hours. They volunteer for their state, their county, their city and for non-profits who need them. In 2015 alone TCAs volunteered 5342 hours.

Tree Care Advisor Hours 1993-Present



Tree Care Advisor 2015 Activities





Communities where Tree Care Advisors Volunteer

Afton	Aitkin	Alexandria	Altura	Andover	Annandale	Anoka
Apple Valley	Arden Hills	Bayport Twsp.	Baytown	Becker	Big Lake	Blaine
Bloomington	Braham	Brooklyn Center	Brooklyn Park	Burnsville	Cambridge	Cannon Falls
Carver	Champlin	Chanhassen	Chaska	Clearwater	Cokato	Cologne
Cottage Grove	Crown	Delano	Duluth	Eagan	East Bethel	Edina
Elk River	Elysian	Empire Twsp.	Excelsior	Falcon Heights	Fargo	Farmington
Forest Lake	Frontenac	Golden Valley	Grand Marais	Grant Twsp.	Ham Lake	Hanover
Hastings	Hopkins	Howard Lake	Inver Grove Heights		Isanti	Jordan
Lake City	Lake Elmo	Lakeville	Lindstrom	Lino Lakes	Litchfield	Madison Lake
Mahtomedi	Maple Grove	Maple Plain	Maplewood	Mendota Heights	Minneapolis	Minnetonka
Minnetrista	Monticello	Morris	Mound	Navarre	New Brighton	Newport
Norwood Young America		Oakdale	Perham	Pine Springs	Plato	Plymouth
Princeton	Red Wing	Richfield	Robbinsdale	Rochester	Rosemount	Roseville
Shakopee	Shoreview	Silver Lake	Spring Lake Park	St. Louis Park	St. Michael	St. Paul
Stillwater	Stockton	Superior, WI	Waconia	Wacouta	Watertown	Waterville
Wayzata	West St. Paul	White Bear Lake	Winnebago	Winona	Woodbury	Zumbrota

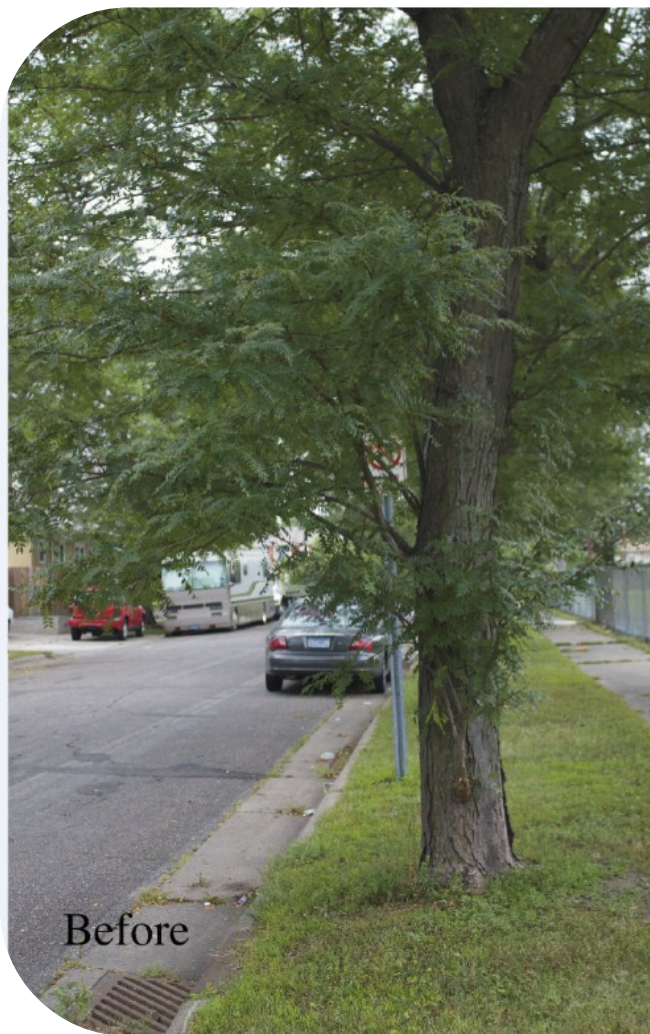
TCA Financial Contribution from 1993 to 2015

Year	Total Hours	Hourly Rate *\$ per hour	Value to MN in \$
1993	1110	\$12.35	\$13,708.50
1994	861.5	\$12.68	\$10,923.82
1995	847.5	\$13.05	\$11,059.88
1996	2368.5	\$13.47	\$31,903.70
1997	2539.35	\$13.99	\$35,525.51
1998	3559.25	\$14.56	\$51,822.68
1999	3858.2	\$15.09	\$58,220.24
2000	3247.5	\$15.68	\$50,920.80
2001	4608	\$16.27	\$74,972.16
2002	4176.95	\$16.74	\$69,922.14
2003	5288.65	\$17.19	\$90,911.89
2004	5949.8	\$17.55	\$104,418.99
2005	5065.45	\$18.04	\$91,380.72
2006	5381.85	\$18.77	\$101,017.32
2007	4840.55	\$19.51	\$94,439.13
2008	3688.85	\$20.25	\$74,699.21
2009	4352.85	\$20.90	\$90,974.57
2010	4813.35	\$20.90	\$100,599.02
2011	5653.5	\$21.79	\$123,189.77
2012	4722.6	\$22.14	\$104,558.36
2013	5256.43	\$24.31	\$127,783.81
2014	5077.65	\$24.83	\$126,078.05
2015	5342	\$24.83	\$132,641.86

*Hourly rates as reported by www.independentsector.org.

Money Talks: Measuring Volunteers in Dollars

The group, Independent Sector, has calculated an hourly dollar rate for volunteer contributions. This rate has not been updated since 2014, but it still demonstrates the magnitude that volunteers contribute. The hourly rate for 2014 is carried forward in table below to 2015. Based on 2014 figures, the amount per hour is \$24.83, resulting in \$1,771,672 for the volunteer work done by TCAs from 1993-2015. This is money the state, counties, cities and non-profits are saving.



Picture by Jennifer Gehlhar

Minnesota Citizen Pruners

The Citizen Pruner program aids in increasing local capacity by working with municipalities and engaging citizens in community forestry. Citizen Pruners are trained in tree species pruning restrictions, biology, and pruning techniques. Minnesota Citizen Pruner is currently in Becker, Big Lake Elk River, Mankato, Princeton, Robbinsdale, Rochester, St. Paul, and Zimmerman.

Minnesota Citizen Pruners

Citizen Pruners are needed now more than ever. As municipal budgets continue to be cut, the aid from citizens becomes increasingly more important to communities. Citizen Pruners are able to manage small branches near the ground while tree care professionals can focus on larger branches higher in the tree canopies. Completing this ground work is vital for clearing sight lines and blocked sidewalks.



Mankato, MN

Mankato, MN has a total of 4 active volunteers.

Total Volunteer Hours	18.00
Number of trees pruned	47
Number of suckers removed	44
Number of sprouts removed	236
Number of dead branches removed	49
Number of included branches removed	0
Number of co-dominant leaders removed of suppressed	4
Number of crossing branches removed	78
Number of branches removed for crown raising	130
Number of other branches removed	0
Total branches removed	588
Number of mulch volcanoes corrected	6
Number of tree wraps removed	4

Robbinsdale, MN

Robbinsdale, MN has a total of 9 active volunteers.

Total Volunteer Hours	9.00
Number of trees pruned	12
Number of suckers removed	4
Number of sprouts removed	50
Number of dead branches removed	0
Number of included branches removed	1
Number of co-dominant leaders removed of suppressed	20
Number of crossing branches removed	5
Number of branches removed for crown raising	124
Number of other branches removed	36
Total branches removed	240
Number of mulch volcanoes corrected	7

Rochester, MN

Rochester, MN has a total of 5 active volunteers.

Total Volunteer Hours	17.25
Number of trees pruned	120
Number of suckers removed	1327
Number of sprouts removed	1304
Number of dead branches removed	49
Total branches removed	2680
Number of mulch volcanoes corrected	2
Number of tree wraps removed	10

Sherburne County, MN

Sherburne County's involved cities include Becker, Big Lake, Elk River Princeton, and Zimmerman.

Sherburne Country has a total of 17 active volunteers.

Total Volunteer Hours	124.50
Number of trees pruned	477
Number of suckers removed	385
Number of sprouts removed	5140
Number of dead branches removed	1174
Number of included branches removed	3
Number of co-dominant leaders removed of suppressed	25
Number of crossing branches removed	789
Number of branches removed for crown raising	676
Number of other branches removed	124
Total branches removed	8316
Number of mulch volcanoes corrected	1
Number of tree wraps removed	1

St. Paul, MN

St. Paul, MN has a total of 11 active volunteers.

Total Volunteer Hours	63.00
Number of trees pruned	142
Number of suckers removed	1996
Number of sprouts removed	1065
Number of crossing branches removed	7
Number of branches removed for crown raising	298
Number of other branches removed	0
Total branches removed	3366

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a park. In the foreground, there are green trees and grass. In the middle ground, a group of people are standing near a tree. In the background, there is a large, light-colored building with a gabled roof. The sky is blue.

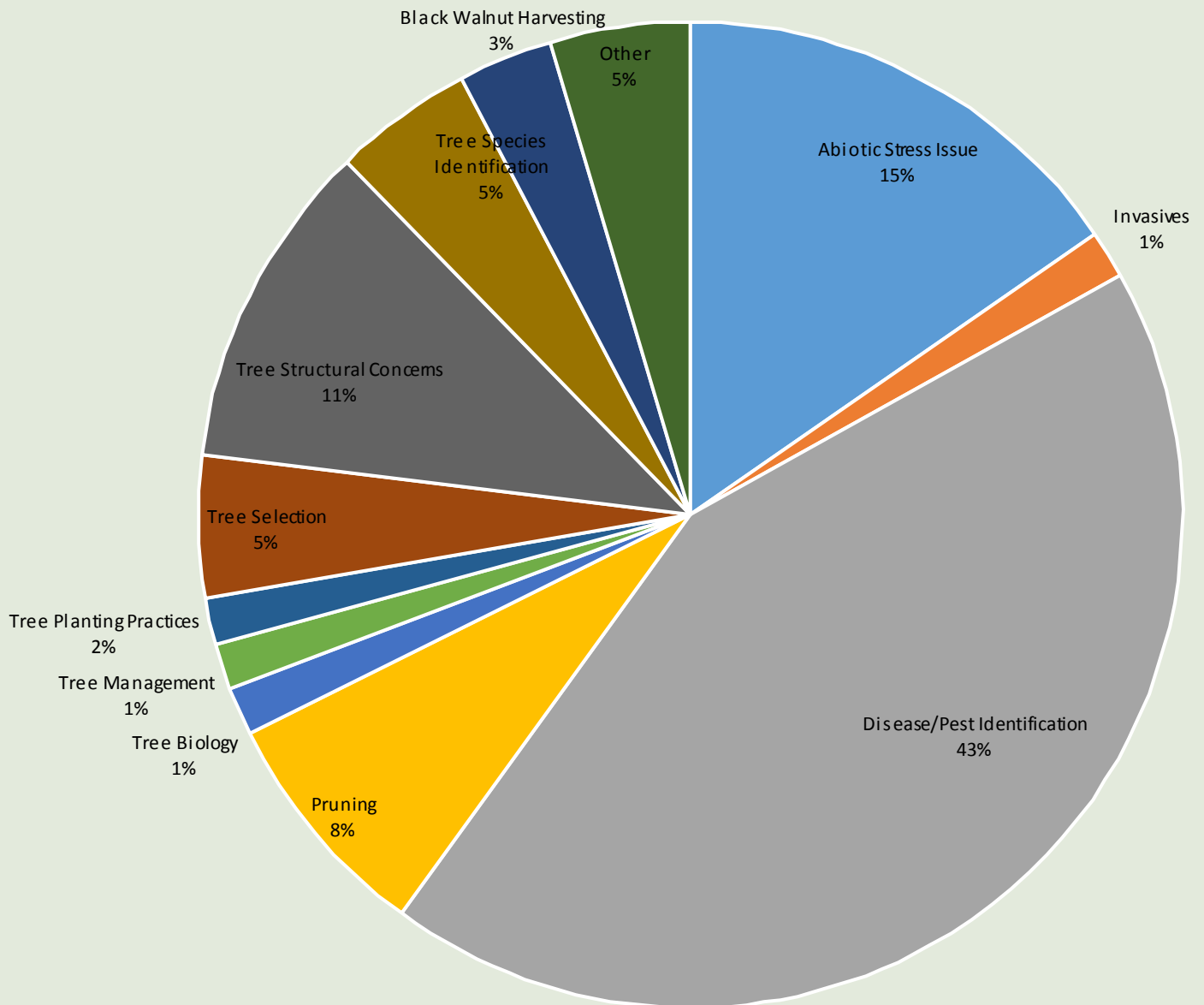
Minnesota Citizen Pruners in 2015 pruned 798 trees for their communities.

Number of trees pruned	798
Number of suckers removed	3756
Number of sprouts removed	7795
Number of dead branches removed	1272
Number of included branches removed	4
Number of co-dominant leaders removed or suppressed	49
Number of crossing branches removed	879
Number of branches removed for crown raising	1228
Number of other branches removed	160
Total branches removed	15143
Number of mulch volcanoes corrected	16
Number of tree wraps removed	15
Total Volunteer Hours	231.75
Total \$	\$5,754.35

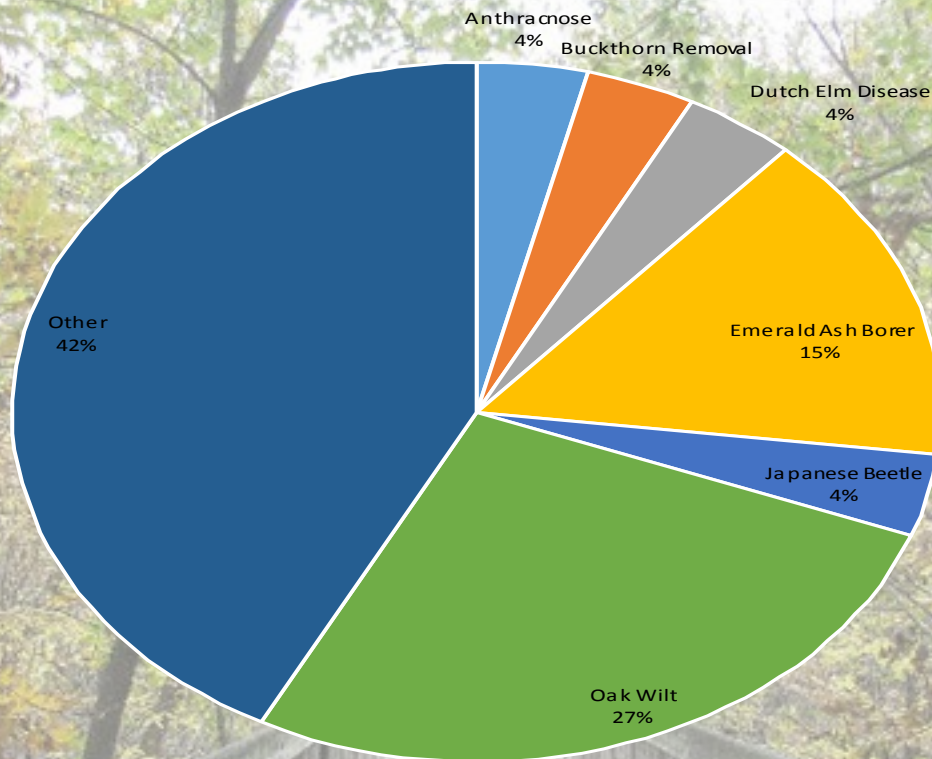
Forest Resources Outreach Line

Forest Resources Outreach Line has been staffed by Tree Care Advisor Volunteers since 2013 and have responded to a total of 679 calls and emails. In 2015 the Forest Resources Line was staffed by Ellen Campbell, Annette LeDuc, and Mary Magers. In total these volunteers responded to 66 phone calls and e-mails.

Forest Resources Outreach Line Question Topics



***Forest Resources Outreach Line specific disease,
insect or invasive discussed***



In 2015, TCA's volunteering for the Forest Resources Outreach Line recommended hiring a Certified Arborist 31.8% of the time.



Minnesota Tree Care Advocate

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