

Minnesota Tree Care Advocate Program

2019 Annual Report



140 *Active Tree Care Advocate Volunteers*

4,586 *Volunteer Hours*



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



Department of
FOREST RESOURCES

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Our Program

The Minnesota Tree Care Advocate Program is an organization of University of Minnesota trained volunteers throughout the state dedicated to urban and community forestry. Our mission is to educate citizens of the state about their urban forests so that they, in turn, can volunteer in their neighborhoods and communities. This program is currently comprised of three community forestry programs including the Tree Care Advisor Program (1993), the Citizen Pruner Program (2013), and the Tree Steward Program (2016).

Eco Experience Booth at the Minnesota State Fair

The Minnesota Tree Care Advocate Program has been hosting a booth in the Eco Experience Building at the Minnesota State Fair since 2013. The booth includes both the "Ask a Tree Care Advisor" desk and a Bingo attendant for the building-wide activity. Our involvement includes hosting six shifts a day over the 12 days of the State Fair for a total of 72 shifts.



35 *individual volunteers*



576 *hours spent staffing, preparing & commuting*



1,403 *questions answered*



5,789 *youth interactions*



2019 Volunteers Trained by Program



10 *Tree Care Advisors trained*



20 *Citizen Pruners trained*



42 *Tree Stewards trained*



245 *people attended workshops & conferences*

Tree Care Advisor Program

The Tree Care Advisor Program was founded in 1992 and has since educated independent volunteers to act as volunteers, educators, and facilitators in communities throughout Minnesota. These volunteers are trained through a 40 hour Core Course on all things related to trees and shrubs. Volunteers are asked to complete 25 hours of volunteer service and 4 hours of continuing education each calendar year to remain active and up-to-date on the latest research.



Tree Care Advisor Accomplishments

2019 Accomplishments



4,069

volunteer hours



73

active volunteers



\$114,542.35

value of volunteer contributions

Overall Accomplishments



109,966

volunteer hours



266

trained volunteers



\$3,095,542.90

value of volunteer contributions

Forest Resources Outreach Line

The over 50 year old Forest Resources Outreach Line is a resource for Minnesotans to ask questions about their trees and shrubs via email or phone call. Tree Care Advisor volunteers assist in answering these questions to provide research-based and a non-biased resolution to their questions. In 2019, Mary Magers and Annette LeDuc managed the outreach line.



246 *questions were received*



87 *residents were advised to contact a city forester or certified arborist*



71 *general tree management questions*



61 *disease and pest identification questions*



64 *questions about specific diseases/insects*

Citizen Pruner Program

The Citizen Pruner program is designed to train community volunteer to clear small and easy accessible branch material in order for arborists and urban foresters to focus on larger pruning needs. These volunteers are asked to complete 10 hours of volunteer work each calendar year to remain active.



Citizen Pruner Accomplishments

2019 Accomplishments



336

volunteer hours



51

active volunteers



\$9,458.40

value of volunteer contributions

Overall Accomplishments



2,734

volunteer hours



236

trained volunteers



\$76,962.10

value of volunteer contributions

Tree Steward Program



The Tree Steward Program is created to train community volunteers on a wide array of topics related to planting, watering, pruning, monitoring young tree health, and leading others in regards to young tree care. These volunteers are encouraged to complete 10 hours of volunteer work each calendar year to remain active.

Tree Steward Accomplishments

2019 Accomplishments



170.5

volunteer hours



15

active volunteers



\$4,799.58

value of volunteer contributions

Overall Accomplishments



1,021

volunteer hours



102

trained volunteers



\$28,741.15

value of volunteer contributions