
University of Minnesota Department of Forest Resources



Minnesota Tree Care Advocate

People Helping Trees Help Communities

2017 Annual Report

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Tree Care Advocate Program Overview

Minnesota Tree Care Advocate is an organization of University of Minnesota trained volunteers throughout the state that are dedicated to community forestry. This program is currently comprised of **three** community forestry programs including **Tree Care Advisor**, **Citizen Pruner**, and **Tree Steward**. Minnesota Tree Care Advocate works to educate citizens of the state about their urban forests so that they, in turn, can volunteer in their neighborhoods and communities.

From 1993 to 2017, 585 volunteers have attended a Tree Care Advocate training in Minnesota.

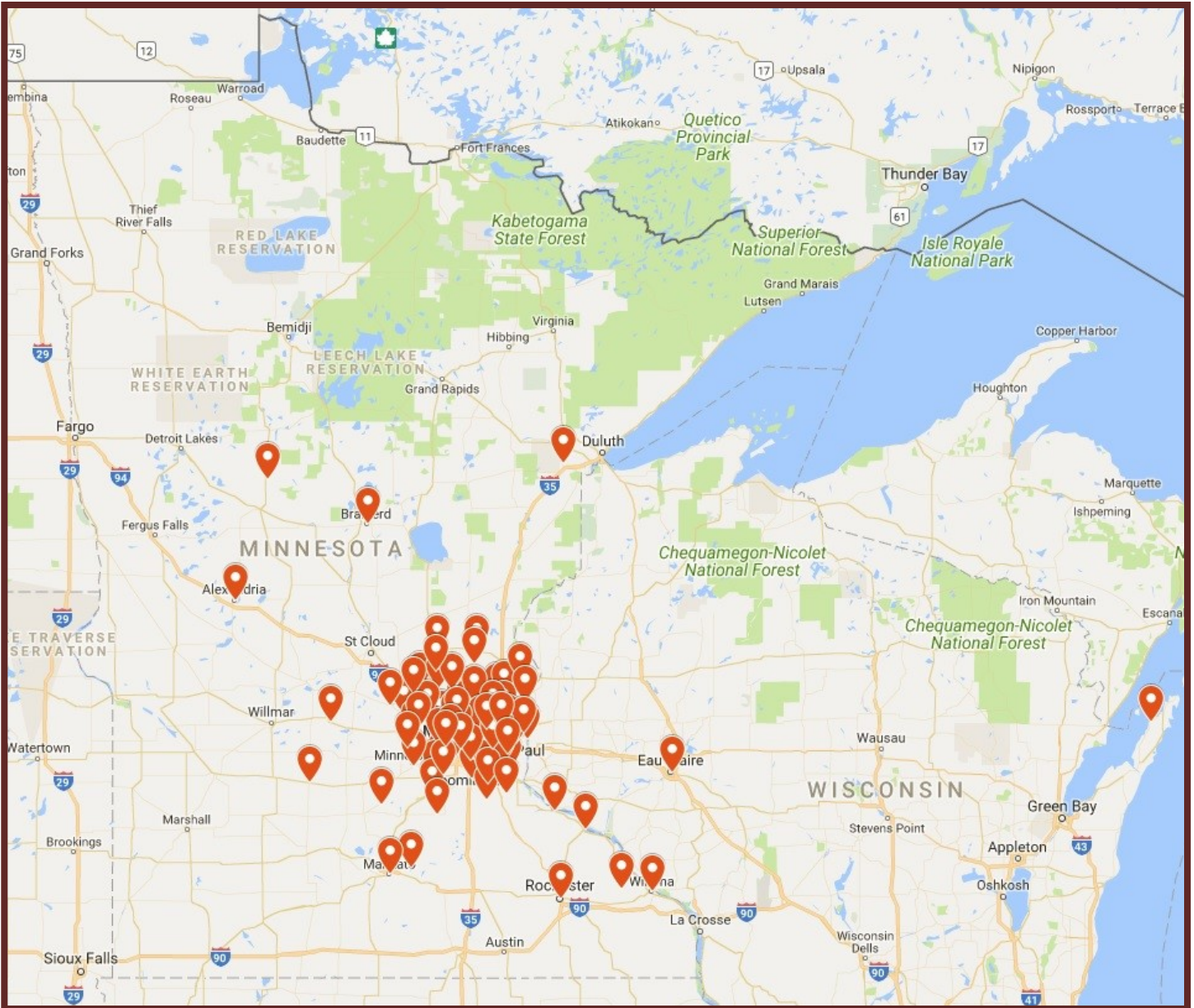
Minnesota Tree Care Advisors

The **Minnesota Tree Care Advisor Program**, founded in 1993, aids in the development of environmental stewards through education and the promotion of volunteerism. Tree Care Advisor volunteers provide communities throughout the state with a valuable pool of **educated stewards** to support and enhance our urban and community forests. Tree Care Advisors are asked to complete at least **25 hours of service** toward any volunteer activities related to tree, shrub and vine care. Tree Care Advisors are also asked to complete **4 hours of continuing education** to stay up to date on the latest research.

In 2017, 84 active Tree Care Advisors dedicated their time to volunteerism in Minnesota.

Tree Care Advisor Volunteer Locations

Below is a map of where **Tree Care Advisors** volunteered in 2017.

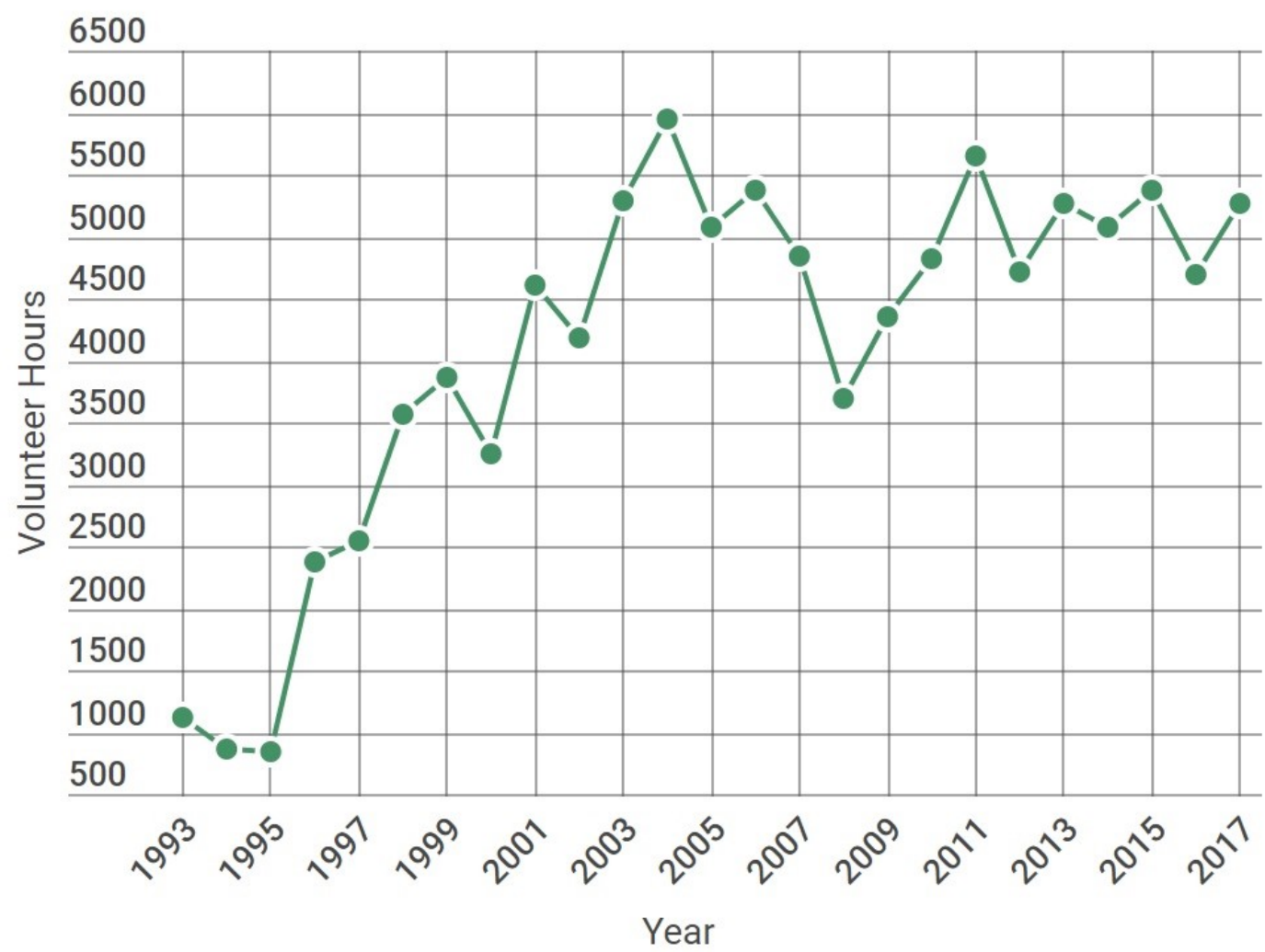


Tree Care Advisor Volunteer Locations

Below is a list of where **Tree Care Advisors** volunteered in Minnesota in 2017.

Alexandria	Altura	Andover	Anoka
Apple Valley	Arlington	Bayport	Big Lake
Blaine	Bloomington	Brainerd	Brooklyn Park
Buffalo	Burnsville	Cambridge	Chanhassen
Chaska	Cloquet	Columbus	Coon Rapids
Corcoran	Cottage Grove	Crystal	Delano
Eagan	Eau Claire	Eden Prairie	Elk River
Falcon Heights	Farmington	Fish Creek	Forest Lake
Golden Valley	Ham Lake	Hanover	Hector
Hugo	Inver Grove Heights	Isanti	Jordan
Lake Elmo	Lindstrom	Lino Lakes	Litchfield
Long Lake	Madison Lake	Mahtomedi	Mankato
Maple Grove	Maple Lake	Mendota Heights	Minneapolis
Monticello	New Brighton	New Hope	New Prague
Newport	Nowthen	Oakdale	Osseo
Plymouth	Princeton	Red Wing	Rochester
Rockford	Rosemount	Saint Louis Park	Saint Paul
Scandia	Shakopee	Shoreview	Stillwater
Vermillion	Waconia	Watertown	Wayzata
White Bear Lake	Woodbury	Zimmerman	

Cumulative Tree Care Advisor Volunteer Hours



In 2017, Tree Care Advisors completed a total of 5,276.33 volunteer hours. From 1993 to the end of 2017, volunteers have completed a total of 102,615.16 volunteer hours.

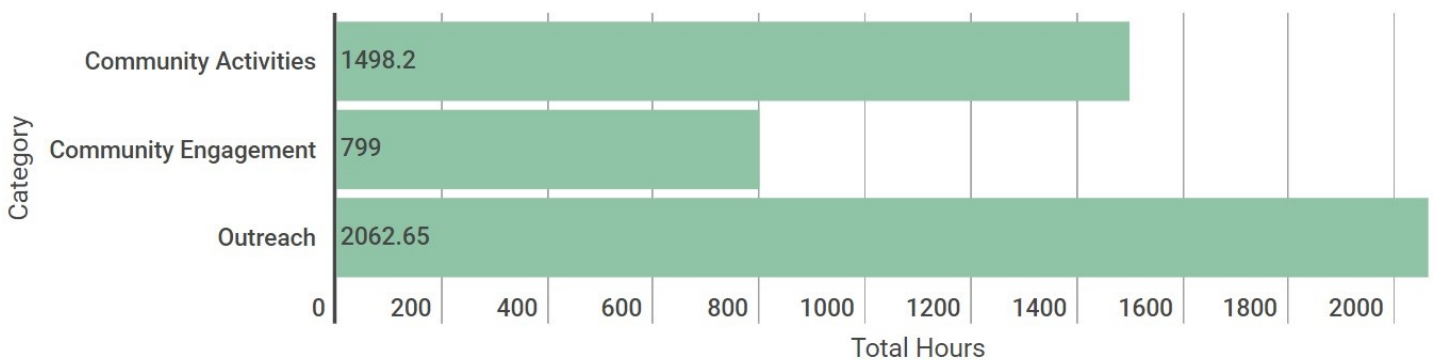
Tree Care Advisor Financial Contributions

Year	Total Hours	Hourly Rate *\$ per Hour	Value to MN in \$
1993	1110.00	\$12.35	\$13,708.50
1994	861.50	\$12.68	\$10,923.82
1995	847.50	\$13.05	\$11,059.88
1996	2368.50	\$13.47	\$31,903.70
1997	2539.35	\$13.99	\$35,525.51
1998	3559.25	\$14.56	\$51,822.68
1999	3858.20	\$15.09	\$58,220.24
2000	3247.50	\$15.68	\$50,920.80
2001	4608.00	\$16.14	\$74,373.12
2002	4176.95	\$16.14	\$67,415.97
2003	5288.65	\$17.20	\$90,964.78
2004	5949.80	\$17.74	\$105,549.45
2005	5065.45	\$18.18	\$92,089.88
2006	5381.85	\$18.25	\$98,218.76
2007	4840.55	\$18.72	\$90,615.10
2008	3688.85	\$19.65	\$72,485.90
2009	4352.85	\$20.55	\$89,451.07
2010	4813.35	\$20.90	\$100,599.02
2011	5653.50	\$21.62	\$122,228.67
2012	4722.60	\$21.91	\$103,472.17
2013	5256.43	\$23.59	\$123,999.18
2014	5077.65	\$24.31	\$123,437.67
2015	5382.50	\$24.83	\$133,647.48
2016	4688.05	\$25.20	\$118,138.86
2017	5276.33	\$26.40	\$129,057.51

Collectively, monetary contributions from Tree Care Advisors between 1993 and 2017 totals \$2,707,522.22 (based on 2016 figures).

Tree Care Advisor Activities by Category

Minnesota Tree Care Advisor Program volunteers completed their hours in many ways. Below you can find a breakdown based on three general categories: **outreach** (includes setup, tabling, and take down of booths, leading/teaching a class for adults or youth, answering questions from the public and citizens, responding to inquiries for the Forest Outreach Line, etc.), **community activities** (includes assisting with tree plantings, tree maintenance, pruning events, watering trees, etc.), and **community engagement** (includes sitting on tree/environmental boards, assisting to write ordinances, planning events within a community, etc.)



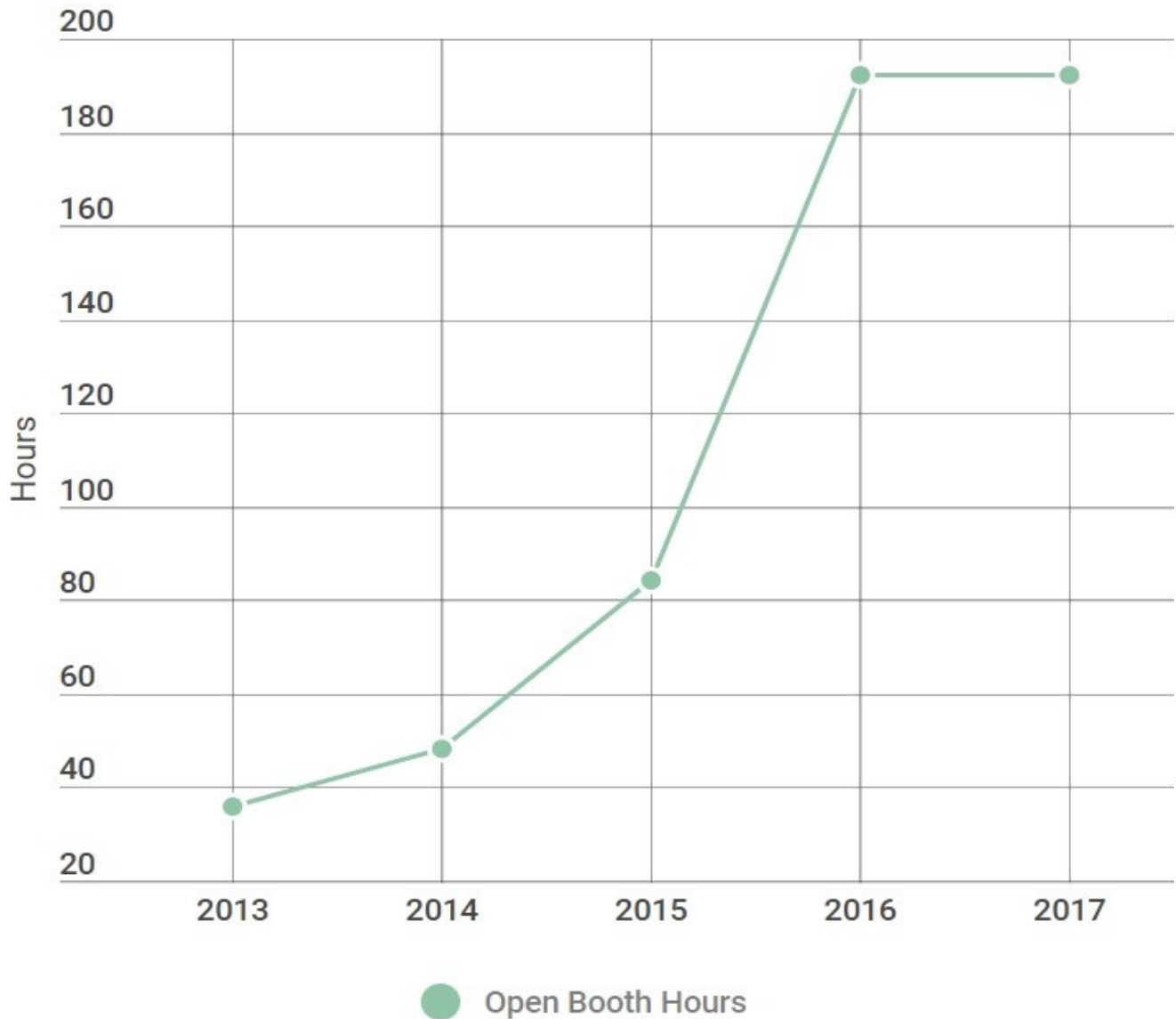
In 2017, Tree Care Advisors completed an average of 62.81 volunteer hours.

“Ask A Tree Care Advisor” State Fair Booth

The **“Ask a Tree Care Advisor” booth** in the **Eco Experience** building at the **Minnesota State Fair** has been staff by Tree Care Advisor volunteers since 2013. The **“Ask a Tree Care Advisor” booth** was originally a **one-time addition** to the Climate Change area, but an invitation from the **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)** was extended to return and has since become a **permanent** fixture. The public can ask tree and shrub related questions at the booth during all **12 days** of the Minnesota State Fair. Additionally, in 2017 youth could participate in the building wide **Bingo** game by **answering a question** at the booth.

In 2017, approximately 400 hours were spent staffing, preparing, and commuting to and from the “Ask a Tree Care Advisor” booth.

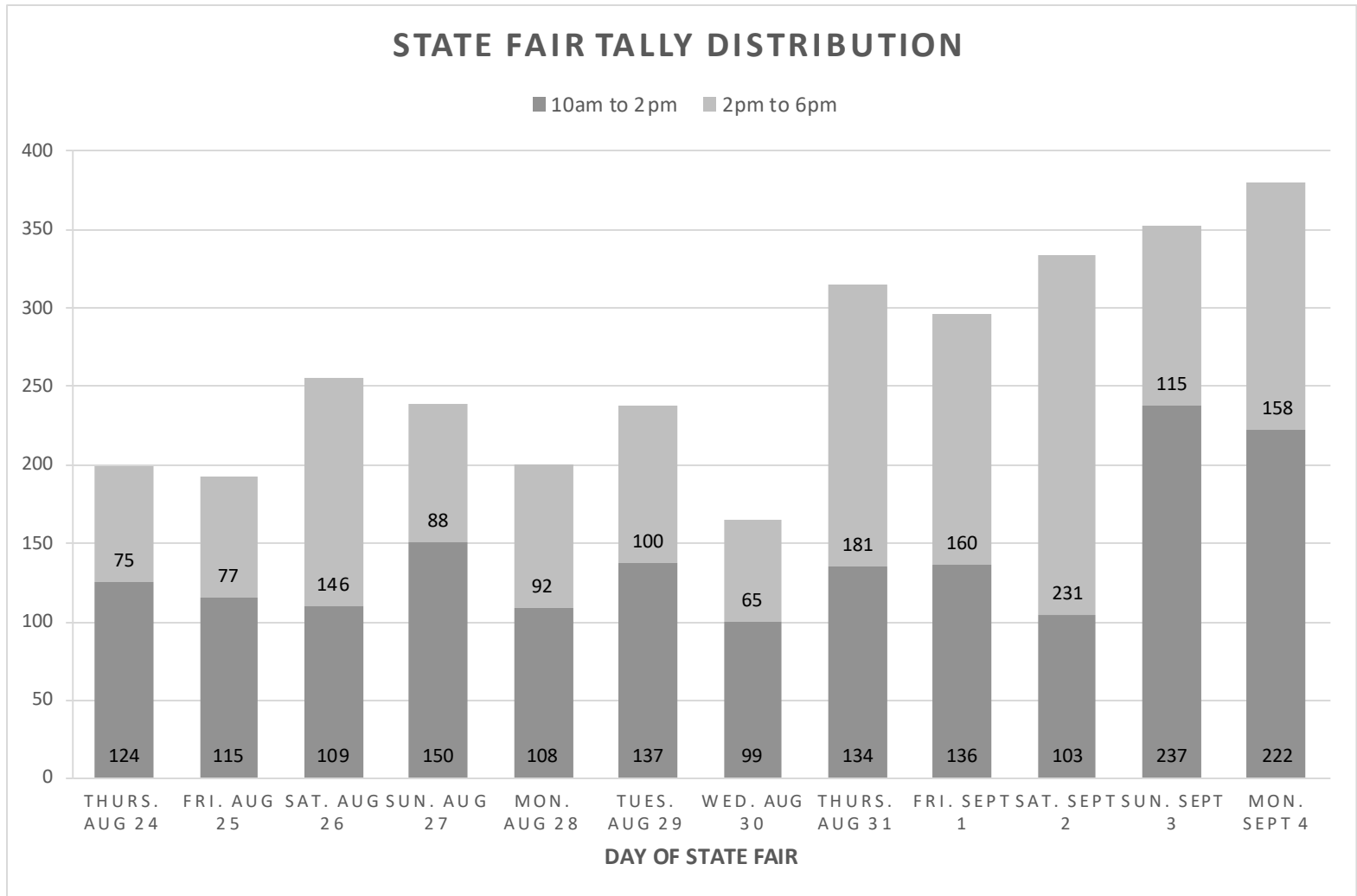
“Ask A Tree Care Advisor” Open Booth Hours



Since 2013, volunteers and UMN staff and students have dedicated 552 hours during open booth hours to interacting with the public.

State Fair Question Tally Frequency

The following graph shows **how many questions** from the public were asked during each shift and each day of the 2017 State Fair Tree Care Advisor booth.



In 2017, in excess of 3,162 questions were asked by the public at the “Ask a Tree Care Advisor” booth.

Tree Care Advisor Continuing Education

Every year, a total of **4 hours of continuing education** must be acquired to retain Tree Care Advisor **active status**. This is to affirm that volunteers are receiving the most up to date information on tree care. These 4 hours can be obtained by attending **reputable** educational opportunities through **universities, Master Gardener updates, the Shade Tree Short Course, Tree Essentials** classes, other **Tree Care Advocate trainings**, and several other outside opportunities.

In 2017, **35 Tree Care Advisors** attended the Shade Tree Short Course.

In 2017, Tree Care Advisors completed a total of 2,390.17 hours of continuing education.

Tree Essentials Classes

Tree Essentials are a collection of **educational** workshops offered nearly every Friday from July to early October on the St. Paul campus **UFore Nursery**. Tree Essentials cover an array of tree **care topics and skills**, with each date focusing on **one specific topic**. Tree Essentials workshops are taught by **University of Minnesota** faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students. All Tree Essential classes are **open to the public**, with a **discount** offered to Tree Care Advocate volunteers, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, and Minnesota Tree Inspectors.

2017 topics included:

- *Best Planting Practices*
- *Managing Aggressives/Invasives*
- *Nontraditional Pruning: Shrubs, Espalier, Pleaching*
- *Plant Health Issues—Diagnostics*
- *Plant Selection*
- *Predicting/Preventing/Reporting Storm Damage*
- *Pruning: Young Trees*

In 2017, a total of 72 individuals attended Tree Essential classes over the course of 3 months.

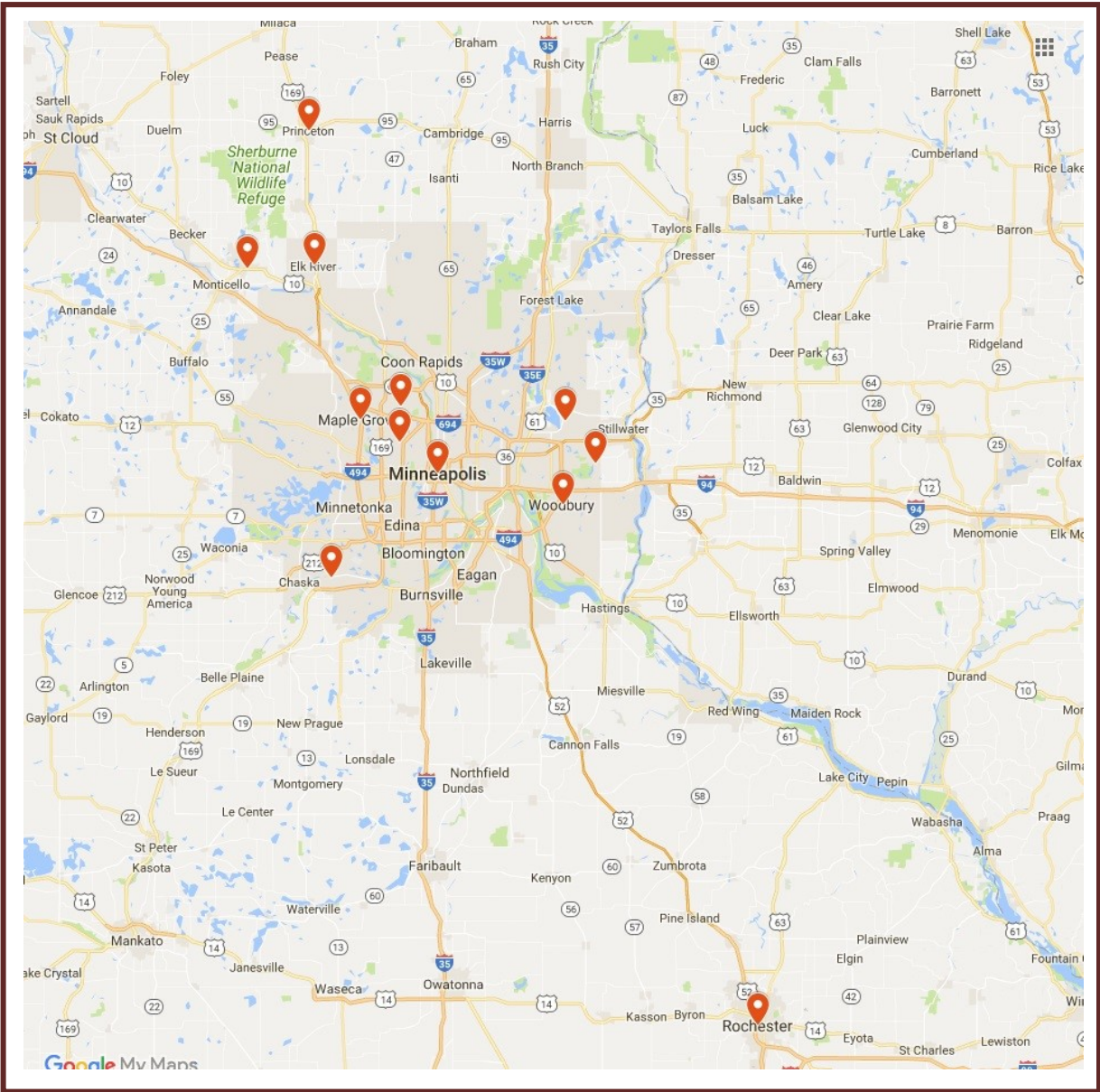
Minnesota Citizen Pruner

The **Minnesota Citizen Pruner Program** aids in increasing local capacity by working with municipalities and engaging citizens in community forest upkeep. Citizen Pruners are trained in **tree biology, tree species identification and pruning restrictions, pruning techniques, and types of removals** the community requests volunteer to perform. Citizen Pruners are able to manage small branches near the ground while tree care professionals can focus on larger branches higher in the tree canopy. Completing this ground work is vital for **clearing sightlines, blocked sidewalks,** and **improving the health** of both young and mature trees.

In 2017, 72 Minnesota Citizen Pruners dedicated their time to volunteerism.

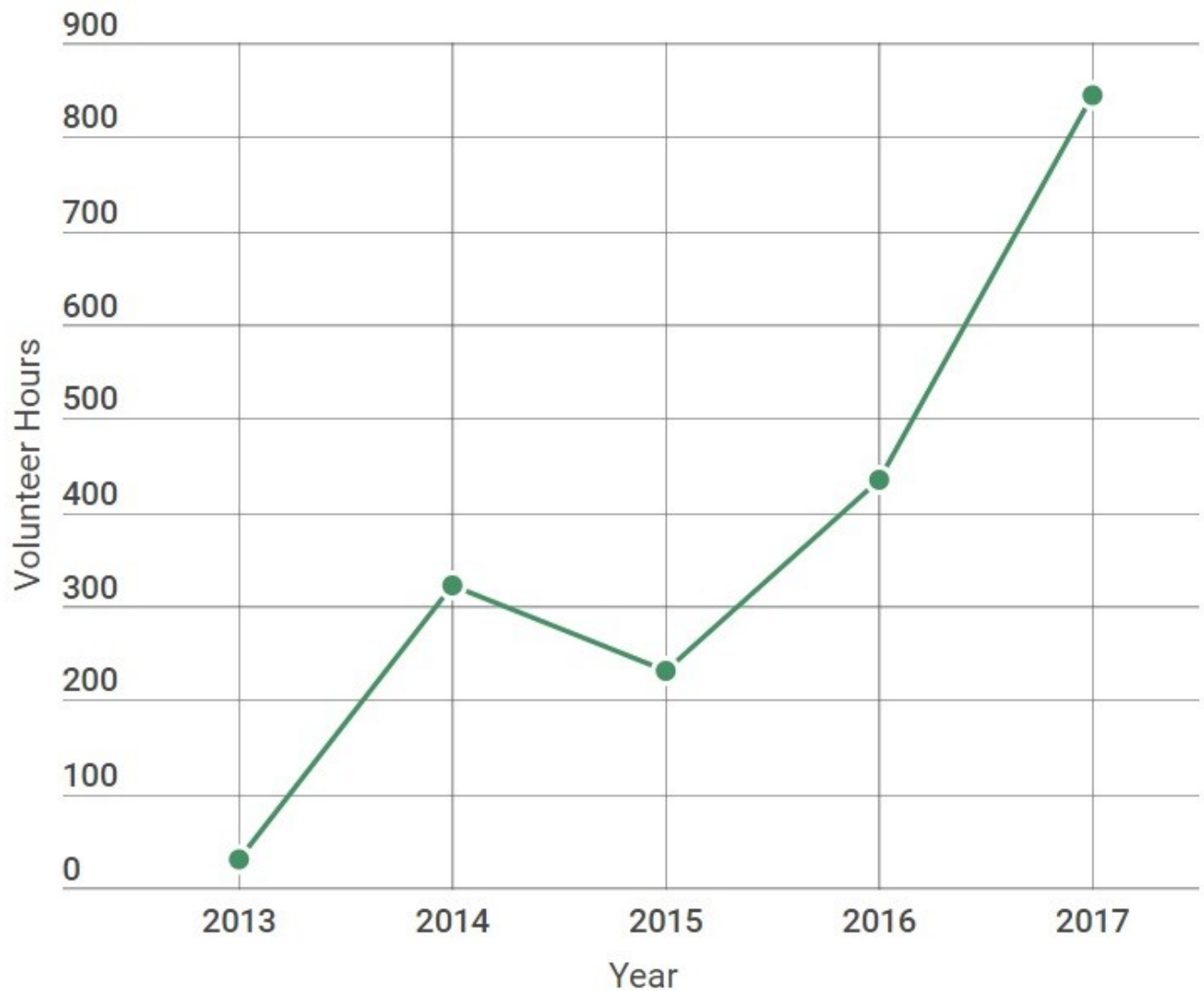
Citizen Pruner Accomplishment Locations

Below is a map of communities where active **Citizen Pruner** volunteer work was accomplished in 2017.



Big Lake	Brooklyn Park	Crystal	Lake Elmo
Elk River	Mahtomedi	Maple Grove	Minneapolis
Princeton	Rochester	Shakopee	Woodbury

Cumulative Citizen Pruner Volunteer Hours



In 2017, Citizen Pruners completed a total of 844.50 volunteer hours. From 2013 to the end of 2017, volunteers have completed a total of 1,862.70 volunteer hours.

Citizen Pruner Financial Contributions

Year	Total Hours	Hourly Rate *\$ per Hour	Value to MN in \$
2013	30.00	\$23.59	\$707.70
2014	321.60	\$24.31	\$7,818.10
2015	231.60	\$24.83	\$5,570.63
2016	435.00	\$25.20	\$10,962.00
2017	844.50	\$26.40	\$22,294.80

Collectively, monetary contributions from Citizen Pruners between 2013 and 2017 totals \$46,175.28 (based on 2016 figures).

Minnesota Citizen Pruner Accomplishments

The following data was collected for all of the participating Citizen Pruner communities: Hennepin County, Maple Grove, Minneapolis, Oakdale, Newport & St. Paul Park, Shakopee, Sherburne County, and Rochester.

Community	Hours	Monetary Value	Active Volunteers	# Trees Pruned	Suckers/ Sprouts Removed	Light Pruning	Develop- mental Pruning	Materials Removed	Trees Reported
Hennepin County	27	\$712.80	7	328	15	37	177	0	0
Maple Grove*	18	\$475.20	5	18	—	18	18	—	—
Minneapolis*	289.25	\$7,636.20	22	559	517	119	25	100	95
Oakdale, Newport, & St. Paul Park	155.5	\$4,105.20	9	235	154	209	179	2	0
Shakopee	15	\$396.00	3	50	10	40	10	0	3
Sherburne County	276.25	\$7,293.00	22	627	358	359	277	6	12
Rochester*	63.50	\$1,676.40	4	50	10	5	4	0	—
Totals:	844.50	\$22,294.80	72	1,867	1,064	787	690	108	110

*There was missing data on select field forms so the number of trees pruned and subsequent details may be inaccurate.

In 2017, Minnesota Citizen Pruners completed an average of 11.73 volunteer hours.

Hennepin County Accomplishments

Hennepin County has been involved with the Citizen Pruner Program since 2016.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	27 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$712.80

Total Number of Trees Pruned	328 trees
Total trees with sucker/sprout removals	15 trees
Total trees with light pruning (e.g. broken, damaged, low branches)	37 trees
Total trees with developmental pruning	177 trees
Total trees with material removals (e.g. string, wraps, tags)	0 trees
Total trees reporting to the city because of concerns	0 trees

Hennepin County has a total of 7 active volunteers and completed an average of 3.87 volunteer hours.

Maple Grove Accomplishments

Maple Grove has been involved with the
Citizen Pruner Program since 2016.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	18 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$475.20

***Maple Grove has a total of 3 active volunteers and
completed an average of 6 volunteer hours.***

Minneapolis Accomplishments

Minneapolis has been involved with the Citizen Pruner Program since 2016.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	289.25 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$7,636.20

Total Number of Trees Pruned	559 trees*
Total trees with sucker/sprout removals	517 trees
Total trees with light pruning (e.g. broken, damaged, low branches)	119 trees
Total trees with developmental pruning	25 trees
Total trees with material removals (e.g. string, wraps, tags)	100 trees
Total trees reporting to the city because of concerns	95 trees

**There is missing pruning data from independent pruning excursions by individual volunteers. It is estimated the there were more removals completed than is listed.*

Minneapolis has a total of 22 active volunteers and completed an average of 13.15 volunteer hours.

Oakdale, Newport, & St. Paul Park Accomplishments

Oakdale, Newport & St. Paul Park have been involved with the Citizen Pruner Program since 2016.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	155.5 hours
Newport	122 hours
Woodbury	3.25 hours
Lake Elmo	3.25 hours
Mahtomedi	27 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$4,105.20

Total Number of Trees Pruned	235 trees
Total trees with sucker/sprout removals	154 trees
Total trees with light pruning (e.g. broken, damaged, low branches)	209 trees
Total trees with developmental pruning	179 trees
Total trees with material removals (e.g. string, wraps, tags)	2 tree
Total trees reporting to the city because of concerns	2 trees

Oakdale, Newport, and St. Paul Park has a total of 9 active volunteers and completed an average of 17.28 volunteer hours.

Sherburne County Accomplishments

Sherburne County has been involved with the Citizen Pruner Program since 2014. Sherburne County's involved cities are Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Princeton, and Zimmerman.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017*	276.25 hours
Big Lake	74 hours
Elk River	145 hours
Princeton	39 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$7,293.00

Total Number of Trees Pruned	627 trees
Total trees with sucker/sprout removals	358 trees
Total trees with light pruning (e.g. broken, damaged, low branches)	359 trees
Total trees with developmental pruning	277 trees
Total trees with material removals (e.g. string, wraps, tags)	6 trees
Total trees reporting to the city because of concerns	12 trees

**Hours contributed in specific cities do not encompass all volunteer hours due to independent pruning opportunities and travel time reported by volunteers.*

Sherburne County has a total of 22 active volunteers each completing an average of 12.56 volunteer hours.

Rochester Accomplishments

Rochester has been involved with the Citizen Pruner Program since 2013.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	63.50 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$1,676.40

Total Number of Trees Pruned	50 trees*
Total trees with sucker/sprout removals	10 trees
Total trees with light pruning (e.g. broken, damaged, low branches)	5 trees
Total trees with developmental pruning	4 trees
Total trees with material removals (e.g. string, wraps, tags)	0 trees
Total trees reporting to the city because of concerns	— —

**There was missing data on select field forms so the number of trees pruned and subsequent details may be inaccurate or underestimated.*

Rochester has a total of 4 active volunteers and completed an average of 15.88 volunteer hours.

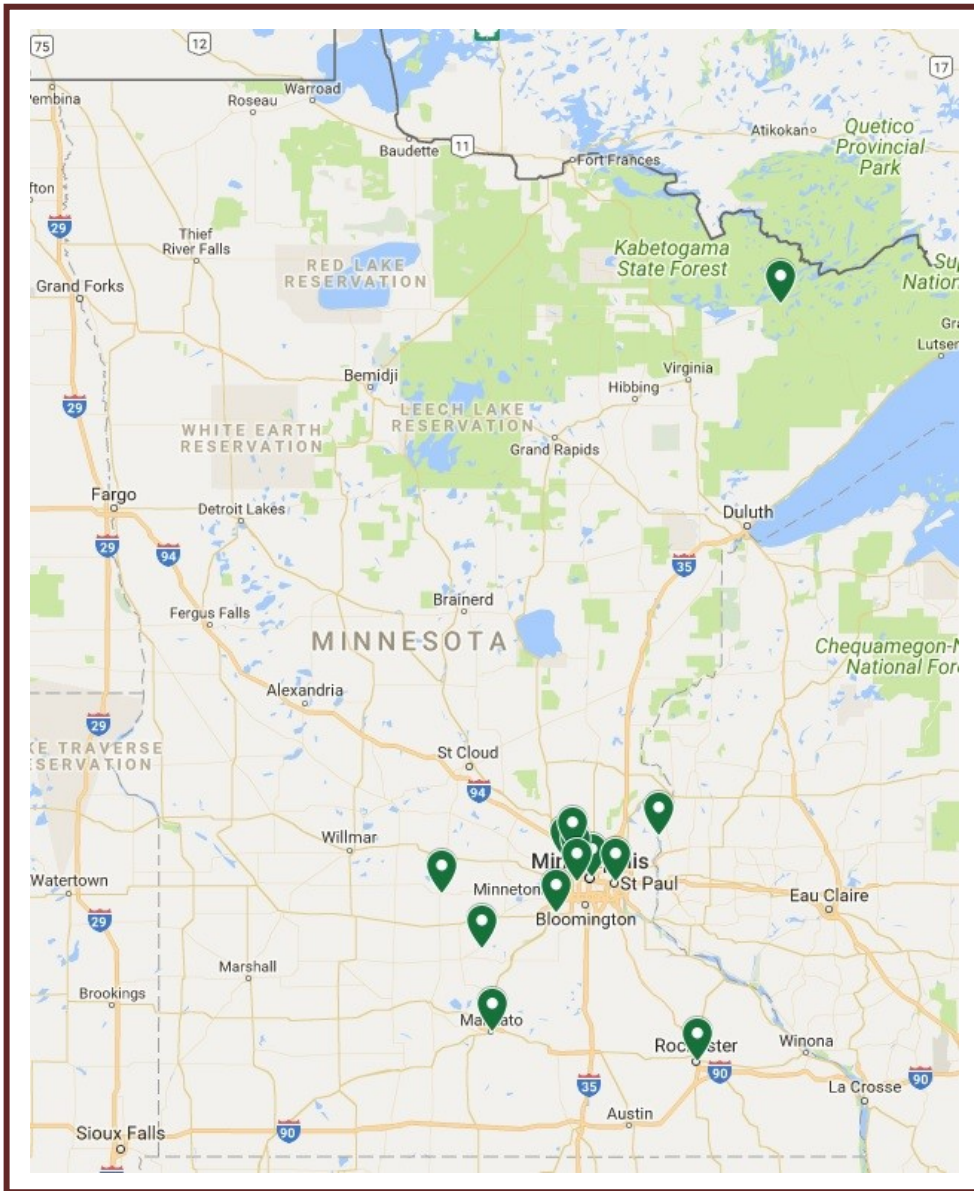
Minnesota Tree Steward

The **Minnesota Tree Steward Program** is a community-based program where city/county staff or representatives will request **customized volunteer education** and **hands-on training** for its citizens. This education allows citizens to get involved with multiple aspects of tree care and to act as a **leader** and a **second pair of eyes** for the community. Activities vary based on the needs of the community, but generally fall into the categories of: **best planting practices, watering, best pruning practices, and tree health monitoring**. Volunteers may fulfill service hours either **independently** or by attending community hosted volunteer **events**.

In 2017, 81 Minnesota Tree Stewards dedicated their time to volunteerism.

Tree Steward Accomplishment Locations

Below is a map of communities where active **Tree Steward** volunteer work was accomplished in 2017.



Arlington	Ely	Golden Valley	Hutchinson
Mankato	Maple Grove	Marine on St. Croix	Minneapolis
New Hope	Osseo	Rochester	St. Louis Park
Saint Paul	Shakopee		

Minnesota Tree Steward Accomplishments

The following data was collected for all of the following participating Citizen Pruner communities: Hennepin County, Maple Grove, Minneapolis, Oakdale, Newport & St. Paul Park, Sherburne County, and Rochester.

Community	Hours	Monetary Value	Active Volunteers	Hours Spent Planting	Hours Spent Pruning	Hours Spent Watering	Hours Spent Monitoring Tree Health
Arlington	7	\$184.0	1	0	0	0	7
Ely	272	\$7,180.80	50	200	12	(included in planting)	60
Hennepin County	65	\$1,716.00	11	46	19	0	0
Hutchinson	28	\$739.20	2	0	22	0	0
Mankato	20	\$528.00	3	0	20	0	0
Maple Grove	39	\$1,029.60	6	17	18	4	0
Rochester	57.50	\$1,518.00	4	0	57.50	0	0
Saint Paul	46	\$1,214.40	1	15	10	0	0
Shakopee	45	\$1,188.00	3	0	45	0	0
Totals:	579.50	\$15,298.80	81	278	203.50	4	67

In 2017, Minnesota Tree Stewards completed an average of 7.15 volunteer hours.

Hennepin County Accomplishments

Hennepin County has been involved with the Tree Steward Program since 2017.

Total Volunteer Hours for 2017	65 hours
Total Monetary Contribution (Based on 2016 values - rate of \$26.40/hr.)	\$1,716.00

Tree Steward Hour in Contribution to Hennepin County Cities*	58 hours
Golden Valley	18 hours
Maple Grove	3 hours
Marine on St. Croix	4 hours
Minneapolis	2 hours
New Hope	2 hours
Osseo	5 hours
St. Louis Park	27 hours
Unknown Location	4 hours

**Volunteer activities performed outside of Hennepin County borders were not included.*

Hennepin County has a total of 11 active volunteers and completed an average of 5.91 volunteer hours.

Forest Resources Outreach Line

The **Forest Resources Outreach Line** has been staff by Tree Care Advisors since 2013.

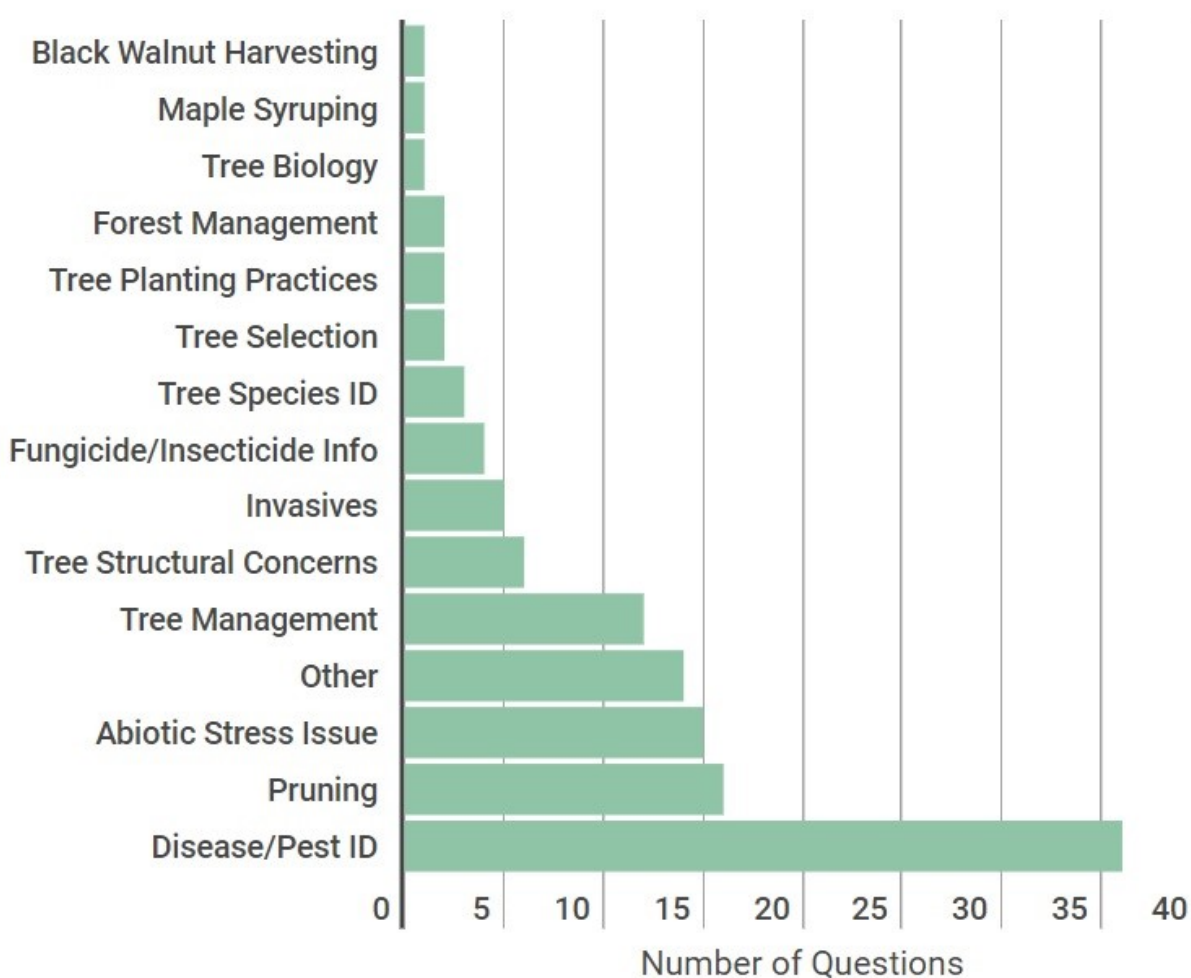
Minnesotans can contact the information help desk throughout the year via two ways: by **phone** or by **e-mail**. Once the phone or email messages are received, Tree Care Advisor volunteers research the resident's tree-related questions and provide them with a **non-biased resolution** to their questions and resources to support the resolution. In 2017, the Outreach Line was staffed by **Annette LeDuc, Mary Magers, and Bruce Nelson**. Since 2014, volunteers have answered **758** questions from the public.

In 2017, volunteers answered 120 questions from the public in total.

Forest Resources Outreach Line—Question Topics

Throughout 2017, many questions reached our volunteers. Below, you can find the breakdown of question topics.

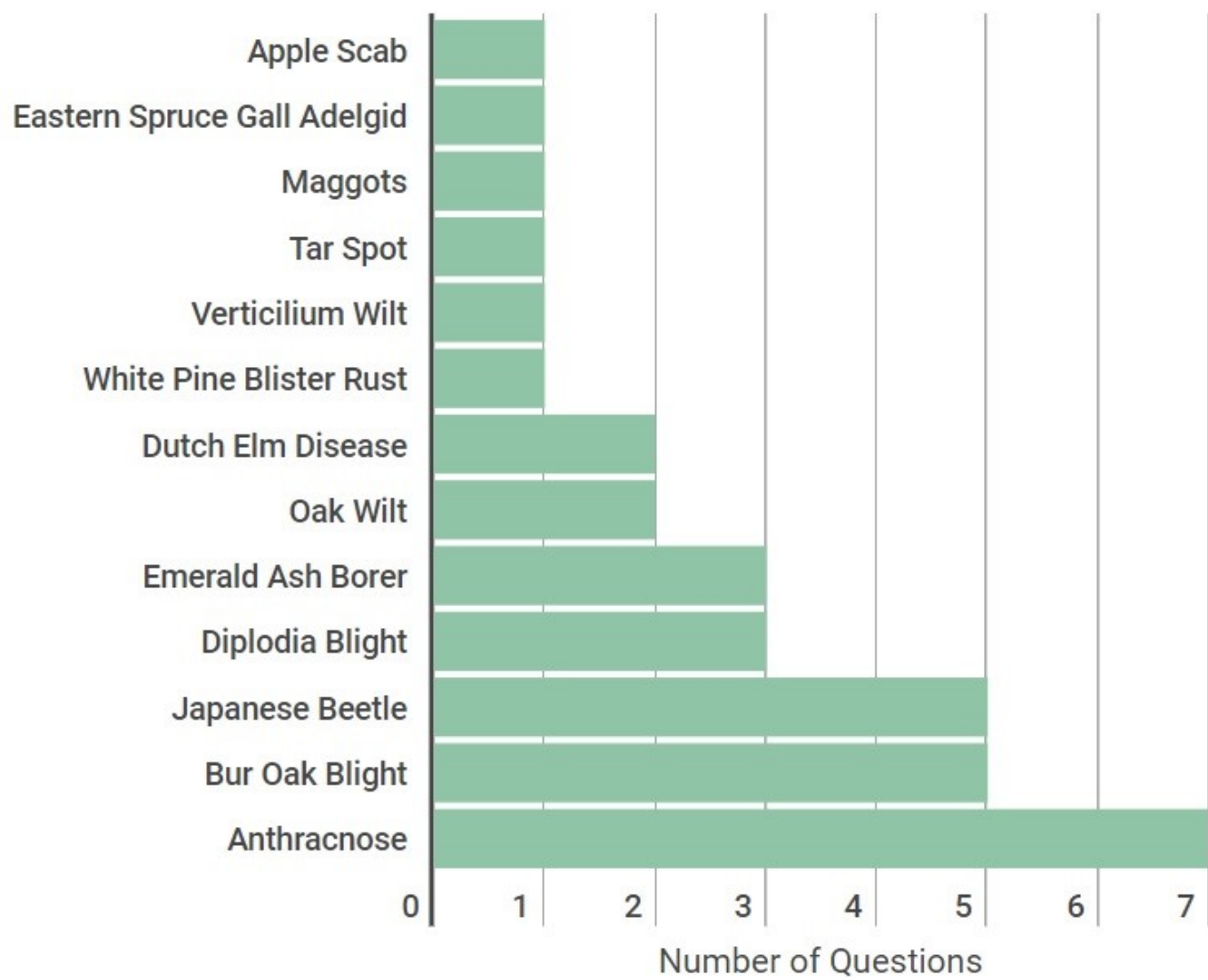
Other topics include construction, law and ordinances, mulching, removal and reuse, resources, root issues, seed starting, valuation, and weed management.



***In 2017, 38 of questions were received via phone
and 82 questions were received via e-mail.***

Forest Resources Outreach Line—Insect/Disease Questions

Below is the breakdown of questions regarding insects and disease. All other questions were not related to a specific insect or disease.



Congratulations

Special recognition goes to the following
volunteers for their **milestone years!**

10 Year Anniversary:

Corrine Johnson

Marty Strong

Pat Mack

Carol Strong

Janet McDaniel

Rebecca Krenik

20 Year Anniversary:

Glen Hambleton

Gordon Hanson

Mimi Hottinger

Milestone Accomplishments in 2017:

Barbara Gasterland (500+ hours)

Mary Hunstiger (500+ hours)

Jacquelyn Metelak (500+ hours)

Janet Erdman (1,000+ hours)

Corinne Johnson (1,000+ hours)

Marilyn Arnlund (1,500+ hours)

Pat Mack (2,000+ hours)

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all Tree Care Advisor,
Citizen Pruner and Tree Steward **volunteers**.

Thank you to all Citizen Pruner and
Tree Steward **community contacts** for bringing
Tree Care Advocate programs to their
communities and citizens.

Thank you to the **Minnesota Department of
Natural Resources Forestry Division** for its 25
years of financial and technical support.

Thank you to the **Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency** for their continued support at
the Minnesota State Fair.

A special thank you and acknowledgement to
the following committed Tree Care Advisors
that have recently reached Emeritus Status:

Grace Anderson

Bruce Granos

Glen Hambleton

Georgiann Keyport