

Swisher, IA:

2020 Urban Forest Management Plan

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| Executive Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

This plan was developed to assist the City of Swisher in managing its urban forest, including budgeting and future planning. Trees bring numerous benefits to a community, and sound management helps leaders take advantage of these benefits. Management is especially important now considering the serious threats posed by forest pests like the emerald ash borer (EAB). EAB is an invasive insect imported from Eastern Asia on wood shipping crates that kills all species of ash trees except mountain ash. There is a strong possibility that 28 percent of Swisher's city-owned trees will die once EAB becomes established in the community unless local leaders begin preventative treatment. With proper planning and management, the costs of removing dead and dying trees can be extended over years, mitigating public safety issues.

Inventory and Results

In 2020, JEO conducted a tree inventory using Global Positioning System (GPS) data collectors. The inventory was a complete inventory of street and park trees. Below are some key findings of the 83 trees inventoried.

- Swisher's trees provide \$17,138 of benefits annually, an average of \$206.48 per tree
- There are over 15 species of trees
- The top three genera are: ash 28%, maple 13%, and basswood/linden 10%
- 85.5 percent of trees need some type of management
- 37 trees should be removed

Recommendations

Below are some key recommendations, for further details see the Recommendation and Emerald Ash Borer Plan Sections:

- Out of the 37 trees needing removal, 26 trees are over 24 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet and must be addressed immediately. [*City ownership of the trees recommended for removal should be verified prior to any removal*](#)
- 14 of the 23 ash trees should be carefully examined, as they have one or more symptoms that could be related to an EAB infestation.
- All trees should be pruned on a routine schedule: one third of the city every other year.
- Plant a diverse mix of trees that do not include: ash, maple, cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow or black walnut.
- Check ash trees yearly with a visual survey.
- With the current budget it could take 13 years to remove ash. We suggest that city officials request a budget increase to \$4,500 annually rather than occasionally and apply for grants to plant replacement trees



| Introduction

INTRODUCTION



This plan was developed to assist Swisher with managing, budgeting, and future planning of their urban forest. Across the state, forestry budgets continue to decrease as a higher percentage of the budgets are devoted to tree removal. With the anticipated arrival of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive pest that kills native ash trees, it is time to prepare for the increased costs of tree removal, treatment, and replacement planting. With proper planning and management of the current canopy in Swisher, these costs can be spread out over the years and public safety issues from dead and dying ash trees can be mitigated.

Trees are an important part of Swisher’s infrastructure and one of the city’s greatest assets. The benefits of trees are immense. Trees improve air quality, intercept stormwater runoff, conserve energy, lower traffic speeds, increase property values, reduce crime, improve mental health, and create a desirable place to live, to name just a few. Good urban forestry management will maintain these important benefits for the people of Swisher and future generations.

Urban forestry management sets goals and develops management strategies to achieve them. To develop management strategies, a comprehensive public tree inventory must be conducted. The inventory informs maintenance, removal schedules, tree planting, and budgeting. Aligning management actions with the tree inventory results will help meet Swisher’s urban forestry goals.



Assist Swisher with Managing its Urban Forest



Inform on the Benefits of a Healthy Urban Forest



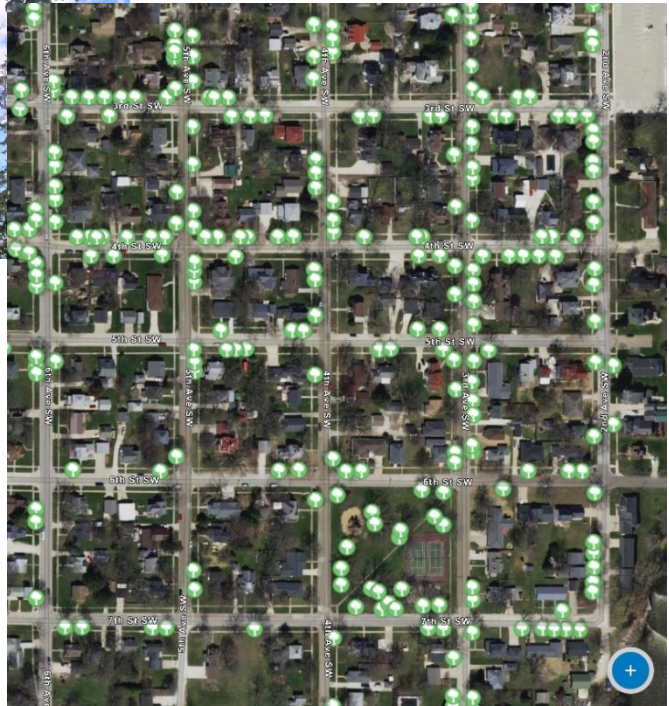
Establish Preventative Treatment for Emerald Ash Borer



Develop Efficient City Tree Management Techniques



Mitigate Public Safety Issues



| Inventory Results

INVENTORY

In 2020, JEO conducted a tree inventory that included 100 percent of the city-owned trees on both streets and parks. The team collected tree data using a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. The data collector gives Geographic Information Systems (GIS) coordinates with an accuracy of 3 meters, which can be used in ArcGIS as an active GIS data layer. Because the inventory is a digital document the data can be updated with new information and become a working document.

The data collectors' programming was written to be compatible with a state-of-the-art software suite called i-Tree. i-Tree was developed by the USDA Forest Service to quantify the structure of community trees and the environmental services that trees provide. The i-Tree suite is a public domain which can be accessed for free.

To quantify the urban forest structure and benefits, specific data is collected for each tree. This data includes: location, land use, species, diameter at 4.5 feet, recommended maintenance, priority of that maintenance, leaf health, and wood condition. Additionally, for all ash trees, the team notes signs and symptoms associated with EAB including canopy dieback, epicormic shoots, bark splitting, D-shaped borer exit holes, and wood pecker damage.

INVENTORY RESULTS

JEO entered the data collected for the 83 city trees into the USDA Forest Service Program Street Tree Resource Analysis Tool for Urban forestry Management as part of the i-Tree suite. Following are results from the i-Tree STREETS analysis.

ANNUAL BENEFITS

Annual Energy Benefits

Trees conserve energy by shading buildings and blocking winds. Swisher's trees reduce energy-related costs by approximately \$4,423 annually (Appendix A, Table 1). These savings are both in electricity (21.0 MWh) and in natural gas (2,884.5 Therms).

Annual Stormwater Benefits

Swisher's trees intercept about 259,822 gallons of rainfall or snow melt per year (Appendix A, Table 2). This interception provides \$7,041 in benefit to the city.

Annual Air Quality Benefits

Air quality is a persistent public health issue in Iowa. The urban forest improves air quality by removing pollutants, lowering air temperature, and reducing energy consumption, which in turn reduces emissions from power plants, and lessens emissions of volatile organic matter (ozone). In Swisher, it is estimated that trees remove 272.1 pounds of air pollution (ozone (O₃), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM10), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and sulfur dioxide (SO₂)) per year with a net value of \$762 (Appendix A, Table 3).

Annual Carbon Benefits

Carbon sequestration and storage reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere, mitigating climate change. In Swisher, trees sequester about 50,722 pounds of carbon per year with an associated value of \$604 (Appendix A, Table 5). In addition, the trees store 1,098,004 pounds of carbon, with a yearly benefit of \$8,235 (Appendix A, Table 4).

Annual Aesthetics Benefits

The social benefits of trees are hard to capture. The i-Tree analysis does have a calculation for this area that includes aesthetic value, property values, lowered rates of mental illness and crime, city livability and much more. Swisher receives \$4,308 in annual social benefits from trees (Appendix A, Table 6).

Financial Summary of All Benefits

According to the USDA Forest Service i-Tree STREETS analysis, Swisher’s trees provide \$17,138 of benefits annually. Benefits of individual trees vary based on size, species, health and location, but on average each of the 83 trees in Swisher provide approximately \$206.48 annually (Appendix A, Table 7).

ENERGY	STORMWATER	AIR QUALITY	CARBON	AESTHETICS	SUMMARY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce energy cost by \$4,423 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intercept 259,822 gallons Provides \$7,041 benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove 272.1 lbs of pollution Net value of \$762 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequester 50,722 lbs Value of \$604 Store 1,098,004 lbs Value of \$8,235 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4,308 in social benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$17,138 annual benefits Each tree provides \$206.48 annually

FOREST STRUCTURE

Species Distribution

Swisher has over 15 different tree species along city streets and parks (Appendix A, Figure 1).

The distribution of trees by genera is as follows:

Ash	23	28%	Hackberry	2	2%
Maple	11	13%	Pine	2	2%
Basswood/Linden	8	10%	Oak	2	2%
Cedar	8	10%	Black cherry	1	1%
Honey locust	7	8%	Elm	1	1%
Walnut	6	7%	Sycamore	1	1%
Apple	6	7%	Birch	1	1%
Spruce	4	5%			

Age Class

Most of Swisher’s trees (40 percent) are between 12 and 24 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet (Appendix A, Figure 2).

To prepare for natural mortality and to maintain canopy cover, most trees should be in the smallest size category (a downward slope), indicating youth. Swisher’s size curve is on the medium side, indicating a very average stand.

Condition: Wood and Foliage

Both wood condition and leaf condition are good indicators of the urban forest’s overall health. The foliage condition results for Swisher indicate that 67.5 percent of the trees are in good health, with only 32.5 percent of the foliage in poor health, dead, or dying (Appendix A, Figure 3 & Appendix B, Figure 3). Similarly, 66 percent of Swisher’s trees are in good health for wood condition (Appendix A, Figure 4 & Appendix B, Figure 3). Thirty-four percent of the tree population’s wood condition is in poor health, dead, or dying. This 34 percent is an estimate of trees that need management follow up.

Management Needs

The following outlines the specific management needs of the street and park trees by number of trees and percent of canopy (Appendix B, Figure 3).

Action	Number of Trees	Percentage
Tree Removal	37	44.5%
Crown Cleaning	29	35%
Crown Raising	3	3%
Crown Reduction	2	2.5%
Tree Staking	0	0%

Canopy Cover

The total canopy with both private and public trees is 115.36 acres or around 22 percent. The canopy cover included in the Swisher inventory includes approximately 2 acres (Appendix A, Figure 4). The city’s canopy goal is to increase canopy by 8 percent in 30 years. To achieve this goal it is estimated that 58 trees need to be planted annually on public and private lands.

Land Use and Location

The majority of Swisher’s city and park trees are in planting strips in single family residential neighborhoods (Appendix A, Figure 6 & Appendix A, Figure7). The following describes the land use and locations for the street and park trees.

Land Use	Percentage
Industrial/Large Commercial	47%
Single Family Residential	38.5%
Small Commercial	14.5%
Park/Vacant/Other	0%
Multifamily Residential	0%



| Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

Risk Management

Hazardous trees can be a significant threat to both people and property. Trees that are dead, dying, or have large issues such as trunk cracks longer than 18 inches should be removed. Broken branches and branches that interfere with motorists' vision of pedestrians, vehicles, traffic signs and signals should be removed.

HAZARDOUS TREES

Swisher has 37 trees in need of immediate removal. These trees can be seen on the Location of Trees with Recommended Maintenance Map (Appendix B, Figure 4). We recommend starting with the large-diameter, critical concern trees first. There are 26 trees over 24 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet that should be addressed immediately. Please refer to the Schedule and Budget at the end of this section. After all of the critical concern trees are addressed, there should be follow up on the trees marked as needing maintenance. There are a total of 71 trees with maintenance needs.

POOR TREE SPECIES

After removing the critical concern trees, ash trees in poor health should be assessed for removal (Appendix B, Figure 3 & Appendix B, Figure 4). Of the 37 removals, 17 are ash trees. There are a total of 23 ash trees, and 14 of those have signs and symptoms that have been associated with EAB. In addition, there are 27 trees that are in poor health. [*City ownership of the trees recommended for removal should be verified prior to any removal*](#)

Pruning Cycle

Proper pruning can extend the life and good health of trees, as well as reduce public safety issues. In the Management Needs section of the Findings there are four main maintenance issues to be addressed: routine pruning, crown cleaning, crown raising, and crown reduction. Crown cleaning removes dead, diseased, and damaged limbs. Crown raising removes lower branches that are two inches in diameter or larger to provide clearance for pedestrians or vehicles. Crown reduction removes individual limbs from structures or utility wires. We recommend that all trees be pruned on a routine schedule every five to seven years. Please refer to the Schedule and Budget section for further information.

Planting

Most of the planting over the next five years will replace the trees that are removed. We recommend planting 1.2 trees for every tree removed, since survival rates will not be 100 percent. It is not essential that the new trees be planted in the same location of the trees being removed. However, maintaining the same number of trees helps ensure continuation of the benefits of the existing forest in Swisher.

It is important to plant a diverse mix of species in the urban forest to maintain canopy health, since most insects and diseases target a genus (ash) or species (green ash) of trees. Current diversity recommendations advise that a genus (i.e. maple, oak) not make up more than 20 percent of the urban forest and a single species (i.e. silver maple, sugar maple, white oak, bur oak) not make up more than 10 percent of the total urban forest. Presently, the forest is heavily planted with ash (28 percent) (Appendix A, Figure 1). Ash trees have not been recommended since 2002, due to the threat of EAB. Other species to avoid because they are public nuisances include: any fruit bearing tree or any tree commonly known as cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow or black walnut as outlined in section 151.02 of the city ordinance (Appendix C). All trees planted must meet the restrictions in city ordinance 151.02 (Appendix C).

Continual Monitoring

Due to the threat of EAB, it is important to continuously check the health of ash trees. We recommend that ash trees be checked with a visual survey every year for tree decline and for the following signs and symptoms: canopy dieback, epicormic shoots, bark splitting, D-shaped borer exit holes, and wood pecker damage.

EMERALD ASH BORER PLAN

Ash Tree Removal

Tree removal will be prioritized by first removing dead, dying, hazardous trees (Appendix B, Figure 4). Next will be all ash in poor condition that display EAB signs and symptoms (Appendix B, Figure 2 & Appendix B, Figure 3).

City ownership of the tree recommended for removal should be verified prior to any removal

Treatment of Ash Trees

Chemical treatment can be an effective tool for communities to spread removal costs out over several years while allowing trees to continue providing benefits. However, treatment is not recommended if EAB is more than 15 miles away from the community. For more information on the cost of treatment strategies visit <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/treecomputer/>



EAB Quarantines

EAB is an extremely destructive plant pest and it is responsible for the death and decline of millions of ash trees. Ash in both forested and urban settings constitute a significant portion of

the canopy cover in the United States. Current tools to detect, control, suppress and eradicate this pest are not as robust as the USDA would desire. In order to stay ahead of this hard to detect beetle, the USDA is attempting to contain the beetle before it spreads beyond its known positions by regulating articles.

A regulated article under the USDA's quarantine includes any of the following items:

- emerald ash borer
- firewood of all hardwood species (for example ash, oak, maple and hickory)
- nursery stock and green lumber of ash
- any other ash material, whether living, dead, cut or fallen, including logs, stumps, roots, branches, as well as composted and not composted chips of the genus ash (Mountain ash is not included)

In addition, any other article, product, or means of conveyance not listed above may be designated as a regulated article if a USDA inspector determines that it presents a risk of spreading EAB once a quarantine is in effect for your county.

Wood Disposal

A very important aspect of planning is determining how wood infested with EAB will be handled, keeping in mind that quarantines will restrict its movement. Consider who will cut and haul the dead and dying trees? Is there an accessible, secured site big enough to store and sort the hundreds of trees and the associated brush and chips? How will wood be disposed of or utilized? Do you have equipment capable of handling the amount and size of ash trees your tree inventory has identified? Once your county is under quarantine for EAB, contact USDA-APHIS-PPQ at 515-251-4083 or visit the website

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/regulatory.shtml. Wood waste can be normally disposed of if your county is not part of a quarantine.

Canopy Replacement

As budget permits, all removed trees will be replaced. All trees will meet the restrictions in city ordinance 151.02 (Appendix C). The new plantings will be a diverse mix and will not include any fruit bearing tree or any tree commonly known as cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow or black walnut.

Postponed Work

While finances, staffing, and equipment are focused on the management of ash, usual services may be delayed. Tree removal requests on genera other than ash will be prioritized by hazardous or emergency situations only.

Monitoring

It is recommended that ash trees be checked with a visual survey every year for tree death and for EAB signs and symptoms including canopy dieback, epicormic shoots, bark splitting, D-shaped borer exit holes, and wood pecker damage.

Private Ash Trees

It is strongly recommended that private property owners start removing ash trees on their property upon arrival of EAB if preventative treatments are not being used. City Code 151.07 section 2 states “If it is determined with reasonable certainty that any such condition exists on private property and that danger to other trees or to adjoining property or passing motorists or pedestrians is imminent, the Council shall notify by certified mail the owner, occupant or person in charge of such property to correct such condition by treatment or removal within fourteen (14) days of said notification. If such owner, occupant or person in charge of said property fails to comply within fourteen (14) days of receipt of notice, the Council may cause the condition to be corrected and the cost assessed against the property.”



| Schedule & Budget

PROPOSED WORK SCHEDULE & BUDGET

Budget Allowance of \$2,000/Year – (Based off Reported Yearly Tree Budget)

YEAR 1	Est. Cost	YEAR 4	Est. Cost
Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400	Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400
Plant 4 trees in open locations	\$600	Plant 1 tree in an open location	\$150
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a	Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405
TOTAL	\$2,000	Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
		TOTAL	\$1,955
YEAR 2	Est. Cost	YEAR 5	Est. Cost
Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400	Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400
Plant 1 tree in an open location	\$150	Plant 4 trees in open locations	\$600
Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405	Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a	TOTAL	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$1,955		
YEAR 3	Est. Cost	YEAR 6	Est. Cost
Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400	Remove 2 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$1,400
Plant 4 trees in open locations	\$600	Plant 1 tree in an open location	\$150
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a	Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405
TOTAL	\$2,000	Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
		TOTAL	\$1,955

Estimated costs based on average costs of \$700/tree for removal, \$150/tree for planting and maintenance, and \$15/tree for pruning.

**To remove all ash trees within 6 years alone, the budget would need to be \$2,700 a year. If the budget were increased to \$2,400 a year all ash could be removed in 7 years. This price does not include additional pruning, planting, or immediate tree removals that are not of the genus ash.



PROPOSED WORK SCHEDULE WITH INCREASED BUDGET

Budget Allowance of \$4,500/Year – (Budget Increase Suggested to Best Manage City Trees)

YEAR 1	Est. Cost
Remove 4 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$2,800
Remove 2 ash trees in poor condition	\$1,400
Plant 2 trees in open locations	\$300
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,500

YEAR 2	Est. Cost
Remove 3 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$2,100
Remove 2 ash trees in poor health	\$1,400
Plant 3 trees in open locations	\$450
Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,355

YEAR 3	Est. Cost
Remove 4 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$2,800
Remove 1 ash trees in poor condition	\$700
Plant 6 trees in open locations	\$900
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,400

YEAR 4	Est. Cost
Remove 3 trees recommended for immediate removal	\$2,100
Remove 2 ash trees in poor condition	\$1,400
Plant 3 trees in open locations	\$450
Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,355

YEAR 5	Est. Cost
Remove 5 ash trees in poor condition	\$3,500
Plant 6 trees in open locations	\$1,000
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,500

YEAR 6	Est. Cost
Remove 4 ash trees	\$3,500
Plant 3 trees in open locations	\$450
Prune 1/3 of city owned trees	\$405
Visual Survey of EAB Signs/Symptoms	n/a
TOTAL	\$4,355

Proposed Budget Increase

EAB could potentially kill all ash trees in Swisher within four years of its arrival. To remove all ash trees within six years, the budget would need to be increased to \$2,700 a year. If the budget remains the same, all ash could be removed within 9 years. Additionally, we recommend that Swisher apply for grants to fund replacement trees. Utility Company grants are usually between \$500 and \$10,000 for community-based, tree-planting projects that include parks, gateways, cemeteries, nature trails, libraries, nursing homes, and schools.

Another option considered by many communities is treating selected trees, either to maintain those trees in the landscape or to delay their removal – to spread out the costs and number of trees needing removal all at once. Trunk injection is administered every two years for the life of the tree. If treatment is discontinued, the tree dies. For instance, in this treatment scenario, the average ash diameter is 20 inches and at \$15 per inch, about 6 trees could be treated per year (every other year treatment). Six trees would be selected for treatment, and Swisher would still need to find \$11,900 for removal. Alternatively, if there are 15 treatable trees, it would cost approximately \$2,250 a year for treatment and leave \$5,600 for removal. These are alternatives to straight removal of ash trees. However, whether or not the treatment option is selected, there will be an increased cost of dealing with ash trees if EAB is found in Swisher. We suggest considering an increased budget to plan for this.

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| Appendices

APPENDIX A: i-TREE DATA



Table 1: Annual Energy Benefits

Swisher

Annual Energy Benefits of Public Trees

1/29/2021

Species	Total Electricity (MWh)	Electricity (\$)	Total Natural Gas (Therms)	Natural Gas (\$)	Total Standard (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Green ash	7.5	569	1,028.0	1,007	1,576	(N/A)	27.7	35.6	68.54
Eastern red cedar	0.9	68	131.5	129	197	(N/A)	9.6	4.4	24.57
Honeylocust	2.0	154	247.6	243	397	(N/A)	8.4	9.0	56.70
Apple	0.4	34	77.0	75	109	(N/A)	7.2	2.5	18.19
Black walnut	2.0	149	268.0	263	412	(N/A)	7.2	9.3	68.61
American basswood	2.4	181	337.4	331	512	(N/A)	7.2	11.6	85.34
Norway maple	0.9	67	132.7	130	197	(N/A)	4.8	4.5	49.30
Blue spruce	0.4	32	53.6	53	84	(N/A)	3.6	1.9	28.16
Silver maple	1.2	92	158.3	155	247	(N/A)	3.6	5.6	82.23
Red maple	0.3	20	38.2	37	57	(N/A)	3.6	1.3	19.00
Northern hackberry	0.8	57	99.3	97	154	(N/A)	2.4	3.5	77.14
Littleleaf linden	0.4	32	57.8	57	89	(N/A)	2.4	2.0	44.52
Scotch pine	0.3	25	44.3	43	69	(N/A)	2.4	1.6	34.32
American sycamore	0.4	33	59.0	58	91	(N/A)	1.2	2.1	91.02
Swamp white oak	0.0	3	6.2	6	9	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	8.99
Paper birch	0.1	7	13.7	13	21	(N/A)	1.2	0.5	20.64
Bur oak	0.1	7	13.7	13	21	(N/A)	1.2	0.5	20.64
Black spruce	0.1	11	19.5	19	30	(N/A)	1.2	0.7	29.65
Siberian elm	0.5	38	62.2	61	98	(N/A)	1.2	2.2	98.48
Sugar maple	0.0	3	4.6	5	7	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	7.13
Black cherry	0.2	15	31.6	31	46	(N/A)	1.2	1.0	46.14
Total	21.0	1,596	2,884.5	2,827	4,423	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	53.29

Annual Stormwater Benefits of Public Trees

1/29/2021

Species	Total rainfall interception (Gal)	Total Standard (\$)	Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Green ash	91,241	2,473	(N/A)	27.7	35.1	107.51
Eastern red cedar	13,076	354	(N/A)	9.6	5.0	44.30
Honeylocust	14,026	380	(N/A)	8.4	5.4	54.30
Apple	1,587	43	(N/A)	7.2	0.6	7.17
Black walnut	28,067	761	(N/A)	7.2	10.8	126.77
American basswood	37,088	1,005	(N/A)	7.2	14.3	167.51
Norway maple	8,886	241	(N/A)	4.8	3.4	60.20
Blue spruce	6,013	163	(N/A)	3.6	2.3	54.32
Silver maple	19,735	535	(N/A)	3.6	7.6	178.27
Red maple	1,388	38	(N/A)	3.6	0.5	12.54
Northern hackberry	7,919	215	(N/A)	2.4	3.0	107.31
Littleleaf linden	3,626	98	(N/A)	2.4	1.4	49.13
Scotch pine	7,574	205	(N/A)	2.4	2.9	102.63
American sycamore	7,239	196	(N/A)	1.2	2.8	196.17
Swamp white oak	163	4	(N/A)	1.2	0.1	4.41
Paper birch	608	16	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	16.47
Bur oak	608	16	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	16.47
Black spruce	2,312	63	(N/A)	1.2	0.9	62.66
Siberian elm	7,351	199	(N/A)	1.2	2.8	199.22
Sugar maple	140	4	(N/A)	1.2	0.1	3.80
Black cherry	1,174	32	(N/A)	1.2	0.5	31.82
Citywide total	259,822	7,041	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	84.83

Annual Air Quality Benefits of Public Trees
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1/29/2021

Species	Deposition (lb)				Total Depos. (\$)	Avoided (lb)				Total Avoided (\$)	BVOC Emissions (lb)	BVOC Emissions (\$)	Total (lb)	Total Standard (\$ Error)	% of Total Trees	Avg. \$/tree
	O ₃	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	SO ₂		NO ₂	PM ₁₀	VOC	SO ₂							
Green ash	12.0	1.9	5.6	0.5	64	35.8	5.2	5.0	34.0	223	0.0	0	100.1	287 (N/A)	27.7	12.47
Eastern red cedar	2.7	0.5	2.2	0.3	18	4.3	0.6	0.6	4.0	27	-7.2	-27	8.1	17 (N/A)	9.6	2.19
Honeylocust	2.5	0.4	1.2	0.1	13	9.4	1.4	1.3	9.2	59	-1.7	-6	23.8	66 (N/A)	8.4	9.47
Apple	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	2	2.3	0.3	0.3	2.0	14	0.0	0	5.4	15 (N/A)	7.2	2.55
Black walnut	4.6	0.7	2.1	0.2	24	9.4	1.4	1.3	8.9	58	0.0	0	28.5	82 (N/A)	7.2	13.74
American basswood	6.0	1.0	2.8	0.3	32	11.5	1.7	1.6	10.8	72	-4.9	-18	30.9	85 (N/A)	7.2	14.23
Norway maple	1.9	0.3	0.9	0.1	10	4.3	0.6	0.6	4.0	27	-0.4	-2	12.3	35 (N/A)	4.8	8.78
Blue spruce	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.1	6	2.0	0.3	0.3	1.9	12	-2.2	-8	4.1	10 (N/A)	3.6	3.31
Silver maple	3.9	0.7	1.9	0.2	21	5.7	0.8	0.8	5.5	36	-2.0	-7	17.3	49 (N/A)	3.6	16.28
Red maple	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	1	1.3	0.2	0.2	1.2	8	-0.1	0	3.0	8 (N/A)	3.6	2.80
Northern hackberry	1.4	0.2	0.7	0.1	7	3.6	0.5	0.5	3.4	22	0.0	0	10.3	30 (N/A)	2.4	14.82
Littleleaf linden	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.0	3	2.0	0.3	0.3	1.9	13	-0.3	-1	5.2	15 (N/A)	2.4	7.33
Scotch pine	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.1	6	1.6	0.2	0.2	1.5	10	-4.2	-16	1.2	0 (N/A)	2.4	-0.06
American sycamore	1.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	6	2.1	0.3	0.3	2.0	13	0.0	0	6.6	19 (N/A)	1.2	19.04
Swamp white oak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.4	1 (N/A)	1.2	1.21
Paper birch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	3	0.0	0	1.1	3 (N/A)	1.2	2.99
Bur oak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	3	0.0	0	1.1	3 (N/A)	1.2	2.99
Black spruce	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.0	2	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.6	4	-0.9	-3	1.3	3 (N/A)	1.2	3.10
Siberian elm	1.7	0.3	0.8	0.1	9	2.3	0.3	0.3	2.2	15	0.0	0	8.0	23 (N/A)	1.2	23.37
Sugar maple	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.4	1 (N/A)	1.2	1.02
Black cherry	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	2	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.9	6	0.0	0	2.9	8 (N/A)	1.2	8.35
Citywide total	41.5	7.0	21.1	2.2	226	100.4	14.6	13.9	95.3	625	-23.9	-90	272.1	762 (N/A)	100.0	9.18

Stored CO₂ Benefits of Public Trees

1/29/2021

Species	Total Stored CO2 (lbs)	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Green ash	392,814	2,946	(N/A)	27.7	35.8	128.09
Eastern red cedar	8,817	66	(N/A)	9.6	0.8	8.27
Honeylocust	30,468	229	(N/A)	8.4	2.8	32.64
Apple	5,447	41	(N/A)	7.2	0.5	6.81
Black walnut	155,597	1,167	(N/A)	7.2	14.2	194.50
American basswood	235,020	1,763	(N/A)	7.2	21.4	293.77
Norway maple	30,389	228	(N/A)	4.8	2.8	56.98
Blue spruce	7,130	53	(N/A)	3.6	0.6	17.82
Silver maple	92,632	695	(N/A)	3.6	8.4	231.58
Red maple	2,420	18	(N/A)	3.6	0.2	6.05
Northern hackberry	22,192	166	(N/A)	2.4	2.0	83.22
Littleleaf linden	11,813	89	(N/A)	2.4	1.1	44.30
Scotch pine	10,833	81	(N/A)	2.4	1.0	40.62
American sycamore	39,259	294	(N/A)	1.2	3.6	294.44
Swamp white oak	218	2	(N/A)	1.2	0.0	1.64
Paper birch	1,035	8	(N/A)	1.2	0.1	7.76
Bur oak	1,035	8	(N/A)	1.2	0.1	7.76
Black spruce	2,661	20	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	19.96
Siberian elm	41,265	309	(N/A)	1.2	3.8	309.48
Sugar maple	218	2	(N/A)	1.2	0.0	1.64
Black cherry	6,743	51	(N/A)	1.2	0.6	50.57
Citywide total	1,098,004	8,235	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	99.22

Annual CO₂ Benefits of Public Trees

1/29/2021

Species	Sequestered (lb)	Sequestered (\$)	Decomposition Release (lb)	Maintenance Release (lb)	Total Released (\$)	Avoided (lb)	Avoided (\$)	Net Total (lb)	Total Standard (\$ Error)	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Green ash	18,056	135	-1,886	-79	-15	12,572	94	28,663	215 (N/A)	27.7	35.6	9.35
Eastern red cedar	171	1	-42	-16	0	1,495	11	1,608	12 (N/A)	9.6	2.0	1.51
Honeylocust	2,846	21	-146	-14	-1	3,410	26	6,095	46 (N/A)	8.4	7.6	6.53
Apple	683	5	-26	-7	0	745	6	1,395	10 (N/A)	7.2	1.7	1.74
Black walnut	3,972	30	-747	-22	-6	3,293	25	6,496	49 (N/A)	7.2	8.1	8.12
American basswood	11,893	89	-1,128	-30	-9	4,008	30	14,742	111 (N/A)	7.2	18.3	18.43
Norway maple	1,035	8	-147	-10	-1	1,483	11	2,362	18 (N/A)	4.8	2.9	4.43
Blue spruce	370	3	-34	-7	0	706	5	1,034	8 (N/A)	3.6	1.3	2.58
Silver maple	6,059	45	-445	-14	-3	2,023	15	7,623	57 (N/A)	3.6	9.5	19.06
Red maple	369	3	-12	-3	0	432	3	786	6 (N/A)	3.6	1.0	1.97
Northern hackberry	909	7	-107	-7	-1	1,258	9	2,054	15 (N/A)	2.4	2.6	7.70
Littleleaf linden	1,304	10	-57	-5	0	717	5	1,959	15 (N/A)	2.4	2.4	7.35
Scotch pine	443	3	-52	-6	0	557	4	943	7 (N/A)	2.4	1.2	3.53
American sycamore	912	7	-188	-5	-1	734	6	1,453	11 (N/A)	1.2	1.8	10.90
Swamp white oak	96	1	-2	-1	0	65	0	158	1 (N/A)	1.2	0.2	1.18
Paper birch	209	2	-5	-1	0	159	1	361	3 (N/A)	1.2	0.4	2.71
Bur oak	209	2	-5	-1	0	159	1	361	3 (N/A)	1.2	0.4	2.71
Black spruce	147	1	-13	-3	0	233	2	364	3 (N/A)	1.2	0.5	2.73
Siberian elm	983	7	-198	-6	-2	829	6	1,608	12 (N/A)	1.2	2.0	12.06
Sugar maple	57	0	-2	-1	0	58	0	112	1 (N/A)	1.2	0.1	0.84
Black cherry	0	0	-32	-4	0	335	3	299	2 (N/A)	1.2	0.4	2.24
Citywide total	50,722	380	-5,273	-243	-41	35,269	265	80,476	604 (N/A)	100.0	100.0	7.27

Annual Aesthetic/Other Benefits of Public Trees
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1/29/2021

Species	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Green ash	1,392	(N/A)	27.7	32.3	60.52
Eastern red cedar	55	(N/A)	9.6	1.3	6.84
Honeylocust	616	(N/A)	8.4	14.3	88.03
Apple	38	(N/A)	7.2	0.9	6.40
Black walnut	283	(N/A)	7.2	6.6	47.18
American basswood	734	(N/A)	7.2	17.0	122.41
Norway maple	99	(N/A)	4.8	2.3	24.75
Blue spruce	63	(N/A)	3.6	1.5	21.09
Silver maple	423	(N/A)	3.6	9.8	140.84
Red maple	67	(N/A)	3.6	1.6	22.32
Northern hackberry	118	(N/A)	2.4	2.7	58.99
Littleleaf linden	137	(N/A)	2.4	3.2	68.29
Scotch pine	73	(N/A)	2.4	1.7	36.67
American sycamore	58	(N/A)	1.2	1.4	58.34
Swamp white oak	13	(N/A)	1.2	0.3	12.89
Paper birch	29	(N/A)	1.2	0.7	28.56
Bur oak	29	(N/A)	1.2	0.7	28.56
Black spruce	20	(N/A)	1.2	0.5	19.97
Siberian elm	54	(N/A)	1.2	1.3	54.03
Sugar maple	7	(N/A)	1.2	0.2	7.30
Black cherry	0	(N/A)	1.2	0.0	0.00
Citywide total	4,308	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	51.91

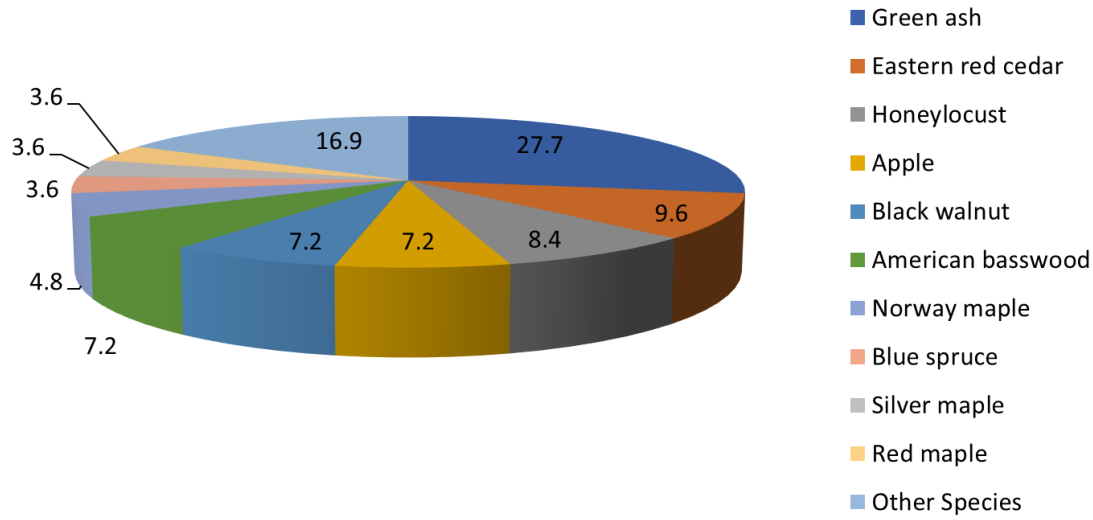
Total Annual Benefits, Net Benefits, and Costs for Public Trees
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1/29/2021

Benefits	Total (\$) Standard Error	\$/tree Standard Error	\$/capita Standard Error
Energy	4,423 (N/A)	53.29 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
CO2	604 (N/A)	7.27 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Air Quality	762 (N/A)	9.18 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Stormwater	7,041 (N/A)	84.83 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Aesthetic/Other	4,308 (N/A)	51.91 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Total Benefits	17,138 (N/A)	206.48 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Costs			
Planting	0	0.00	0.00
Contract Pruning	0	0.00	0.00
Pest Management	0	0.00	0.00
Irrigation	0	0.00	0.00
Removal	0	0.00	0.00
Administration	0	0.00	0.00
Inspection/Service	0	0.00	0.00
Infrastructure Repairs	0	0.00	0.00
Litter Clean-up	0	0.00	0.00
Liability/Claims	0	0.00	0.00
Other Costs	0	0.00	0.00
Total Costs	0	0.00	0.00
Net Benefits	17,138 (N/A)	206.48 (N/A)	0.00 (N/A)
Benefit-cost ratio	0.00 (N/A)		

Species Distribution of Public Trees

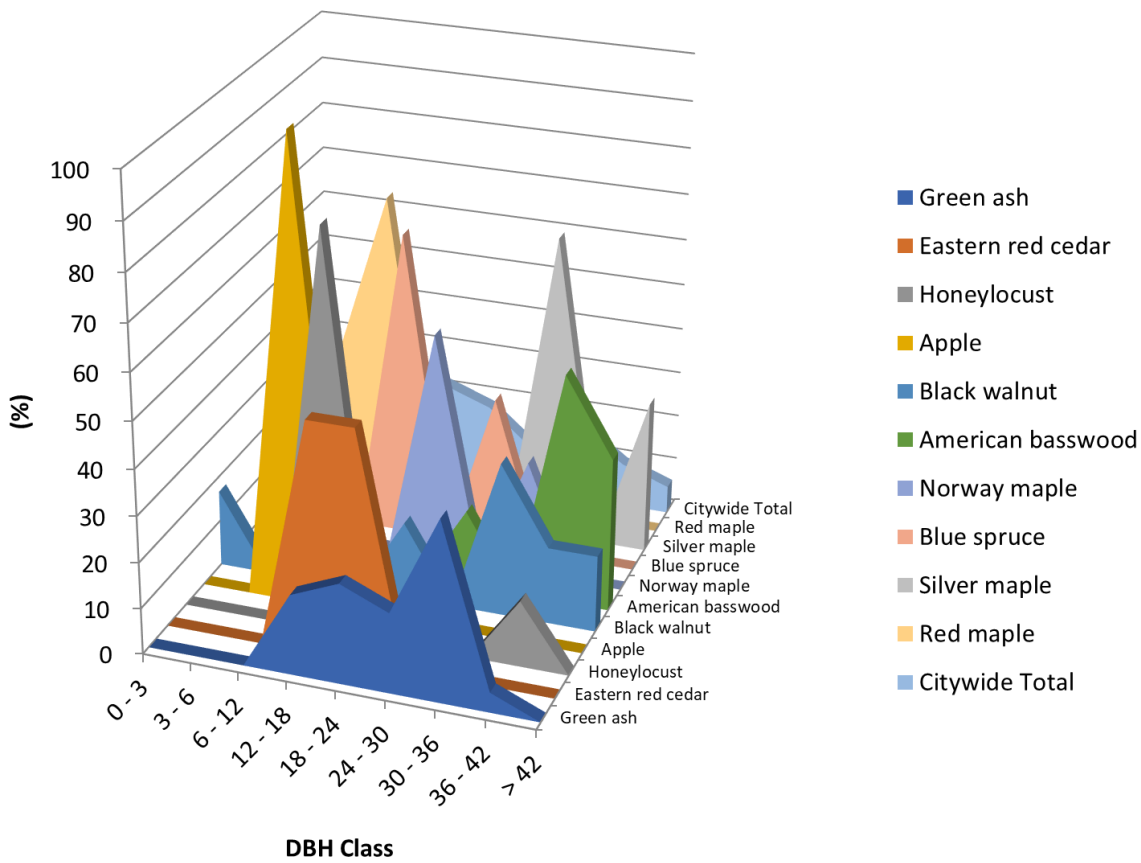
1/29/2021



Species	Percent
Green ash	27.7
Eastern red cedar	9.6
Honeylocust	8.4
Apple	7.2
Black walnut	7.2
American basswood	7.2
Norway maple	4.8
Blue spruce	3.6
Silver maple	3.6
Red maple	3.6
Other Species	16.9
Total	100.0

Relative Age Distribution of Top 10 Public Tree Species for All Zones (%)

1/29/2021



Species	DBH class (in)								
	0-3	3-6	6-12	12-18	18-24	24-30	30-36	36-42	> 42
Green ash	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.39	21.74	17.39	39.13	4.35	0.00
Eastern red cedar	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Honeylocust	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.29	0.00
Apple	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Black walnut	16.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.67	0.00	33.33	16.67	16.67
American basswood	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.67	0.00	50.00	33.33
Norway maple	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Blue spruce	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	0.00	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
Silver maple	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	0.00	33.33
Red maple	0.00	33.33	66.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Citywide Total	1.20	4.82	12.05	21.69	18.07	9.64	16.87	9.64	6.02

Figure 3: Foliage Condition

Functional (Foliage) Condition of Public Trees by Zone

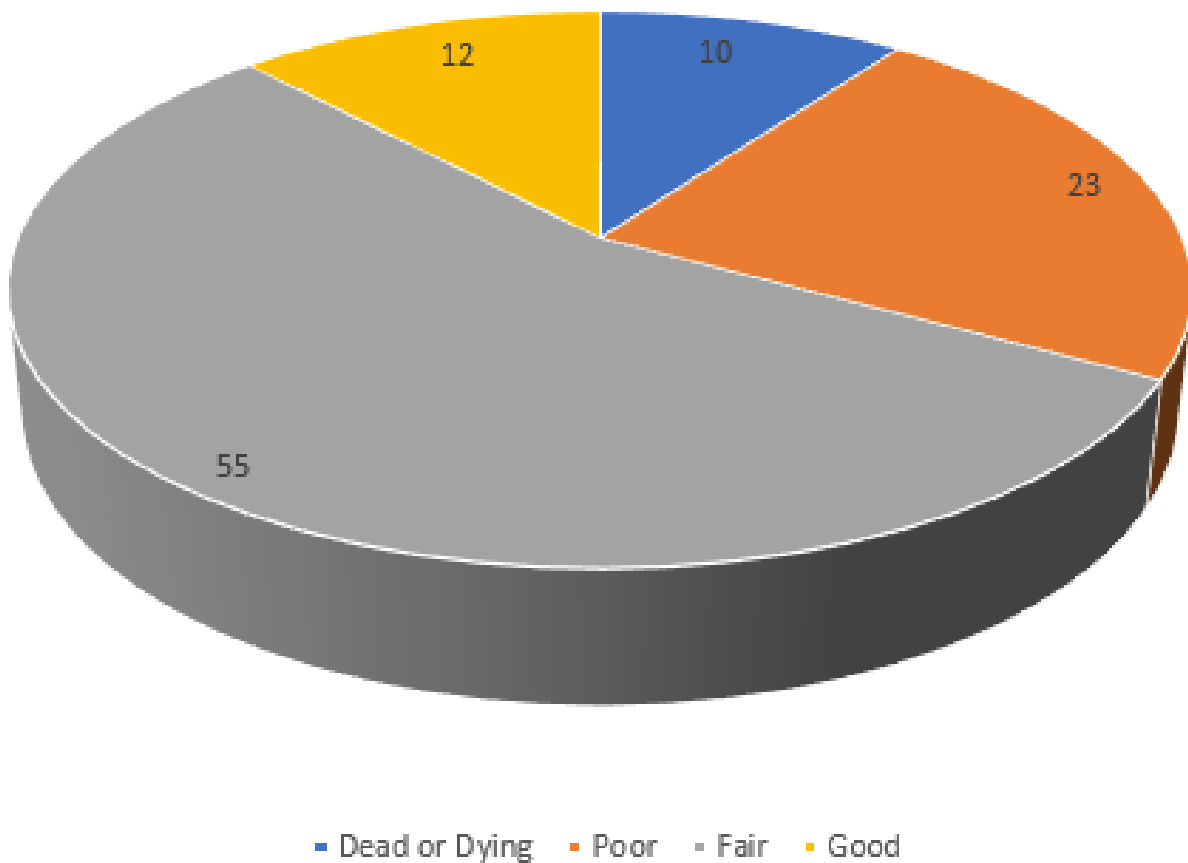
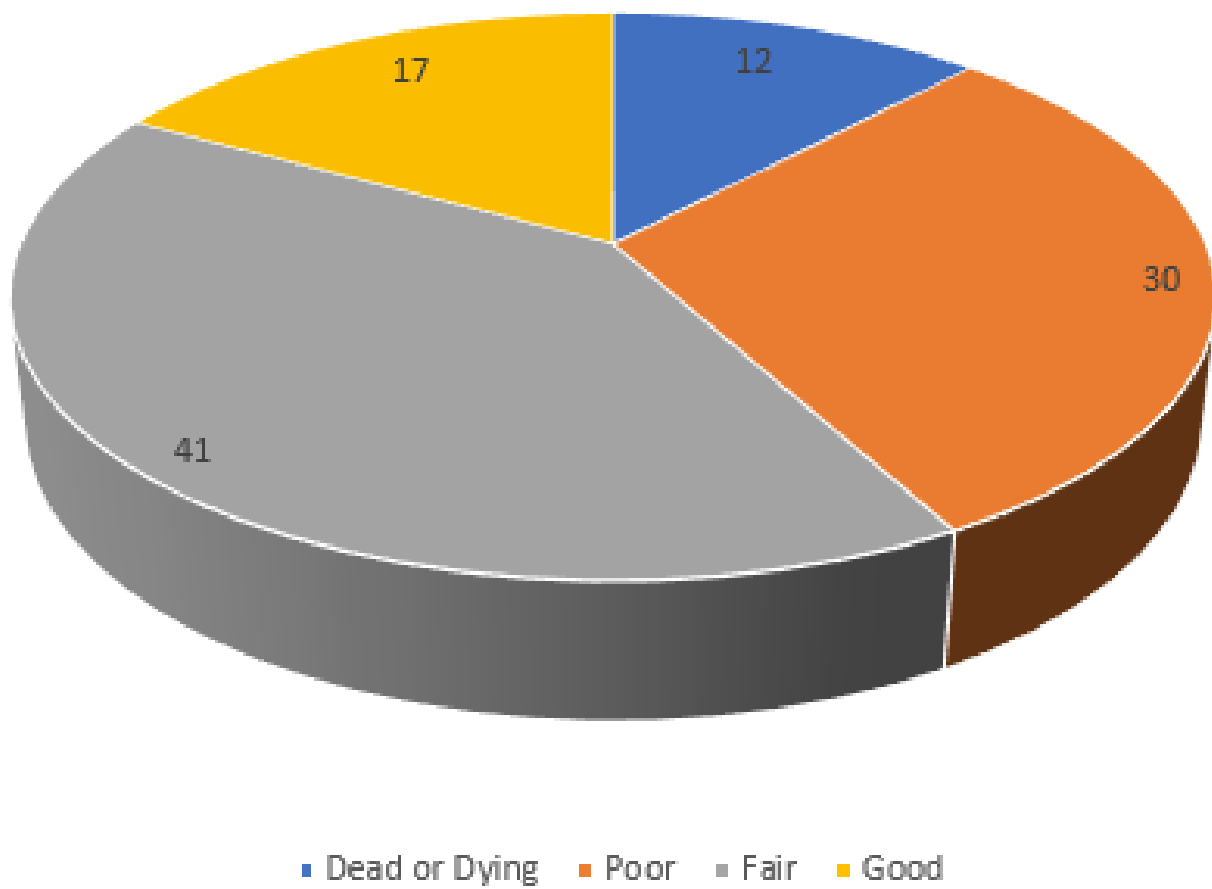


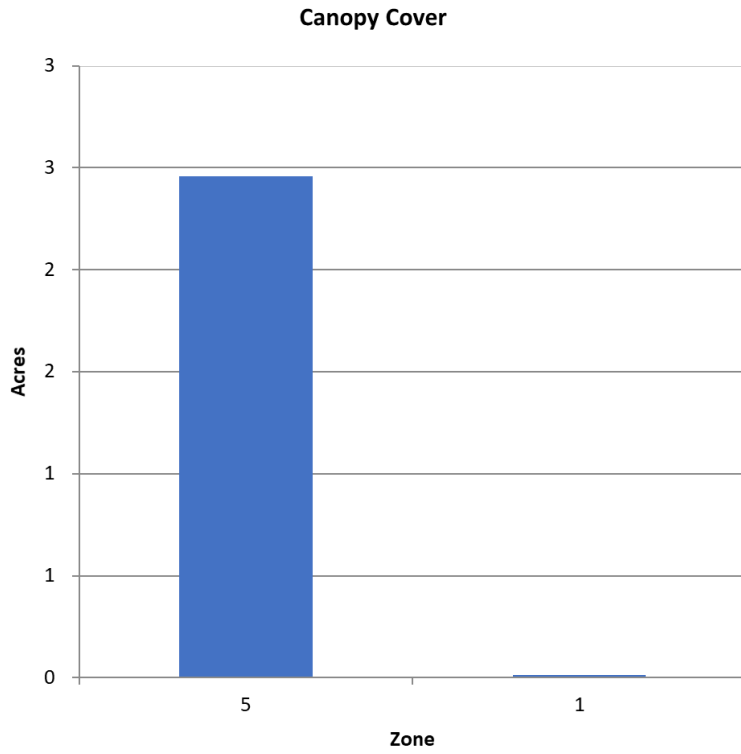
Figure 4: Wood Condition

Structural (Woody) Condition of Public Trees by Zone



Canopy Cover of Public Trees (Acres)

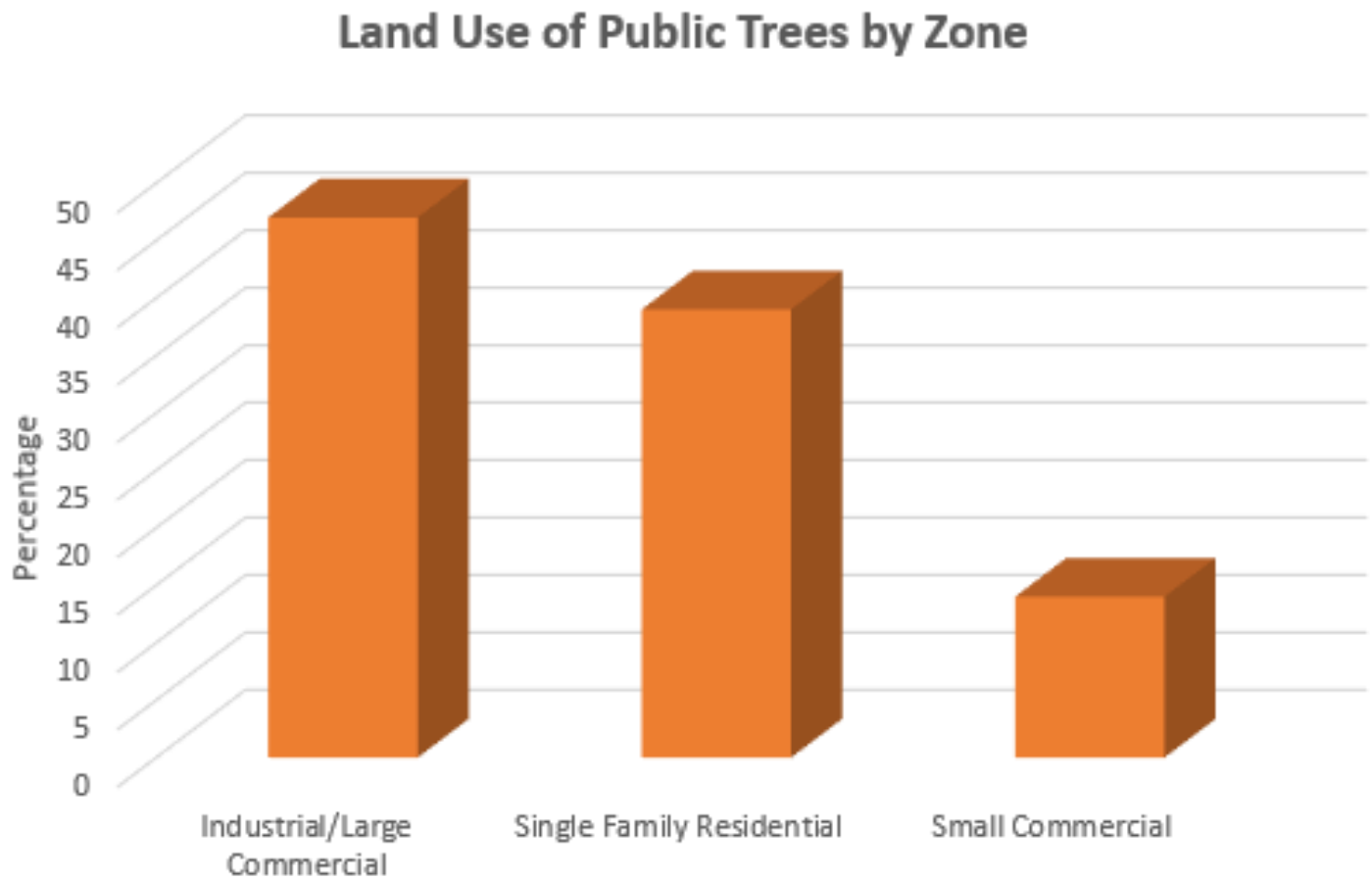
1/29/2021



Zone	Acres	% of Total Canopy Cover
5	2	99.5
1	0	0.5
Citywide total	2	100.0

	Total Land Area	Total Street and Sidewalk Area	Total Canopy Cover	Canopy Cover as % of Total Land Area	Canopy Cover as % of Total Streets and Sidewalks
Citywide Total	0	0	2	0.00	0.00

Figure 6: Land Use of City/Park Trees



APPENDIX B: ArcGIS MAPPING



ArcGIS

Figure 1: Location of Ash Trees

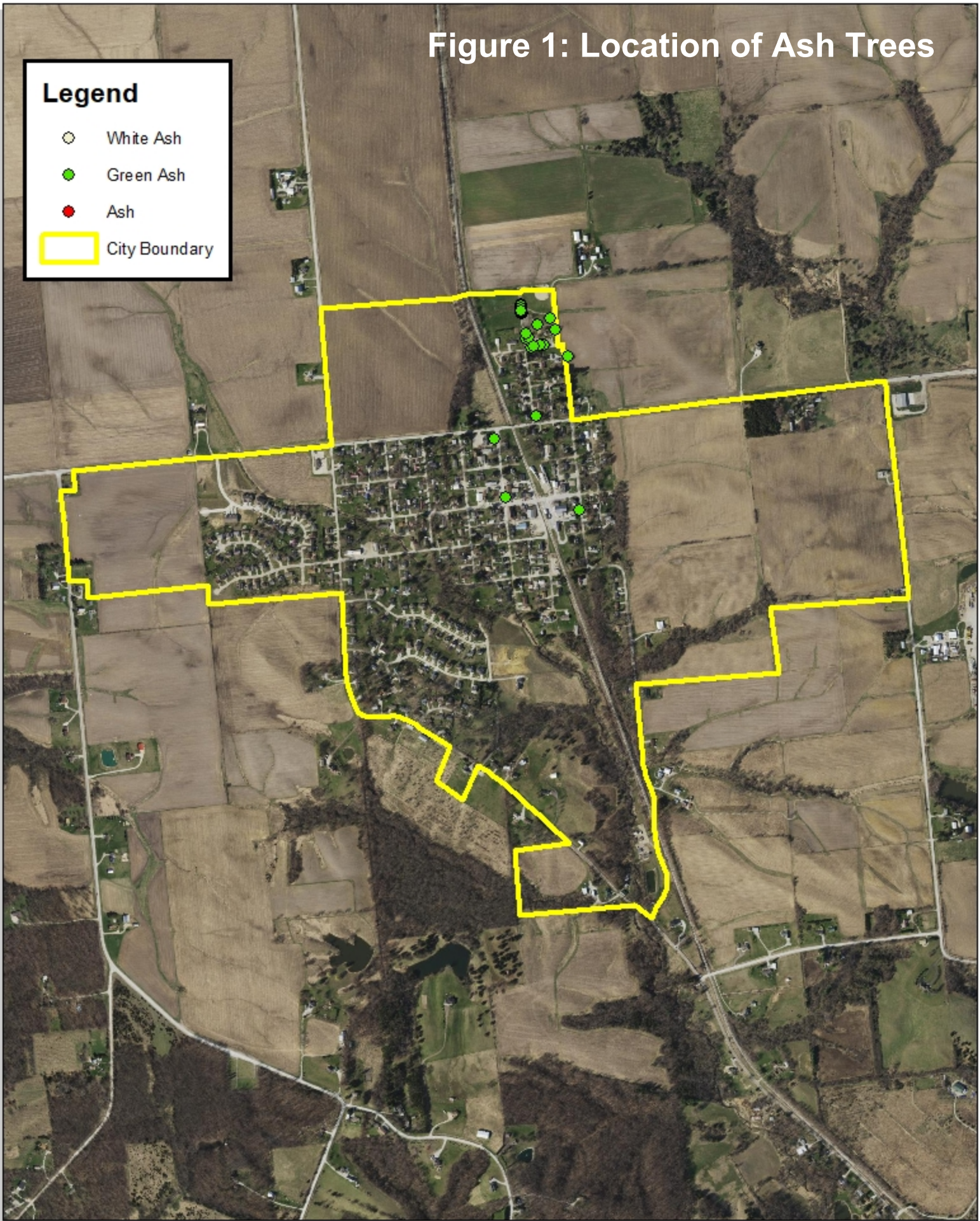
Legend

○ White Ash

● Green Ash

● Ash

□ City Boundary



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

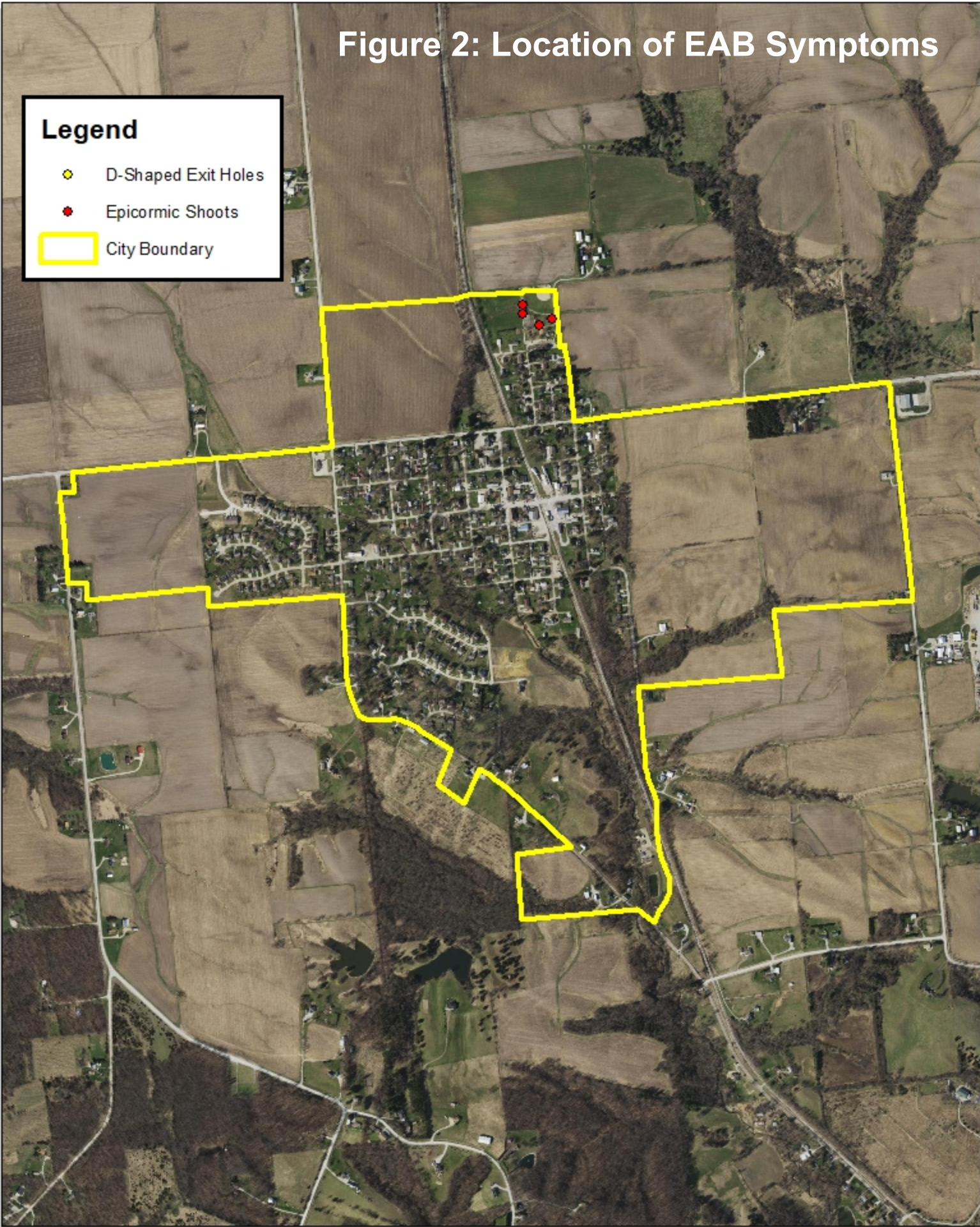
Swisher, Iowa



Figure 2: Location of EAB Symptoms

Legend

- ◊ D-Shaped Exit Holes
- Epicormic Shoots
- City Boundary



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

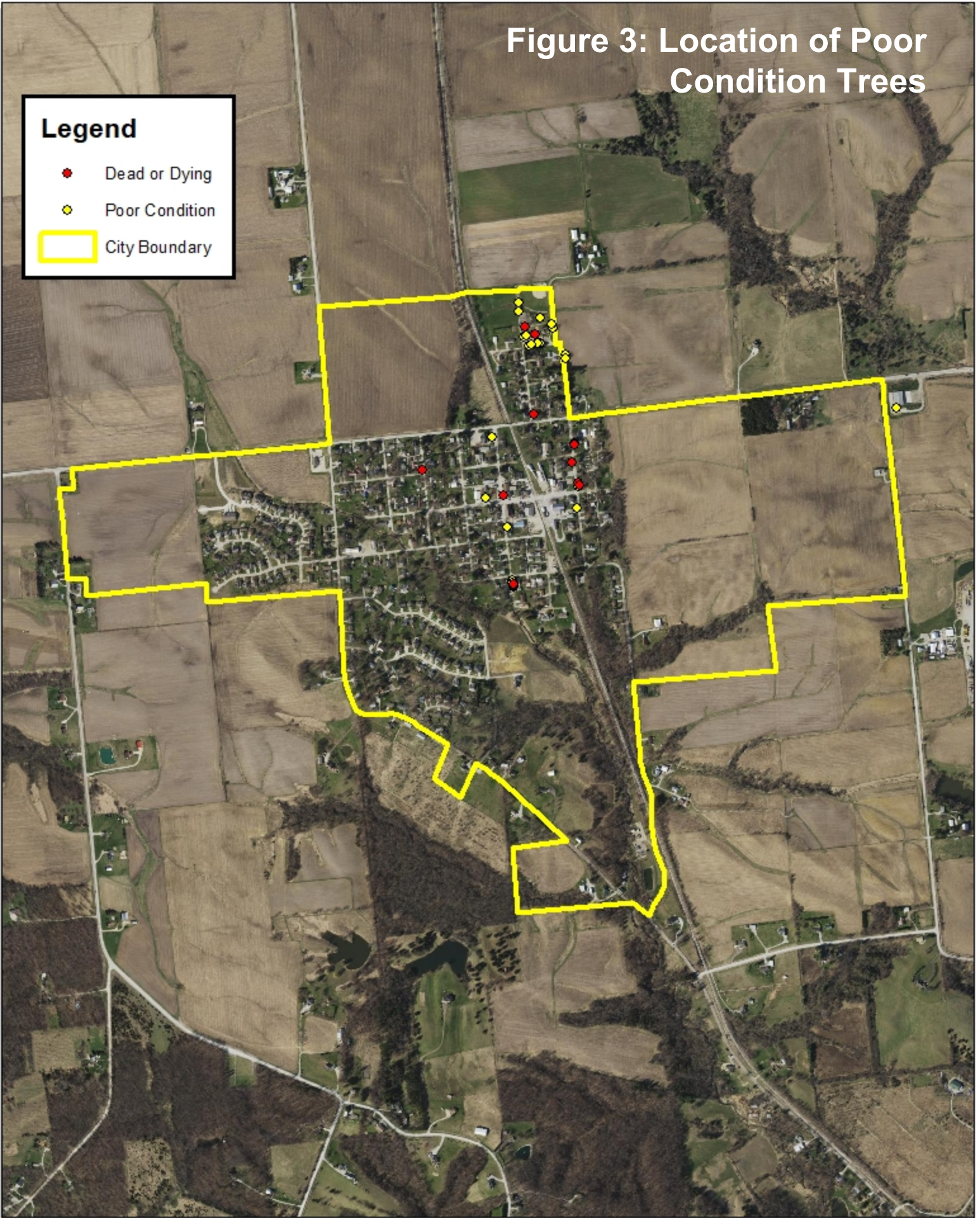
Swisher, Iowa



Figure 3: Location of Poor Condition Trees

Legend

- Dead or Dying
- Poor Condition
- City Boundary



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

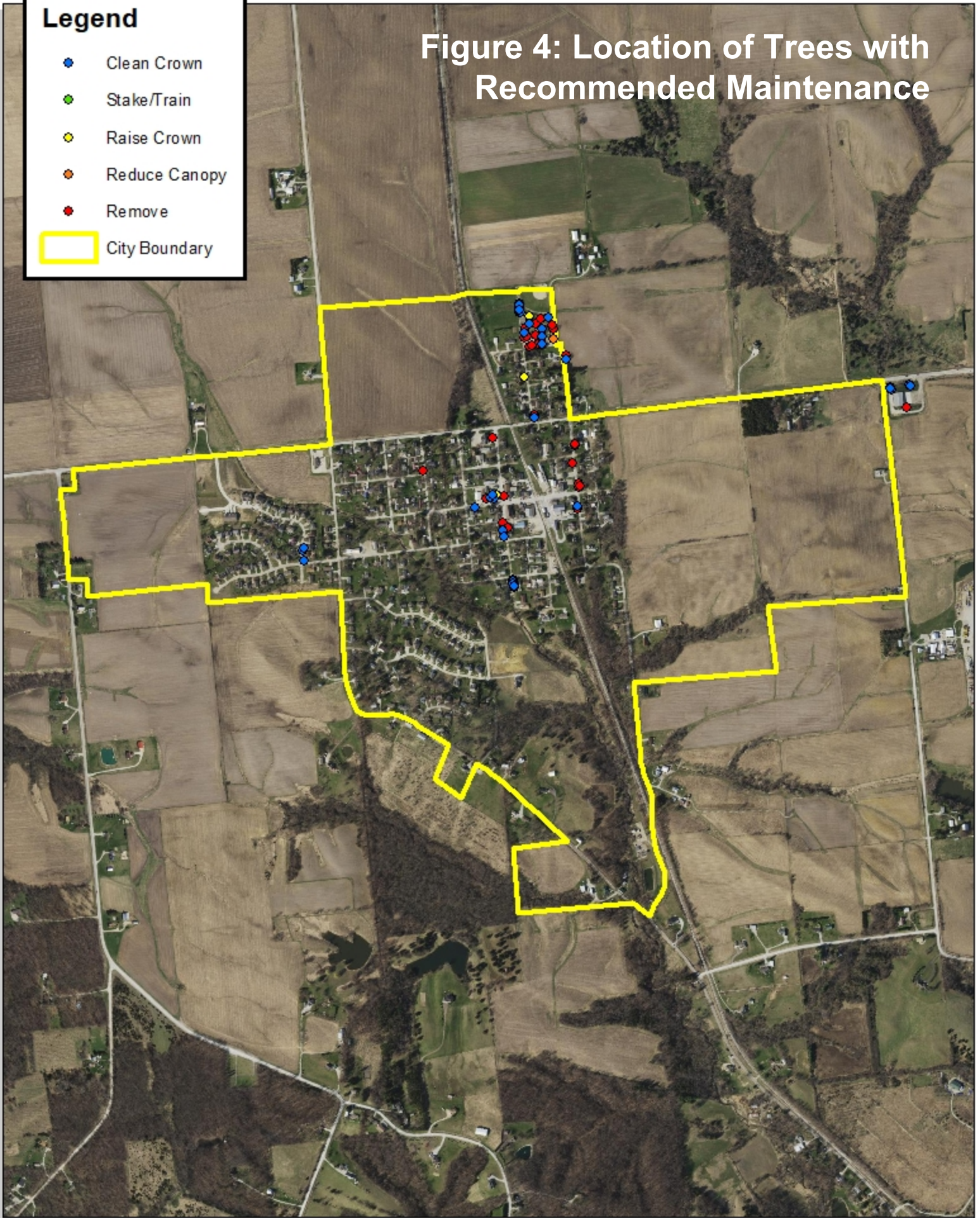
Swisher, Iowa



Legend

- Clean Crown
- Stake/Train
- Raise Crown
- Reduce Canopy
- Remove
- City Boundary

Figure 4: Location of Trees with Recommended Maintenance



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Swisher, Iowa



APPENDIX C: SWISHER TREE ORDINANCES

151.01 DEFINITIONS

For use in this chapter, “parking” means that part of the street, avenue or highway in the City not covered by sidewalk and lying between the lot line and the curb line; or, on unpaved streets, that part of the street, avenue or highway lying between the lot line and that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.

151.02 PLANTING RESTRICTIONS.

No tree shall be planted in any parking or street except in accordance with the following:

1. Alignment. All trees planted in any street shall be planted in the parking midway between the outer line of the sidewalk and the curb. In the event a curb line is not established, trees shall be planted on a line ten (10) feet from the property line.
2. Spacing. Trees shall not be planted on any parking which is less than nine (9) feet in width, or contains less than eighty-one (81) square feet of exposed soil surface per tree. Trees shall not be planted closer than twenty (20) feet from street intersections (property lines extended) and ten (10) feet from driveways. If it is at all possible trees should be planted inside the property lines and not between the sidewalk and the curb.
3. Prohibited Trees. No person shall plant in any street any fruit-bearing tree or any tree of the kinds commonly known as cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow or black walnut.

151.03 DUTY TO TRIM TREES.

The owner or agent of the abutting property shall keep the trees on, or overhanging the street, trimmed so that all branches will be at least fifteen (15) feet above the surface of the street and eight (8) feet above the sidewalks. If the abutting property owner fails to trim the trees, the City may serve notice on the abutting property owner requiring that such action be taken within five (5) days. If such action is not taken within that time, the City may perform the required action and assess the costs against the abutting property for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

151.04 TRIMMING TREES TO BE SUPERVISED.

Except as allowed in Section 151.03, it is unlawful for any person to trim or cut any tree in a street or public place unless the work is done under the supervision of the City.

151.05 DISEASE CONTROL.

Any dead, diseased or damaged tree or shrub which may harbor serious insect or disease pests or disease injurious to other trees is hereby declared to be a nuisance.

151.06 INSPECTION AND REMOVAL.

The Council shall inspect or cause to be inspected any trees or shrubs in the City reported or suspected to be dead, diseased or damaged, and such trees and shrubs shall be subject to the following:

1. **City Property.** If it is determined that any such condition exists on any public property, including the strip between the curb and the lot line of private property, the Council may cause such condition to be corrected by treatment or removal. The Council may also order the removal of any trees on the streets of the City which interfere with the making of improvements or with travel thereon.
2. **Private Property.** If it is determined with reasonable certainty that any such condition exists on private property and that danger to other trees or to adjoining property or passing motorists or pedestrians is imminent, the Council shall notify by certified mail the owner, occupant or person in charge of such property to correct such condition by treatment or removal within fourteen (14) days of said notification. If such owner, occupant or person in charge of said property fails to comply within fourteen (14) days of receipt of notice, the Council may cause the condition to be corrected and the cost assessed against the property.

The State of Iowa is an Equal Opportunity Employer and provider of ADA services.

Federal law prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sex or disability. State law prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, pregnancy, or disability. State law also prohibits public accommodation (such as access to services or physical facilities) discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 1-800-457-4416, or write to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Bldg., 502 E 9th St, Des Moines IA 50319.

If you need accommodations because of disability to access the services of this Agency, please contact the Director at 515-725-8200.