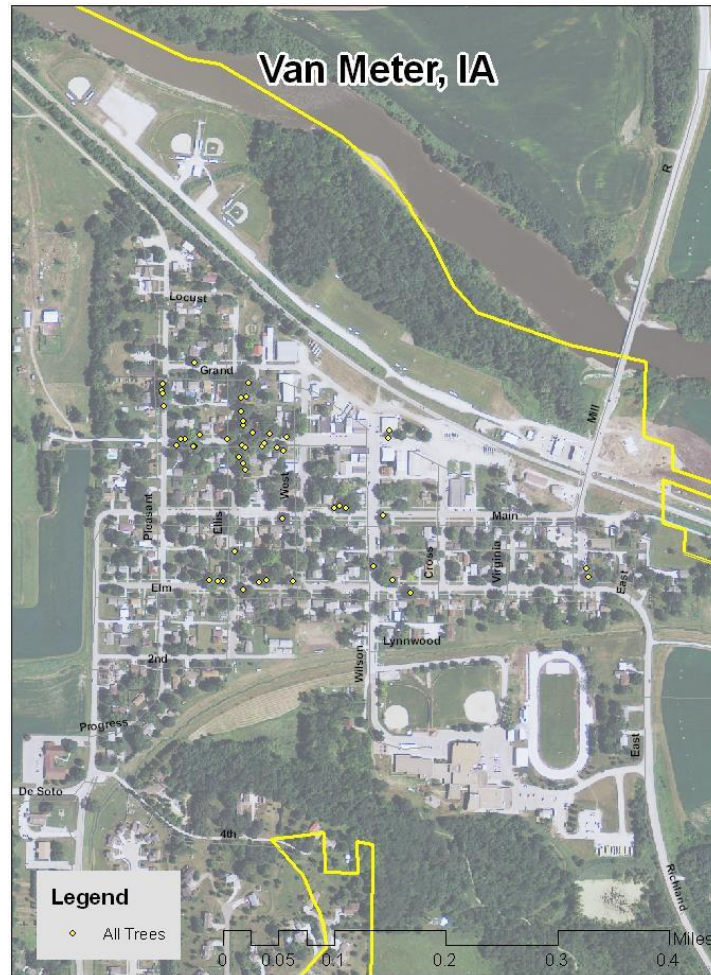


# Van Meter, IA



2013 Management Plan  
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# Executive Summary

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## Overview

This plan was developed to assist the City of Van Meter with managing its urban forest, including budgeting and future planning. Trees can provide a multitude of benefits to the community, and sound management allows a community to best take advantage of these benefits. Management is especially important considering the serious threats posed by forest pests such as 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 (this does not include mountain ash). There is a strong possibility that 6% of Van Meter's city owned trees (ash) will die once EAB becomes established in the community. 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 2012, a tree inventory was conducted using Global Positioning System (GPS) data collectors. The inventory was a complete inventory of street right of way trees. Below are some key findings of the 50 trees inventoried.

- Van Meter's trees provide \$13,885 of benefits annually, an average of \$278 a tree
- There are over 11 species of trees
- The top three genus are: Maple 44%, Sycamore 16%, and Oak 14%
- 6% of trees are in need of some type of management
- 1 tree is recommended for removal

## Recommendations

The core recommendations are detailed in the Recommendations Section. The Emerald Ash Borer Plan includes management recommendations as well. Below are some key recommendations.

- The one tree recommended for removal is over 24" in diameter, and should be addressed as soon as possible. [\\*City ownership of the trees recommended for removal should be verified prior to any removal\\*](#)
- 1 of the 3 ash trees are in need of follow up because they are displaying signs and symptoms associated with EAB
- 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, tree of heaven, empress tree, or black walnut
- Check ash trees with a visual survey yearly
- With the current budget it could take 2 years to remove ash – Suggestion: request a budget increase to \$4,000 annually and apply for grants to plant replacement trees.

## Introduction

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This plan was developed to assist Van Meter with the management, budgeting and future planning of their urban forest. Across the state, forestry budgets continue to decrease with more and more of that money spent on 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 and replacement planting. With proper planning and management of the current canopy in Van Meter, these costs can be extended over years and public safety issues from dead and dying ash trees mitigated.

Trees are an important component of Van Meter's infrastructure and one of the greatest assets to the community. The benefits of trees are immense. Trees provide the community with improved air quality, stormwater runoff interception, energy conservation, lower traffic speeds, increased property values, reduced crime, improved mental health and create a desirable place to live, to name just a few benefits. It is essential that these benefits be maintained for the people of Van Meter and future generations through good urban forestry management.

Good urban forestry management involves setting goals and developing management strategies to achieve these goals. An essential part of developing management strategies is a comprehensive public tree inventory. The inventory supplies information that will be used for maintenance, removal schedules, tree planting and budgeting. Basing actions on this information will help meet Van Meter's urban forestry goals.

## Inventory

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In 2012, a tree inventory was conducted that included 100% of the city owned street right of way trees. The tree data was collected 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 Arc GIS 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 programming used to collect tree information on the data collectors 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 ft, recommended maintenance, priority of that maintenance, leaf health, and wood condition. Additionally, signs and symptoms of EAB were noted for all ash trees. The signs and symptoms noted were canopy dieback, epicormic shoots, bark splitting, D-shaped borer exit holes, and wood pecker damage.

## Inventory Results

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The data collected for the 50 city trees was entered into the USDA Forest service program Street Tree Resource Analysis Tool for Urban forestry Management (STRATUM), part of the i-Tree suite. The following are results from the i-Tree STRATUM analysis.

### **Annual Benefits**

#### **Annual Energy Benefits**

Trees conserve energy by shading buildings and blocking winds. Van Meter's trees reduce energy related costs by approximately \$3,370 annually (Appendix A, Table 1). These savings are both in Electricity (16.2 MWh) and in Natural Gas (2,185.7 Therms).

#### **Annual Stormwater Benefits**

Van Meter's trees intercept about 202,294 gallons of rainfall or snow melt a year (Appendix A, Table 2). This interception provides \$5,483 of benefits 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 emitting volatile organic mater (ozone). In Van Meter, it is estimated that trees remove 210 lbs of air pollution (ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM10), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)) per year with a net value of \$589 (Appendix A, Table 3).

#### **Annual Carbon Benefits**

Carbon sequestration and storage reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere, mitigating climate change. In Van Meter, trees sequester about 27,131 lbs of carbon a year with an associated value of \$203 (Appendix A, Table 4). In addition, the trees store 922,936 lbs of carbon, with a yearly benefit of \$6,922 (Appendix A, Table 5).

#### **Annual Aesthetics Benefits**

Social benefits of trees are hard to capture. The 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. Van Meter receives \$3,923 in annual social benefits from trees (Appendix A, Table 6).

#### **Financial Summary of all Benefits**

According to the USDA Forest Service i-Tree STRATUM analysis, Van Meter's trees provide \$13,885 of benefits annually. Benefits of individual trees vary based on size, species, health and location, but on average each of the 50 trees in Van Meter provide approximately \$278 annually (Appendix A, Table 7).

## **Forest Structure**

### **Species Distribution**

Van Meter has over 11 different tree species along city streets and parks (Appendix A, Figure 1). The distribution of trees by genus is as follows:

Genus	Count	Percentage
Maple	22	44.0%
Sycamore	8	16.0%
Oak	7	14.0%
Elm	6	12.0%
Ash	3	6.0%
Apple	3	6.0%
Honeylocust	1	2.0%

### **Age Class**

Most of Van Meter’s trees (54%) are between 24 and 36 inches in diameter at 4.5 ft (Appendix A, Figure 2). For age, a Bell Curve is preferred and shows the highest amount of trees around 18 inches in diameter at 4.5 ft. Van Meter’s size curve is on the larger side, indicating an older than average stand.

### **Condition: Wood and Foliage**

Both wood condition and leaf condition are good indicators of the overall health of the urban forest. The foliage condition results for Van Meter indicate that 88% of the trees are in good health, with only 2% of the foliage in poor health, dead or dying (Appendix A, Figure 3 & Appendix B, Figure 3). Structural condition is less, as the percentage of trees in the “good” category is 66% (appendix A, Figure 4 & Appendix B, Figure 3). Wood condition that is in poor health, dead or dying is about 6% of the population. This 6% 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).

Crown Cleaning	15	30%
Tree Removal	1	2%

## Canopy Cover

The inventoried right of way canopy cover of Van Meter is approximately 2 acres (Appendix A, Figure 4). According to the 2000 census, Van Meter occupies 384 acres. Thus the inventoried right of way canopy cover on city land is about 0.5%.

## Land Use and Location

The majority of Van Meter's city 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

Single family residential	92%
Industrial/Large commercial	8%

### Location

Planting strip	100%
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## Recommendations

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### Risk Management

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

### Hazardous trees

Van Meter has 1 immediate concern tree that is in need removal. These trees can be seen on the Location of Trees with Recommended Maintenance map (Appendix B, Figure 4). Please refer to the six year maintenance plan at the end of this section. After the recommended removal tree has been taken care of, there are 15 trees recommended for cleaning (trimming).

### Poor tree species

After the removal of recommended tree, ash trees in poor health should be assessed for removal (Appendix B, Figure 3 & Appendix B, Figure 4). The one removal tree is an ash tree. There are a total of 3 ash trees, and 1 of those have signs and symptoms that have been associated with EAB. In addition, there is 1 ash tree is 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 is the removal of lower branches that are 2 inches in diameter or larger in the case of providing clearance for pedestrians or vehicles. Crown reduction is removing individual limbs from structures or utility wires. It is recommended that all trees be pruned on a routine schedule every five to seven years. Please refer to the six year maintenance plan for further information.

## **Planting**

Planting over the next year or two will replace the trees that are removed. It is recommended to plant 1.2 trees for every tree removed, since survival rates will not be 100%. Please refer to the six year maintenance plan at the end of this section. 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 Van Meter.

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% of the urban forest and a single species (i.e. silver maple, sugar maple, white oak, bur oak) not make up more than 10% of the total urban forest. Presently, the forest is heavily planted with Maple (44%) (Appendix A, Figure 1). Maples should not be planted until this percentage can be lowered. Also, ash trees have not been recommended since 2002, due to the threat of EAB. Other species to avoid because they are public nuisances include: cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow, tree of heaven, empress tree, or black walnut as outlined in your city ordinance (see sample, Appendix C). All trees planted must meet the restrictions in your city ordinance. Again, see sample (Appendix C).

## **Continual Monitoring**

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

## **Six Year Maintenance Plan with No Additional Funding**

### **Year 1**

- Removal: 1 large ash tree recommended for removal
- Planting and Replacement: 1 or 2 trees to be planted in open locations
- Visual Survey for signs and symptoms of EAB

### **Year 2**

- Removal: 2 remaining ash trees
- Planting and Replacement: 2 trees in open locations
- Routine trimming: Contract to trim 1/3 of the city trees
- Visual Survey for signs and symptoms of EAB on all other city owned areas



Years 3 through 6

Removal: Removal of any new critical concern trees and ash in poor health

Planting and Replacement: 1 or 2 trees annually, to be planted in open locations and locations from previous removals

Routine trimming: Contract to trim 1/3 of the city trees in Year 4 and Year 6

Visual Survey for signs and symptoms of EAB

\*Reduction of ash over 6 years: 3 ash trees removed (100% of ash). EAB could potentially kill all ash within 4 years of its arrival.

## **Emerald Ash Borer Plan**

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### **Ash Tree Removal**

Tree removal will be prioritized with dead, dying, hazardous trees to be removed first (Appendix B, Figure 4). Next will be all ash in poor condition and displaying signs and symptoms of EAB (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 effective, spreading removal costs out over several years while allowing trees to continue to provide benefits. However, treatment is not recommended if EAB is more than 15 miles away from Van Meter. For more information on the cost of treatment strategies visit <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/treecomputer/>

### **EAB Quarantines – Entire state of Iowa is under EAB quarantine**

EAB is an extremely destructive plant pest and it is responsible for the death and decline of over 25 million 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](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/regulatory.shtml).

Wood waste can be disposed of as you normally would if your county is not part of a quarantine.

## **Canopy Replacement**

As budget permits, all removed ash trees will be replaced. All trees will meet the restrictions in city tree ordinance (Appendix C). The new plantings will be a diverse mix and will not include ash, maple, cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow, tree of heaven, empress tree, 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 genus 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 the following signs and symptoms: 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. City Code (sample provided, Appendix C) states "If it is determined with reasonable certainty that any such condition exists (trees or shrubs in the City reported or suspected to be infected with or damaged by any disease or insect or disease pests) on private property and that the 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 14 days of receipt of notice, the Council may cause the condition to be corrected and the cost assessed against the property."

## Budget

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### Purposed Budget

While your current forestry budget provides for \$2,000 per year in maintenance and \$1,000 per year in new plantings, we suggest increasing your annual forestry budget an additional \$1,000 per year. This could be split evenly between maintenance and new plantings, or to cover contracted trimming/pruning services and/or equipment.

EAB could potentially kill all ash trees in Van Meter within 4 years of its arrival. Your budget could probably absorb this cost since there are only 3 ash trees in the city's right of ways. It is recommended, however, that Van Meter 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.

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Appendix A: i-Tree Data

## Van Meter

### Annual Energy Benefits of Public Trees by Species

11/2/2013

Species	Total Electricity (MWh)	Electricity (\$)	Total Natural Gas (Thexms)	Natural Gas (\$)	Total Standard (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Sugar maple	3.5	267	477.1	468	734	(N/A)	22.0	21.8	66.75
American sycamore	3.0	229	416.9	409	637	(N/A)	16.0	18.9	79.67
Silver maple	2.2	169	293.1	287	456	(N/A)	12.0	13.5	76.00
Pin oak	2.3	176	308.0	302	477	(N/A)	12.0	14.2	79.58
Siberian elm	2.4	182	320.1	314	496	(N/A)	12.0	14.7	82.63
Norway maple	0.8	62	116.5	114	176	(N/A)	6.0	5.2	58.77
Green ash	0.8	63	112.0	110	172	(N/A)	6.0	5.1	57.49
Apple	0.1	5	11.4	11	16	(N/A)	6.0	0.5	5.40
Maple	0.4	30	56.4	55	85	(N/A)	4.0	2.5	42.63
Honeylocust	0.4	28	47.4	46	74	(N/A)	2.0	2.2	74.28
White oak	0.2	18	27.0	26	44	(N/A)	2.0	1.3	44.23
Other street trees	0.0	0	0.0	0	0	(N/A)	0.0	0.0	0.00
Citywide total	16.2	1,228	2,185.7	2,142	3,370	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	67.39

**Table 2: Annual Stormwater Benefits**

**Van Meter**

**Annual Stormwater Benefits of Public Trees by Species**

1/12/2013

Species	Total rainfall interception (Gal)	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Sugar maple	42,800	1,160	(N/A)	22.0	21.2	105.45
American sycamore	41,228	1,117	(N/A)	16.0	20.4	139.67
Silver maple	33,773	915	(N/A)	12.0	16.7	152.55
Pin oak	29,888	810	(N/A)	12.0	14.8	135.01
Siberian elm	29,106	789	(N/A)	12.0	14.4	131.47
Norway maple	7,652	207	(N/A)	6.0	3.8	69.13
Green ash	7,999	217	(N/A)	6.0	4.0	72.26
Apple	206	6	(N/A)	6.0	0.1	1.86
Maple	3,492	95	(N/A)	4.0	1.7	47.32
Honeylocust	4,684	127	(N/A)	2.0	2.3	126.96
White oak	1,465	40	(N/A)	2.0	0.7	39.72
Other street trees	0	0	(N/A)	0.0	0.0	0.00
<b>Citywide total</b>	<b>202,294</b>	<b>5,483</b>	<b>(N/A)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>109.65</b>

**Table 3: Annual Air Quality Benefits**

**Van Meter**

**Annual Air Quality Benefits of Public Trees by Species**

1/12/2013

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 <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>		NO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	VOC	SO <sub>2</sub>								
Sugar maple	5.9	1.0	2.9	0.3	32	16.7	2.4	2.3	15.9	104	-4.6	-17	42.9	119	(N/A)	22.0	10.80
American sycamore	6.3	1.0	2.8	0.3	33	14.4	2.1	2.0	13.7	90	0.0	0	42.6	123	(N/A)	16.0	15.36
Silver maple	6.7	1.1	3.2	0.3	36	10.5	1.5	1.5	10.1	66	-3.7	-14	31.2	88	(N/A)	12.0	14.60
Pin oak	5.7	1.0	2.9	0.3	31	11.0	1.6	1.5	10.5	68	-10.5	-39	24.0	60	(N/A)	12.0	10.07
Siberian elm	5.5	0.9	2.6	0.2	30	11.4	1.7	1.6	10.9	71	0.0	0	34.8	101	(N/A)	12.0	16.78
Norway maple	1.6	0.3	0.8	0.1	8	4.0	0.6	0.5	3.7	25	-0.4	-1	11.1	32	(N/A)	6.0	10.55
Green ash	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.0	5	3.9	0.6	0.5	3.7	25	0.0	0	10.3	29	(N/A)	6.0	9.75
Apple	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	2	0.0	0	0.8	2	(N/A)	6.0	0.71
Maple	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.0	4	1.9	0.3	0.3	1.8	12	-0.3	-1	5.3	15	(N/A)	4.0	7.59
Honeylocust	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.0	5	1.7	0.3	0.2	1.7	11	-0.8	-3	4.7	13	(N/A)	2.0	12.87
White oak	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	1	1.1	0.2	0.2	1.1	7	0.0	0	2.6	7	(N/A)	2.0	7.42
Other street trees	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	(N/A)	0.0	0.00
<b>Citywide total</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>-20.1</b>	<b>-75</b>	<b>210.3</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>(N/A)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.78</b>

**Table 4: Annual Carbon Stored**

**Van Meter**

**Stored CO<sub>2</sub> Benefits of Public Trees by Species**

1/12/2013

Species	Total Stored CO <sub>2</sub> (lbs)	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Sugar maple	167,859	1,259	(N/A)	22.0	18.2	114.45
American	210,218	1,577	(N/A)	16.0	22.8	197.08
Silver maple	175,436	1,316	(N/A)	12.0	19.0	219.29
Pin oak	155,613	1,167	(N/A)	12.0	16.9	194.52
Siberian elm	134,563	1,009	(N/A)	12.0	14.6	168.20
Norway maple	25,850	194	(N/A)	6.0	2.8	64.62
Green ash	27,902	209	(N/A)	6.0	3.0	69.76
Apple	533	4	(N/A)	6.0	0.1	1.33
Maple	9,046	68	(N/A)	4.0	1.0	33.92
Honeylocust	12,245	92	(N/A)	2.0	1.3	91.84
White oak	3,672	28	(N/A)	2.0	0.4	27.54
Other street trees	0	0	(N/A)	0.0	0.0	0.00
<b>Citywide total</b>	<b>922,936</b>	<b>6,922</b>	<b>(N/A)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>138.44</b>

**Table 5: Annual Carbon Sequestered**

**Van Meter**

**Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Benefits of Public Trees by Species**

1/12/2013

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
Sugar maple	8,370	63	-806	-2	-6	5,896	44	13,458	101	(N/A)	22.0	19.4	9.18
American sycamore	6,738	51	-1,009	-2	-8	5,056	38	10,783	81	(N/A)	16.0	15.5	10.11
Silver maple	11,186	84	-842	-1	-6	3,730	28	14,073	106	(N/A)	12.0	20.3	17.59
Pin oak	10,285	77	-747	-1	-6	3,883	29	13,420	101	(N/A)	12.0	19.3	16.77
Siberian elm	4,766	36	-646	-1	-5	4,025	30	8,144	61	(N/A)	12.0	11.7	10.18
Norway maple	1,226	9	-124	-1	-1	1,374	10	2,475	19	(N/A)	6.0	3.6	6.19
Green ash	1,962	15	-134	-1	-1	1,387	10	3,214	24	(N/A)	6.0	4.6	8.03
Apple	114	1	-3	-1	0	112	1	222	2	(N/A)	6.0	0.3	0.56
Maple	165	1	-43	0	0	663	5	784	6	(N/A)	4.0	1.1	2.94
Honeylocust	1,486	11	-59	0	0	615	5	2,042	15	(N/A)	2.0	2.9	15.31
White oak	445	3	-18	0	0	393	3	820	6	(N/A)	2.0	1.2	6.15
Other street trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(N/A)	0.0	0.0	0.00
<b>Citywide total</b>	<b>46,744</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>-4,430</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>27,131</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>69,435</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>(N/A)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10.42</b>

**Table 6: Annual Social and Aesthetic Benefits**

**Van Meter**

**Annual Aesthetic/Other Benefits of Public Trees by Species**

1/12/2013

Species	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total Trees	% of Total \$	Avg. \$/tree
Sugar maple	851	(N/A)	22.0	21.7	77.32
American sycamore	482	(N/A)	16.0	12.3	60.31
Silver maple	783	(N/A)	12.0	20.0	130.55
Pin oak	753	(N/A)	12.0	19.2	125.42
Siberian elm	301	(N/A)	12.0	7.7	50.15
Norway maple	114	(N/A)	6.0	2.9	37.89
Green ash	169	(N/A)	6.0	4.3	56.38
Apple	6	(N/A)	6.0	0.2	2.06
Maple	30	(N/A)	4.0	0.8	14.92
Honeylocust	389	(N/A)	2.0	9.9	388.90
White oak	46	(N/A)	2.0	1.2	45.86
Other street trees	0	(±NaN)	0.0	0.0	0.00
Citywide total	3,923	(N/A)	100.0	100.0	78.47

**Table 7: Summary of Benefits in Dollars**

**Van Meter**

**Total Annual Benefits of Public Trees by Species (\$)**

1/12/201

Species	Energy	CO <sub>2</sub>	Air Quality	Stormwater	Aesthetic/Other	Total (\$)	Standard Error	% of Total \$
Sugar maple	734	101	119	1,160	851	2,965	(±0)	21.4
American sycamore	637	81	123	1,117	482	2,441	(±0)	17.6
Silver maple	456	106	88	915	783	2,348	(±0)	16.9
Pin oak	477	101	60	810	753	2,201	(±0)	15.9
Siberian elm	496	61	101	789	301	1,747	(±0)	12.6
Norway maple	176	19	32	207	114	548	(±0)	3.9
Green ash	172	24	29	217	169	612	(±0)	4.4
Apple	16	2	2	6	6	32	(±0)	0.2
Maple	85	6	15	95	30	231	(±0)	1.7
Honeylocust	74	15	13	127	389	618	(±0)	4.5
White oak	44	6	7	40	46	143	(±0)	1.0
Other street trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	(±0)	0.0
Citywide Total	3,370	521	589	5,483	3,923	13,885	(±0)	100.0



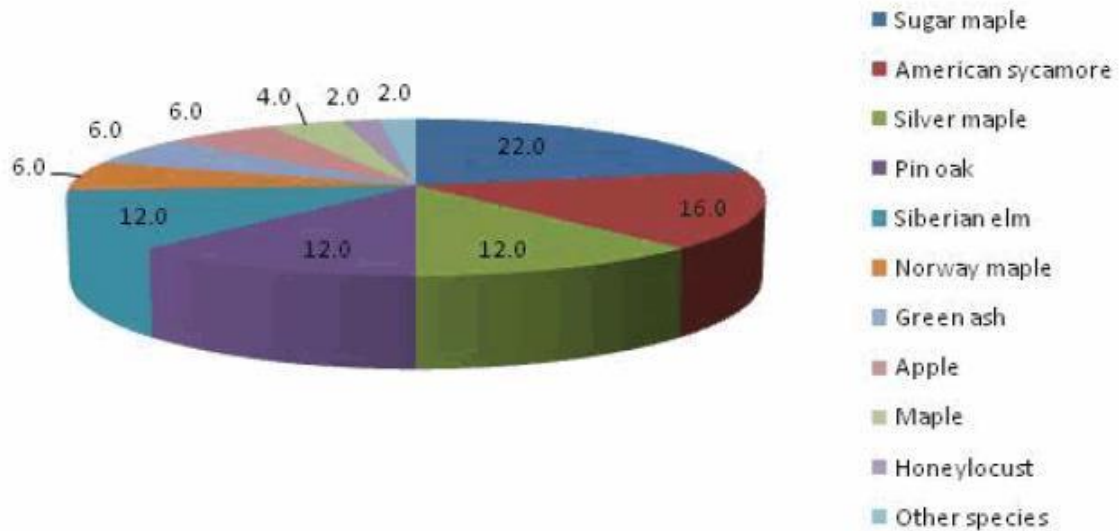
**Table 8: Summary of Recommended Maintenance by priority task:**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>Critical – 6</b>	<b>Mature Tree Imm - 5</b>	<b>Mature Tree Routine - 4</b>	<b>Young Tree Imm. - 3</b>	<b>Young Tree Routine - 2</b>	<b>None - 1</b>	<b>Totals</b>
None - 1			24			10	34
Stake/train - 2							
Clean - 3		6	8		1		15
Raise - 4							
Reduce - 5							
Remove - 6		1					1
Treat pest/disease – 7							
<b>Totals</b>	0	7	32	0	1	10	50

Van Meter

**Species Distribution of Public Trees (%)**

1/12/2013

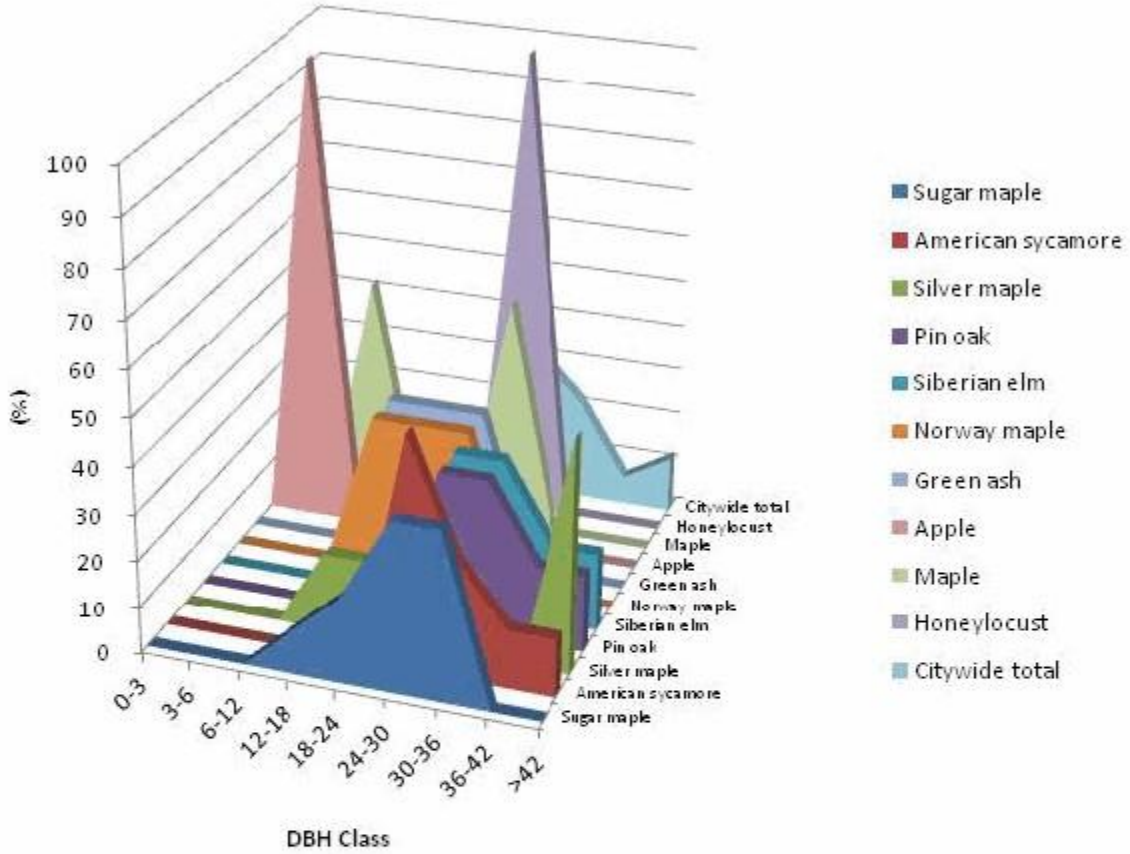


Species	Percent
Sugar maple	22.0
American sycamore	16.0
Silver maple	12.0
Pin oak	12.0
Siberian elm	12.0
Norway maple	6.0
Green ash	6.0
Apple	6.0
Maple	4.0
Honeylocust	2.0
Other species	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 1: Species Distribution

**Relative Age Distribution of Top 10 Public Tree Species (%)**

1/12/2013



Species	DBH class (in)								
	0-3	3-6	6-12	12-18	18-24	24-30	30-36	36-42	>42
Sugar maple	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	18.2	36.4	36.4	0.0	0.0
American sycamore	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	25.0	12.5	12.5
Silver maple	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	16.7	0.0	16.7	0.0	50.0
Pin oak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	16.7	16.7
Siberian elm	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	16.7	16.7
Norway maple	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Green ash	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	33.3	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Apple	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maple	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honeylocust	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citywide total	0.0	6.0	2.0	10.0	10.0	32.0	22.0	6.0	12.0

Figure 2: Relative Age Class

**Functional (Foliage) Condition of Public Trees by Species (%)**

1/12/2013

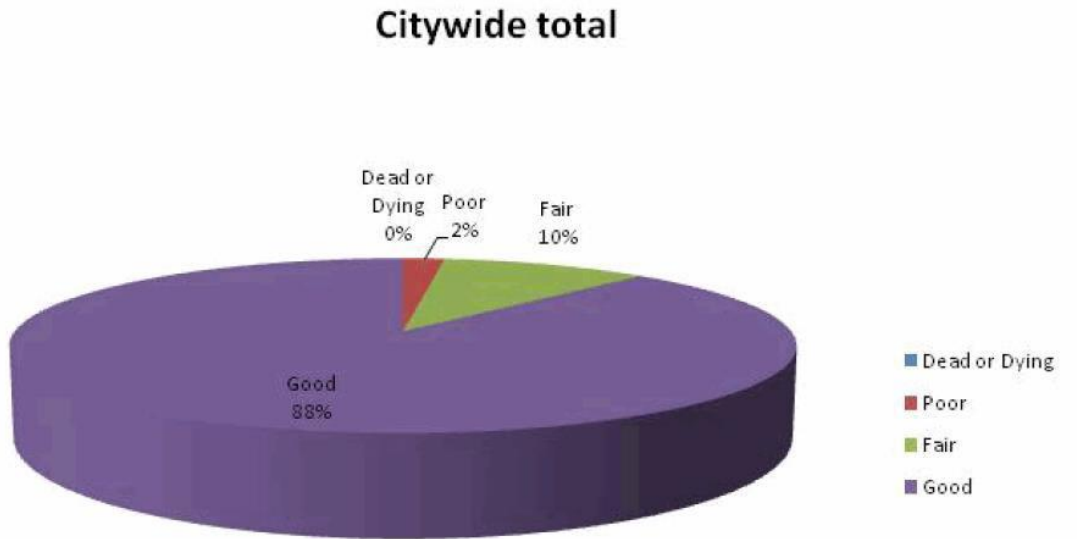


Figure 3: Foliage Condition

**Structural (Woody) Condition of Public Trees by Species (%)**

1/12/2013

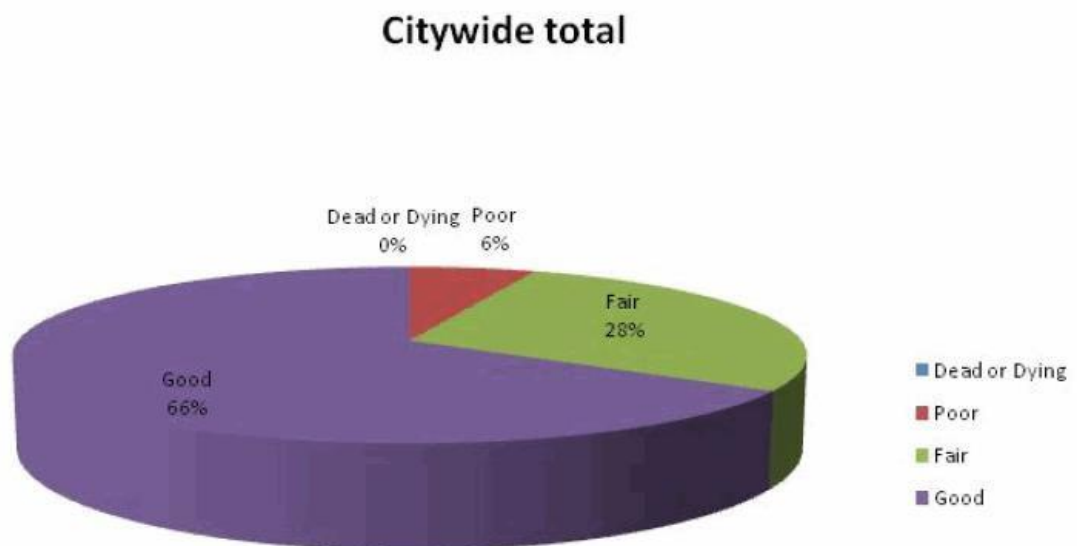
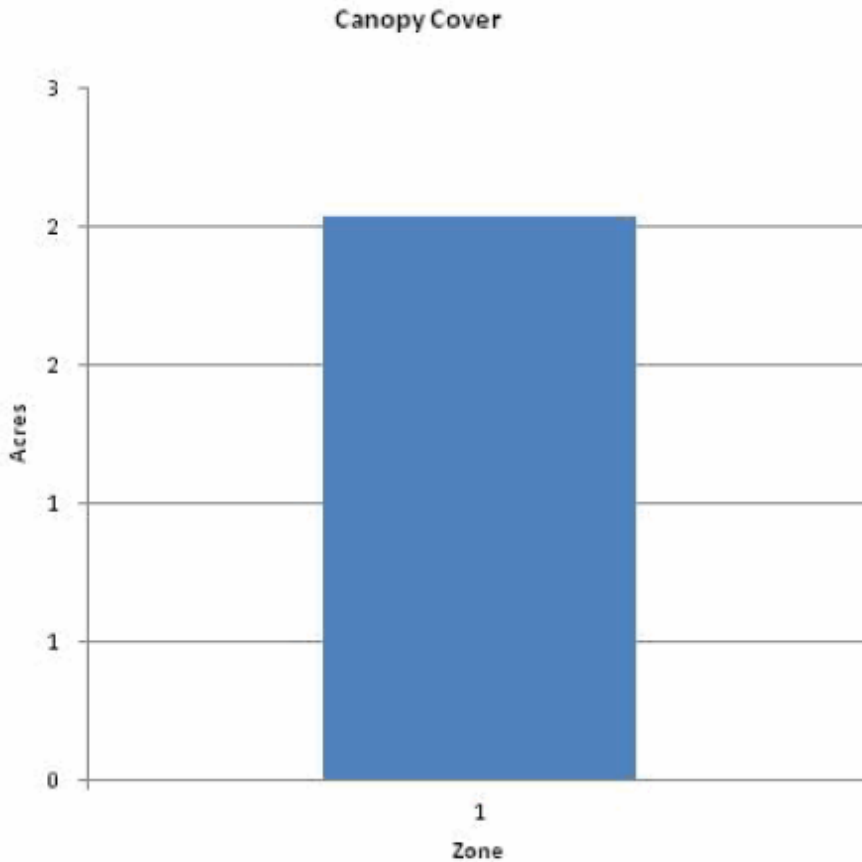


Figure 4: Wood Condition

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**Canopy Cover of Public Trees (Acres)**

1/12/2013



Zone	Acres	% of Total Canopy Cover
1	2	100.0
Citywide total	2	100.0

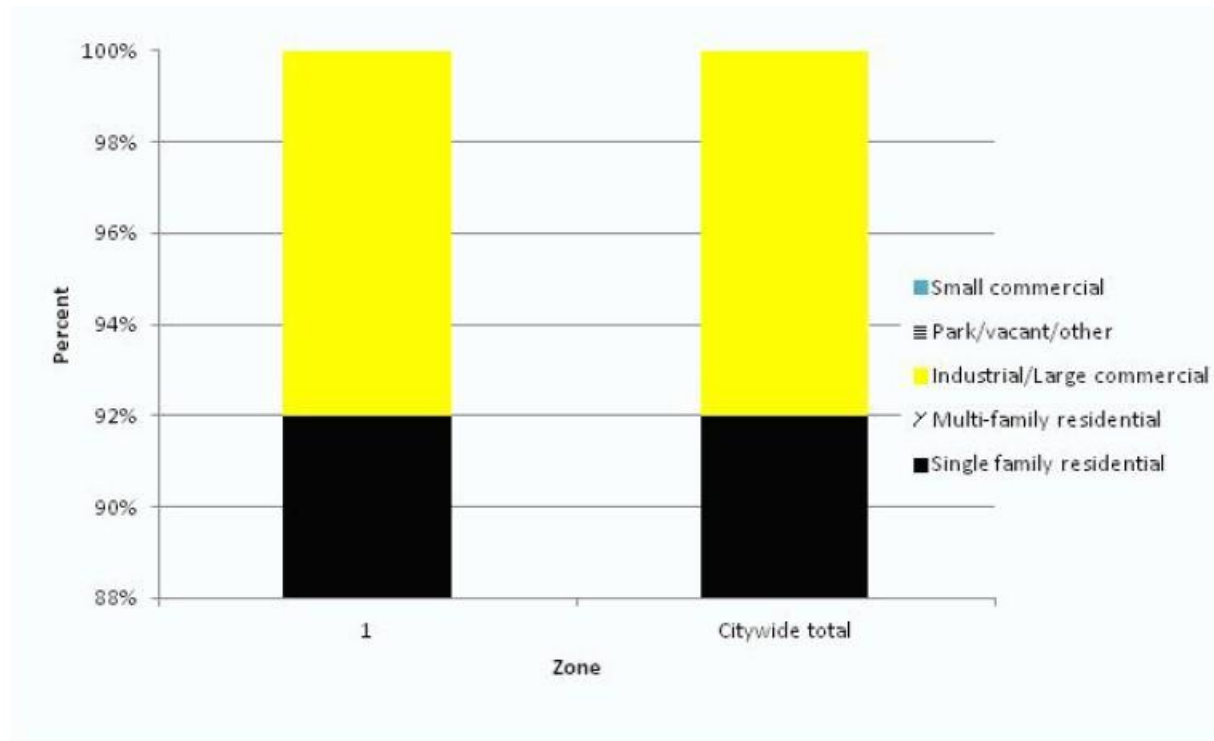
	Total Land Area	Total Street and Sidewalk Area	Total Canopy Cover	Canopy Cover as % of Total Land Area	Canopy Cover as % of Total Streets and Sidewalks
Citywide	0	0	2		

Figure 5: Canopy Cover in Acres

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**Land Use of Public Trees by Zone (%)**

1/12/2013



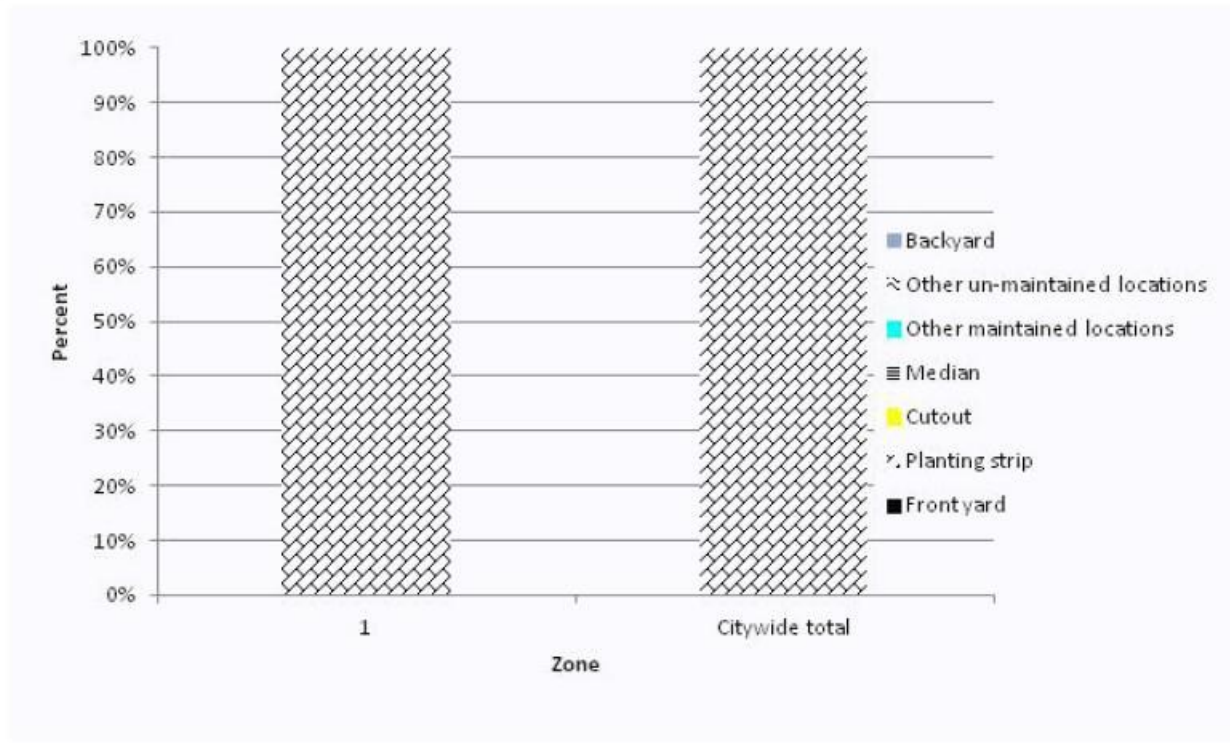
Zone	Single family residential	Multi-family residential	Industrial/Large commercial	Park/vacant/other	Small commercial
1	92.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0
Citywide total	92.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0

Figure 6: Land Use of city/park trees

Van Meter

**Location of Public Trees by Zone (%)**

1/12/2013



Zone	Front yard	Planting strip	Cutout	Median	Other maintained locations	Other un-maintained locations	Backyard
1	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citywide total	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Figure 7: Location of city/park trees

## Appendix B: ArcGIS Mapping

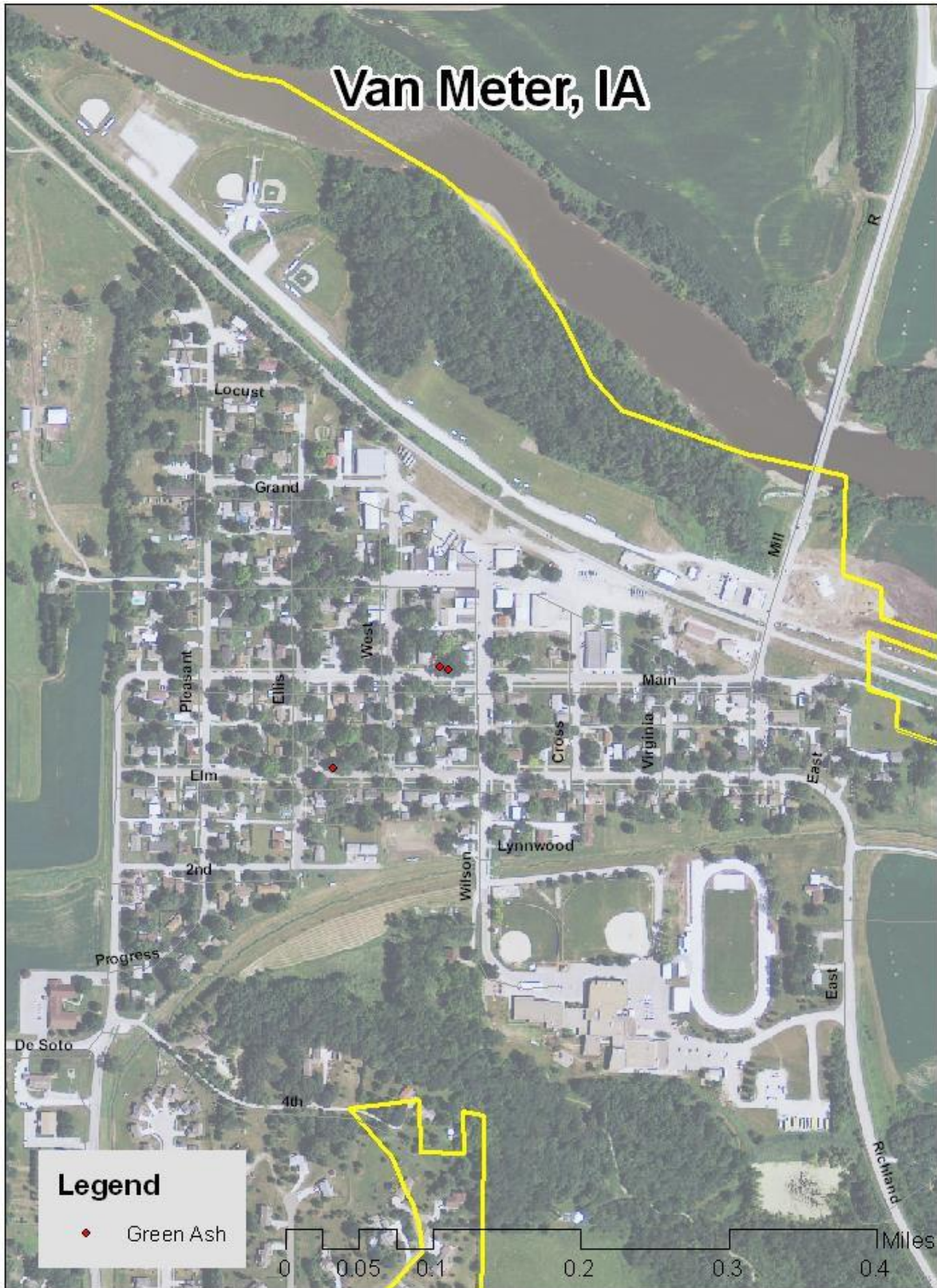


Figure 1: Location of Ash Trees



# No Signs or Symptoms

Figure 2: Location of EAB symptoms

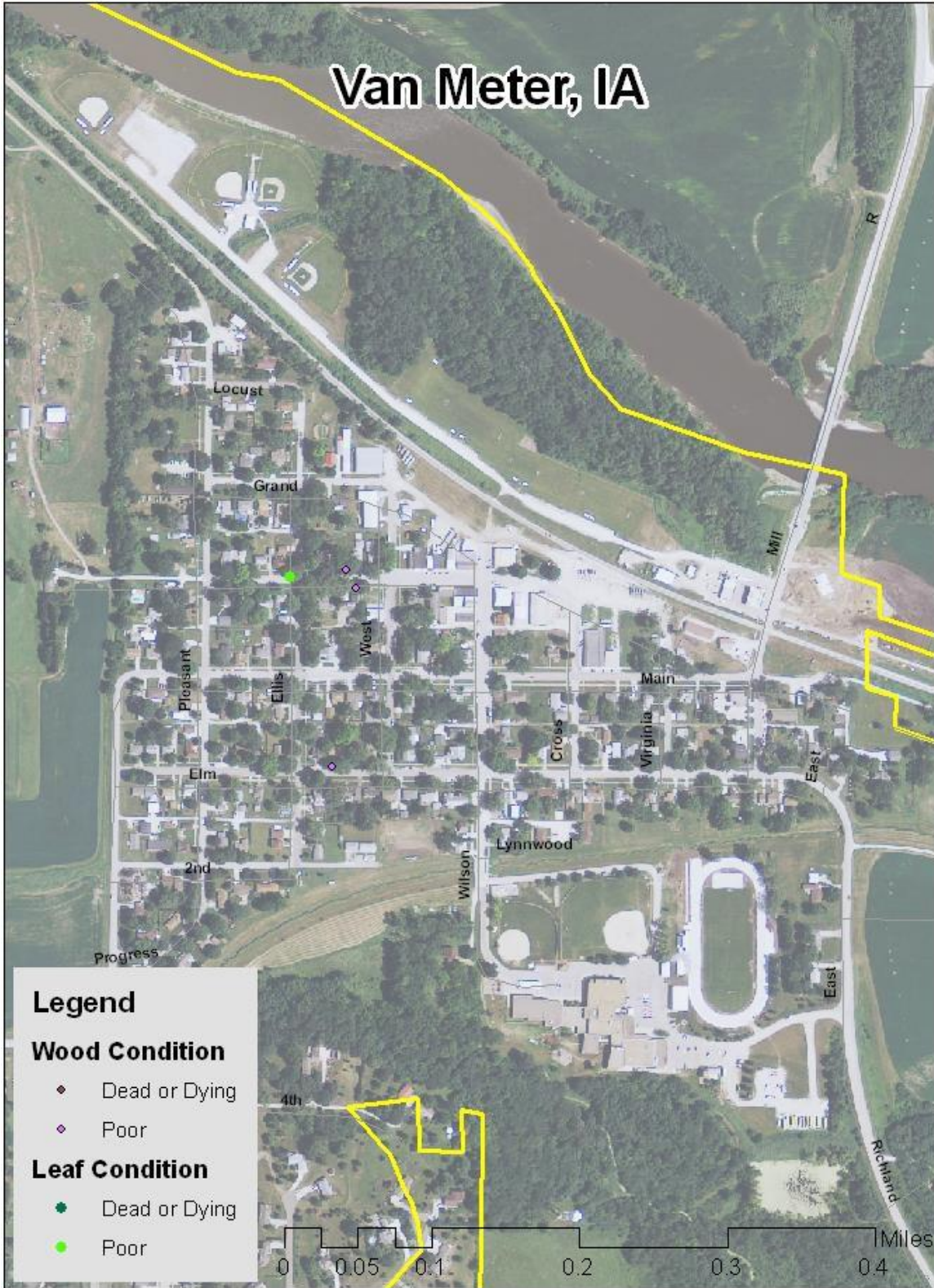


Figure 3: Location of Poor Condition Trees

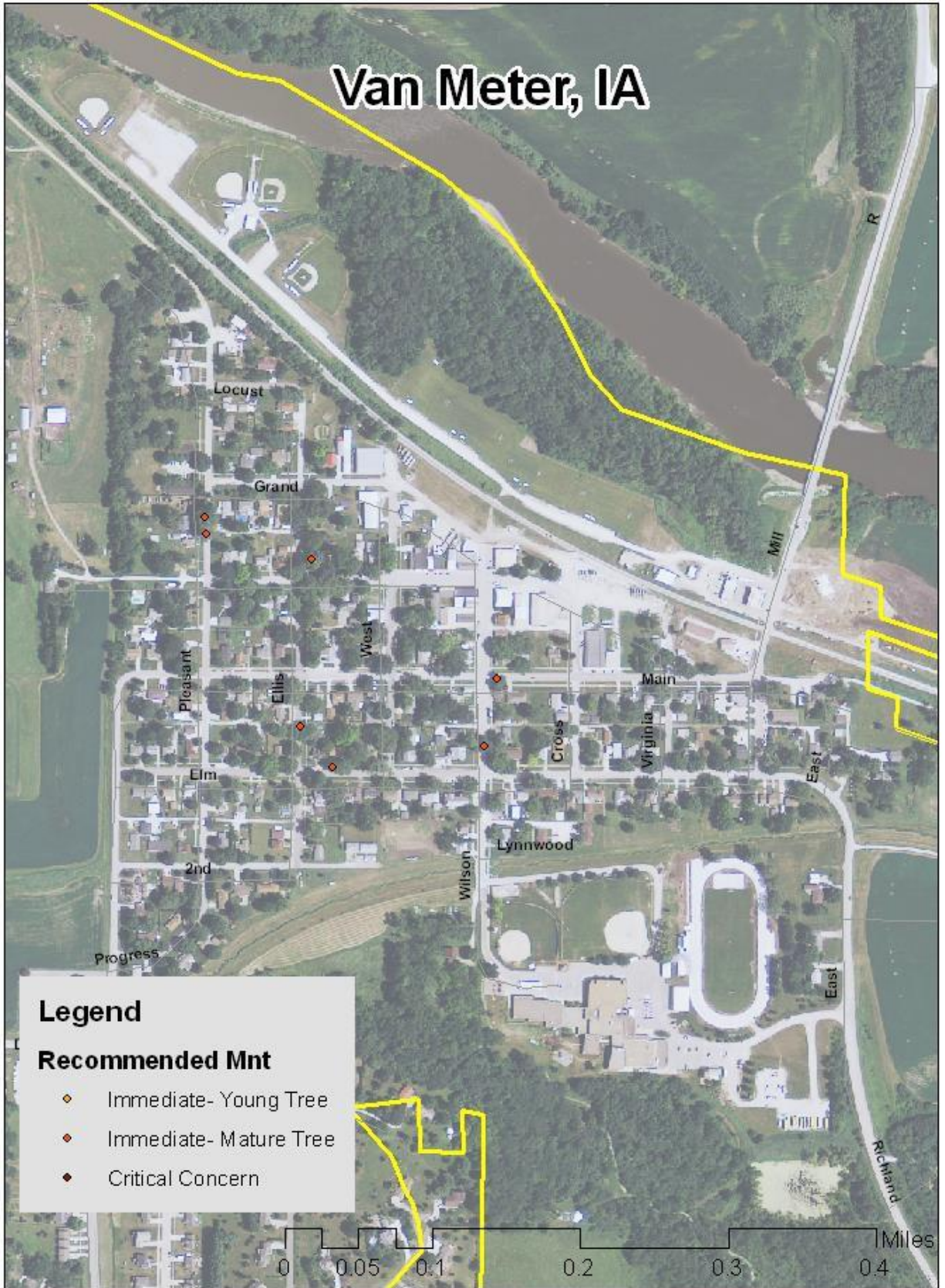
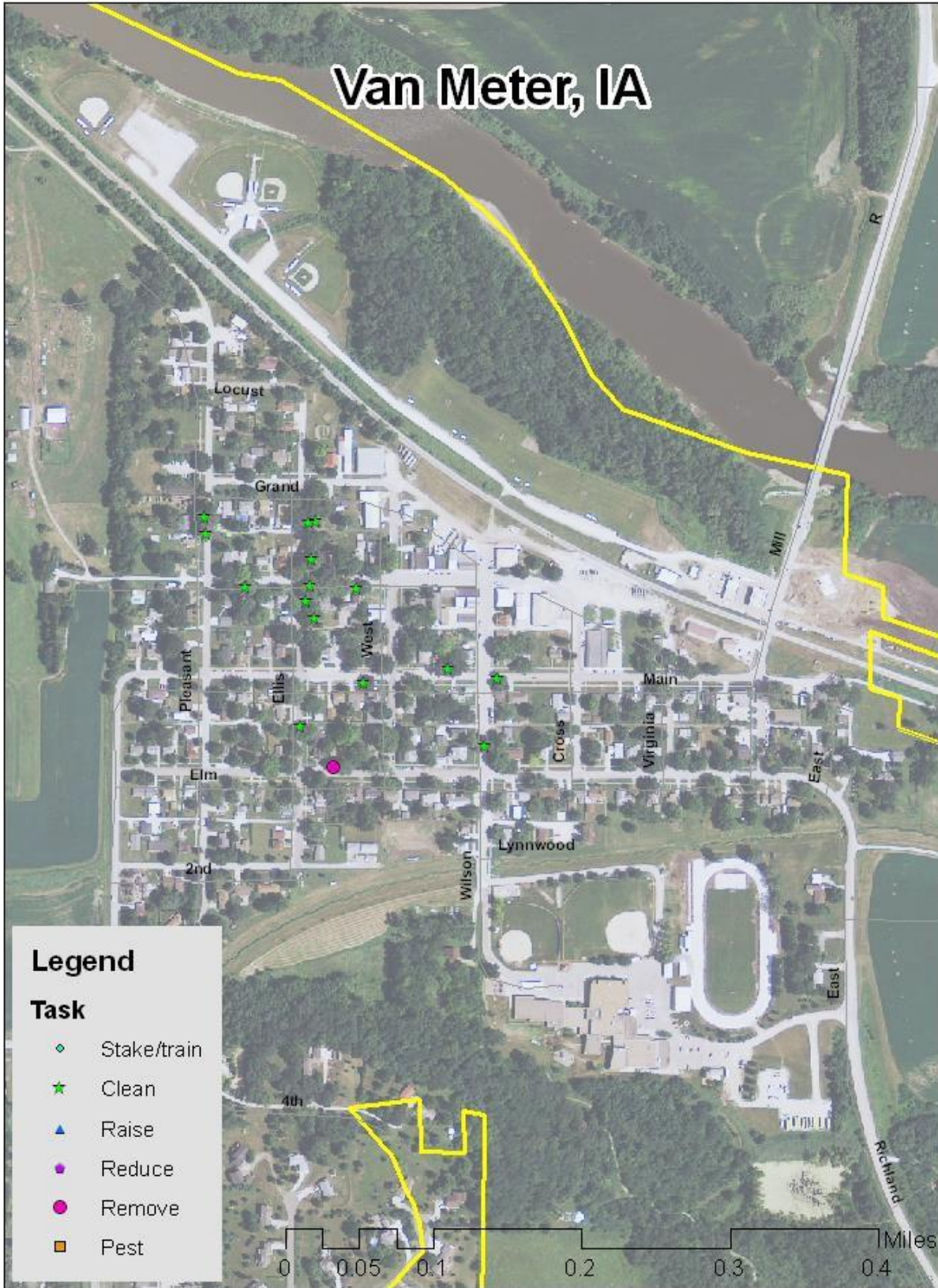


Figure 4: Location of Trees with Recommended Maintenance



**Figure 5: Maintenance Tasks** \*City ownership of the trees recommended for removal should be verified prior to any removal\*

# Appendix C: Sample Tree Ordinances

## CHAPTER 151

### TREES

151.01 Purpose

151.02 Definitions

151.03 Authority of City Generally

151.04 Trimming or Removal

151.05 Supervisory Authority of Street Superintendent

151.06 Planting Restrictions

151.07 Arboricultural Specifications and Standards  
of Practice

151.08 Trees on Public Property

151.09 Trees on Private Property

151.10 Enforcement

**151.1 PURPOSE.** The purpose of this chapter is to beautify and preserve the appearance of the City by requiring street trees to be uniformly located and maintained. The primary responsibility for maintaining street trees is placed upon the abutting property owner or his agent, and the Street Superintendent shall supervise any extensive trimming or cutting of said trees.

**151.2 DEFINITIONS.** For use in these chapters the following terms are defined:

1. “City Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice” means the document containing the detailed performance standards and specifications to be used in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.
2. “City property” means and includes the property owned by or leased to the City.
3. “Contractor” means any person, business who receives compensation for the performance of work done.
4. “Forestry Improvement Committee” means the duly established committee responsible to study, investigate, counsel and develop a written plan for the care, preservation, trimming, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs within the City.
5. “In the City streets” means the property included in that area located within any area platted as a City or public street.
6. “Maintain” or “maintenance,” when used in reference to trees, means and includes pruning, spraying, mulching, fertilizing, cultivating, supporting, treating for disease or injury or any other similar act which promotes the life, growth, health or beauty of trees.
7. “Parkway” means that portion of the public right-of way between the curb or the edge of the traveled portion of the street and the adjacent property line used for the purpose of planting and maintaining City street trees.
8. “Private tree” means any and all trees growing on private property.
9. “Property owner” means a person owning private property in the City, as shown by the County Auditor’s Plat of Manchester.
10. “Public property” means any and all property located within the confines of the City and owned by the City or held in the name of the City by any of the departments, commissions or agencies within the City Government.
11. “Public tree” means any and all trees growing on the public property including but not limited to street right-of-ways.

12. “Right-of-way” means a parcel of land intended to be occupied for streets, sidewalks, utilities and other public purposes.
13. “Shrubs” means woody vegetation usually growing with multiple stems and a height less than ten (10) feet.
14. “Topping” means heading, stubbing, rounding, tipping or “dehorning” which means the drastic removal of large branches, severely cutting back limbs to stubs larger than three (3) inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree.
15. “Trees” means woody vegetation usually growing with a single stem and a height over ten (10) feet.

**151.3 AUTHORITY OF CITY GENERALLY.** The City shall have jurisdiction over all trees and other planting on the streets, highways, alleys, parkways and City grounds within the City in order to provide orderly tree trimming and removal, to protect the health of all trees from disease and to require trees and planting to be maintained in a manner not dangerous to public safety.

**151.4 TRIMMING OR REMOVAL.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed so as to give or recognize any property or vested rights in and to any trees heretofore or hereafter planted on any street or avenue in the City; the City expressly reserves and asserts its rights at any time to trim or remove or cause to be trimmed or removed any tree now or hereafter planted on any street or avenue parkway whenever the Street Superintendent deems such trimming or removal advisable for the purpose of street improvements, or to eliminate hazardous situations or for the needs of travel of traffic without compensation to the abutting property owners.

**151.5 SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY OF STREET SUPERINTENDENT.** The Street Superintendent shall be responsible for the enforcement of provisions of this chapter and the supervision of all work by City employees or contractors in the trimming, removal, maintenance, or planting of trees and other plantings on the streets, highways, alleys, parkways, and other City property. No person shall interfere or cause any person to interfere with any work being done under the provisions of this chapter by any employee of the City or by any person doing work for the City.

**151.6 PLANTING RESTRICTIONS.** No tree shall be planted in any parking or public right-of-way except in accordance with the following: No person shall plant a tree within the parking or public right-of-way without first obtaining a permit therefore, which shall show the type of tree to be planted and the placement of the tree. The application form for such permit is available at City Hall. The application for a permit shall not be considered by the Street Superintendent unless and until the applicant has staked the exact location for the proposed street tree and has obtained permission to dig in such exact location from all concerned utilities. The approval of the permit shall be at the discretion of the Street Superintendent, taking into account the provisions of this chapter, the City Tree Plan and the best interests of the community. The permit shall expire six months from date of issue. The tree planting must comply with the City Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice. There will be no fee for this permit.

**151.7 ARBORICULTURAL SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.**

1. Establishment. There is hereby established an Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice document of and for the City. This document includes but is not limited to:
  - (i) species of street trees allowed and banned;
  - (ii) the spacing between street trees and distances from fixed objects;
  - (iii) proximity of street trees to utility lines; and
  - (iv) topping.

2. Authority. The performance standards and specifications contained within the City Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice shall be considered a part of this chapter and made subject to all its provisions.

#### **151.8 TREES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

1. Permits. No person except the City or a person hired by the City shall plant or remove any tree on City property without first filing an application and obtaining a permit from the City. The person receiving the permit shall abide by the Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice as adopted by the City. The City shall have the authority to require any permit holder to show adequate insurance coverage to cover potential damages that occur during the execution of the work. In the case of the property owner doing the work, proof of homeowner personal liability insurance may be required. If the property owner has hired another person or contractor to do the work, the contractor shall provide the City with a certificate of insurance. The certificates shall show the following minimum required limits of coverage of Commercial General Liability Insurance with limits of not less than \$500,000 per occurrence and Worker's Compensation Insurance coverage at statutory limits on any and all employees. A public utility shall also be required to obtain a permit to trim or remove any tree on any street or other public place. The work shall be limited to the actual necessities of the service of the company in the area specified on the permit. This work shall be done in accordance with the Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice as established for the City. The City may assign an inspector to supervise the provisions of the permit. The cost of the service shall be charged to the public utility. In the event severe weather has caused a tree to damage utility lines, the utility company or the City (or authorized agent) may trim or remove trees necessary to repair the damaged utility lines without first obtaining a permit. A permit should be obtained before any additional trimming not required for repair of the utility line is done.

2. Planting.

A. Tree Species. The City Forestry Improvement Committee shall develop and maintain a list of desirable trees for planting in the right-of-way as part of the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice. The Forestry Improvement Committee shall also establish and maintain a list of trees not suitable for planting.

B. Spacing. In order to promote the healthy and vigorous growth of street trees, their spacing shall be in accordance with the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice.

C. Utilities. In order to minimize obstructions and conflicts, the placement of street trees under, over, adjacent to or near utility lines shall be limited as specified in the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice.

D. Distance from Curb and Sidewalk. In order to promote the healthy and vigorous growth of street trees, certain distances as specified in the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice from curbs, sidewalks, driveways and intersections shall be maintained.

E. Excavation and Construction. In order to promote and ensure the healthy and vigorous growth of street trees, any excavation, filling or construction occurring within an area specified in the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice of a street tree is prohibited unless a permit is obtained from the City.

F. Storage. The depositing, placement, storage or maintenance of any stone, brick, sand, concrete or other material within the drip line of a tree which may impede the free

passage of water, air or fertilizer to the roots of any street tree is prohibited without obtaining a permit.

3. Maintenance. Due to the existence of City street trees, the resulting tree-lined streets provide both aesthetic and monetary value to the property owner; therefore, the primary care and maintenance of street and parkway trees shall be the responsibility of the adjacent homeowner. Persons shall maintain trees and plants in the parkway on which their property abuts at the same standard of care imposed on persons growing trees and plants on private property. It shall be the duty of any person growing a tree or other plant on private property abutting a street or public place:

A. To keep all private trees and planting extending over any street or alley trimmed up to a height of not less than fourteen (14) feet except that a height of not less than seven (7) feet shall be permitted over the sidewalk area, and also to keep said space clear of debris. 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.

B. Not to plant any tree or other plant which would cause a public danger or a nuisance.

C. To treat in an accepted manner or remove any tree or plant diseased or insect-ridden as to constitute a hazard to other trees or plants or to constitute a nuisance to the health, welfare and safety of the community.

D. Removal. If in the opinion of the City, removal of a street tree becomes necessary, the adjacent property shall be notified as specified in the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice. In the event the adjacent property requests the removal of a street tree or shrub the City does not consider the removal necessary, the property owner may appeal the Street Superintendent's decision to the Forestry Improvement Committee as outlined in Section 151.10 of this chapter.

E. Traffic Control. In the event the planting, maintenance or removal of any tree requires equipment or material to be located on or fall onto the street right-of-way, the permit holder shall provide for traffic control. All traffic control shall conform to the requirements and specifications of the current edition of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). In all cases, the disruption of smooth traffic flow shall be kept to a minimum. Additional warning devices or precautionary measures may be necessary to control pedestrian traffic.

F. Protection. No person shall:

- (1) Damage, cut, carve, nail, bolt or set fire to any street tree;
- (2) Attach any rope, chain or wire cable to any street tree;
- (3) Attach advertising posters or any other contrivance to any street tree; or
- (4) Allow any harmful gaseous, liquid, chemical or solid substance to come in contact with any street tree.

G. Tree Topping. It is unlawful as a normal practice for any person or City department to top any street tree, park tree or other tree on public property. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes or certain trees under utility wires or other

obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this section at the determination of the Street Superintendent.

#### **151.9 TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

1. Maintenance. The property owner is responsible for the maintenance and care of any tree located on private property. Certain regulations apply to trees whose branches, limbs, roots or other parts extend into or over the street right-of-way. The property owner is responsible for ensuring private trees are trimmed to sufficient height to allow free passage of pedestrians and vehicular travel and so they will not obstruct or shade streetlights, traffic lights, signs or any traffic control devices or the view of any street intersection. Detailed information is contained in the City's Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice. Whenever the City is notified or becomes aware of a dead tree or broken or dead branch or limb in any private tree which is in imminent danger of falling and thereby injuring any individual or causing property damage to adjacent property, the Street Superintendent may declare the tree, branch or limb a hazard and order the property owner to remove the hazard in an expedient manner. If the property owner fails to remove the hazard, the Street Superintendent may cause the hazard to be removed. For purposes of removing the hazard, City crews or City agents shall be allowed on private property. Attempts should be made to notify the property owner before entering onto private property.

2. Traffic Control. In the event the planting, maintenance or removal of any private tree requires equipment or material to be located on or fall onto the street right-of-way, the homeowner or the homeowner's agent shall provide for traffic control. All traffic control shall conform to the requirements and specifications of the current edition of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). In all cases the disruption of smooth traffic flow shall be kept to a minimum. Additional warning devices or precautionary measures may be necessary to control pedestrian traffic.

#### **151.10 ENFORCEMENT.**

1. Appeals. A person may appeal the issuance or denial of a permit authorized by this chapter or an order of the Street Superintendent providing for the non-emergency removal of a tree or shrub pursuant to the following procedure:

A. Within 10 days of receiving the decision the Street Superintendent, notice of appeal shall be given to the Street Superintendent and Forestry Improvement Committee in writing. The notice of appeal shall state the nature of the objection and request a hearing. Hearing shall be held before the Forestry Improvement Committee within 20 days of the filing of the notice of appeal. Following hearing, the Forestry Improvement Committee shall, within ten (10) days, provide a written decision concerning the issues raised by the notice of appeal.

B. A person may appeal the decision of the Forestry Improvement Committee to the City Council by filing a written notice with the City Clerk within seven (7) days after issuance of the decision of the Forestry Improvement Committee. The notice of appeal shall specify the nature of the objection to the decision of the Forestry Improvement Committee, and shall include a summary of the factual basis supporting the appeal, as well as a request for hearing before the City Council. The hearing shall be held before the City Council within 20 days after the notice of appeal being filed with the City Clerk. The City Council shall, within 10 days after hearing the appeal, issue a decision. The decision of the City Council shall constitute a final decision.

2. Interference. No person shall hinder, prevent, delay or otherwise interfere with the City or any assistants in the execution or enforcement of this chapter.



3. Penalties. Any person violating or failing to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall be considered in violation, and provisions for the City to abate the nuisance shall be made as specified in Chapter 50 of this Code of Ordinances.

**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. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, IA 50319.

If you need accommodations because of disability to access the services of this Agency, please contact the Director at 515-281-5918.