

**MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**NATURAL**  
**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SECTION**  
URBAN FORESTRY WEBSITE: [www.cincinnatiiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiiparks.com)  
**February 2024**

**Forestry Supervisor Report:**

1. **2025 Urban Forest Assessment**
  - a. City Council passed first of three ordinances (Declaring Necessity)
  - b. Forestry staff prepared for next step in process – Public Notification
2. **Plan Review** – DNR/ Forestry staff met to discuss plans for:
  - a. Central PKY/ Plum to Liberty Improvements near FC Cincinnati to revise.
  - b. Pete Rose Way Streetscape at Bengals Practice Field – Sidewalk Repair.
3. **Training & Conferences** - DNR/ Forestry concentrated on in-house training (E.g., First Aid and Streetcar Safety/ Rebadging) and attendance of professional conferences (Ohio Tree Care and Tri-State Green Industry)
4. **In-House Forestry Crew**
  - a. **Vehicle/ Equipment**
    - i.* Delivered to Fleet and ready for service: Rayco stump grinder, Vermeer mini skid steer, and Bandit drum chipper.
    - ii.* Delivered to Fleet - aerial lift truck.
    - iii.* Out for bid: Landscape dump and Forestry chip truck

**Recreation Specialist** - Forestry staff conducted interviews for a seasonal Recreation Specialist position and extended a job offer to Lauren Myfelt, who accepted. She is anticipated to start mid-March.

**Contracts:**

**22/23 PM - Northeast Neighborhoods**

Gray has completed 100% of Kennedy Heights. They started in Paddock Hills and completed 85%. Kurt has been in contact with Michael Gray to try and finish PM by the end of 2024. It is still on target.

**2021/2022 PM Marking – East Neighborhoods**

Linwood, East End, Columbia-Tusculum, California, Oakley, Mt. Lookout and Mt. Washington planning complete. Lots of small tree pruning for the technicians and only a handful of removals to be done under EM. Planning is complete for Madisonville. Removals for these neighborhoods were also completed under EM. Additional Oakley, Mt. Washington and Madisonville removals assigned under EM. Sent to finance to put out to bid. Still waiting for the bid to post.

**Emergency Maintenance** - Met with Purchasing to discuss issues for rebid.

## **Planting Contract**

New Planting contractor selected: Oberson's Nursery and Landscape out of Hamilton, Ohio for both the city-wide contract as well as the central district contract. All incomplete work orders from Spectra Scapes were assigned to Oberson's as well as new work orders for fall. Planting is going well. Invoices submitted for Downtown, through city-wide contract, and finally encumbered so they can be paid. Officially 368 trees were planted on invoices. As of March 1<sup>st</sup>, approximately 80 trees are left to be planted. Downtown work orders are complete- still a few stump issues. City-wide contract underway.

## **Stump Contract**

The grinding contractor is 90% caught up with the backlog of work. 163 stumps ground in February.

## **Utility Work:**

1. One new Duke Contractor for this year was Wright Tree Service which will be trimming in the Northeast.
2. Kurt Kastner inspected Mt. Washington 41, Terminal 44 Brighton 48, Rybolt 44 and Price Hill 41; feeders for quarter one of this year.
3. Kurt Kastner issued a Street Tree Permit to Duke Energy for the installation of new poles at 2700 Erlene Drive, along Paxton Avenue. Ten trees were affected by the work. Mostly side trimming and limbing up of low limbs. Contacted Bolin Utility to clean up limbs left on right-of-way in Sayler Park. Most work was minimum to trees. Just needed cleanup.
4. Finally received confirmation that two trees destroyed by Duke contractor will be removed and the stumps ground, at their expense, at 2358 McMicken Avenue.
5. Permitted ECI to trim trees along Eusten in Mt. Washington.

## **Development Projects:**

### **South**

1. Doug Fritsch met with representatives of DOTE, Hamilton County, and the Bengals to discuss plans for sidewalk rehab on Pete Rose Way alongside the Bengals practice field.
2. Inspected and discussed with a Duke Energy representative a gas line project on Dixmyth Avenue in Clifton near Good Samaritan Hospital.

### **East**

1. No development projects to report.

### **West**

2. CIP-Project areas for 2024 construction are expected by March.
3. Matt Dickman is working with sidewalk contractors for stump issues.
4. Matt Dickman determined the value of two trees for the model group construction on a project in the Villages of Roll Hill.

## **North**

5. Kurt Kastner's work with Diego Jordan of Architecture and Matt Mitchell from TROD in the Roselawn business district is on-going. Four trees were removed for this project (poor). Kurt is coordinating with our stump contractor to remove the stumps at the time the sidewalk work is to be done. This is to coordinate the removal of sidewalk blocks and pavers to increase the tree cutouts and increase tree survivability. This project aims to correct the sidewalk from tripping hazards. Four trees will be removed for this project. Trees that are dead or dying, new trees will be added.
6. Will work with contractor for new building on Montgomery Road and Lester, to add more trees. Continuation of this project. Looking to add more trees.
7. Kurt has also attended Trolley Car recertification, First Aid training, Civility training,
8. Defensive Driving training, Internal Audit training and a retirement seminar.
9. Attended an online class about Needle Cast and Brown Spot on pine needles.

## **Community Outreach:**

### **South – Doug Fritsch**

1. Doug Fritsch attended Clean & Safe Committee meeting for Downtown.
2. Participated in UC Tree Campus Care meeting.
3. Met with our partners to discuss the fall tree planting project in Avondale.
4. Attended a North Avondale Neighborhood Association meeting to hear residents' forestry-related desires and concerns.

### **West – Matt Dickman**

5. Matt Dickman has begun to map out new PM districts to start in summer 2024.
6. Matt Dickman attended a webinar on mapping and monitoring tree health to earn CEU's for certified Arborist renewal.
7. Matt Dickman and park staff attended first aid and civility training.
8. Matt Dickman attended the Municipal Forestry Institute.

### **North – Kurt Kastner**

9. Kurt Kastner attended his third Adopt-A-Class Day in Cheviot.
10. Still in contact with Margaux Roberts of Bond Hill. Needs to set a time and date to meet March 14th and discuss community planting projects and options in the community of Bond Hill, i.e., how to get trees, how to remove a tree, and how to prune a tree.

### **East – Marianne Prue**

11. Marianne Prue continues to be in contact with Madisonville, North Avondale, Hyde Park, Evanston, and Mt. Lookout Community Councils regarding tree plantings.
12. Marianne Prue and Doug Fritsch have swapped a couple communities that they cover to clear up a lot of confusion. Marianne now covers both Walnut Hills and East Walnut Hills. Doug now covers both Avondale and North Avondale.

**FEBRUARY PROGRAM STATISTICS:**

**Investigation Requests**

Number of requests received February 2024

Number resolved by staff at end of February 2024

Backlog carried over to March 2024

*(Figures may reflect backlog from previous months)*

**Street Tree Work Orders**

Number of work orders assigned February 2024

Backlog from January 2023

Number of work orders completed February 2024

Backlog carried over to March 2024

**Emergency Work**

Number of storm emergencies received February 2024

**Stumps Removed**

Number of stumps removed February 2024

**Street Trees Planted**

Oberson’s Nursery and Landscape

***Redo Plantings (Replaced under guarantee)***

**Customer Service Requests**

Number of requests received February 2024

Number resolved by staff for February 2024

Number of requests carried over to March 2024

<b>FEB</b>	<b>YTD</b>
30	49
39	71
15	
<b>FEB</b>	<b>YTD</b>
8	19
72	
29	39
51	
<b>FEB</b>	<b>YTD</b>
18	35
<b>FEB</b>	<b>YTD</b>
163	207
	<b>YTD</b>
	368
<b>FEB</b>	<b>YTD</b>
49	129
54	115
13	14