

PUBLIC WORKS

St. Anthony Village Awarded a 2022-23 Community Forestry Corps Member

Emily Ball, WSB Forestry Program Manager

St. Anthony Public Works cares for the public trees in parks and boulevards, which includes responding to all the challenges that impact them – from storm damage, to drought, to infrastructure projects that may impact trees. If a tree is removed, a replacement tree is often planted and will require follow up care, such as watering, pruning, and mulching. Emerald Ash Borer management has significantly increased the need for assistance related to public trees.



This summer, Public Works staff sought help from the Community Forestry Initiative, an AmeriCorps program that places Community Forestry Corps members in cities throughout the state of Minnesota. The Community Forestry Initiative of the Climate Impact Corps is a newer AmeriCorps program operating in Minnesota, which trains and hires members to serve in host communities throughout the state with a mission of preserving and protecting the environment by increasing tree canopies.

Forestry Corps members serve at a nonprofit or public agency like St. Anthony Village, and can help with a number of duties, including: marking ash trees for removal, providing tree information and outreach to residents, tree inventories, planning and ordering trees for reforestation, tree planting & care, and monitoring contractor planting projects to ensure specifications and best management practices are being followed.

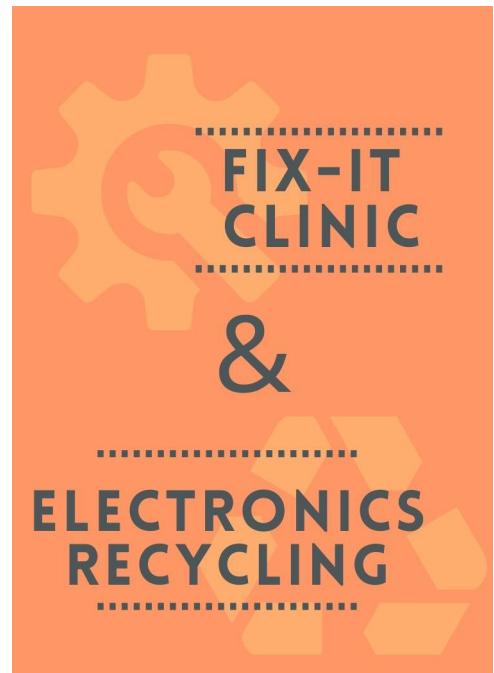
St. Anthony ultimately partnered with the City of Lauderdale to apply for a shared Forestry Corps member to work full time between the two cities, and were successful in being awarded a member that will serve for an 11-month term. St. Anthony Village looks forward to partnering with the Community Forestry Initiative to advance the city's forestry goals.

October Fix-It Clinic & Electronics Recycling Event

Hennepin County will be hosting a Fix-It Clinic at St. Anthony City Hall on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 12-4:00 p.m.

Bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics and more. With free guided assistance, you can disassemble, troubleshoot, and fix your item. No pre-registration is required. Items must be carry-in-sized, and you should bring any parts and/or supplies that might be helpful. See hennepin.us/FixItClinic for more details.

In addition, the City of St. Anthony is partnering with Repowered to host an electronics recycling event in the south lot of City Hall, also from 12-4:00 p.m. on Oct. 8. Pricing for this event is \$.50 per pound of materials, and only cash will be accepted. For more details on accepted items, visit savmn.com/techdump. ■





WINTER SNOW REMINDERS



No parking on any street for a period of 48 hours, beginning immediately after two (2) inches or more of continuous snowfall, or until the snow removal has been completed from curb to curb.

Never place trash or recycling carts in the street

Don't plow, blow or shovel snow into the street

Stay back when driving behind plow trucks

The owner and occupant of any property adjacent to a public sidewalk is required to keep the walk safe for pedestrians. Snow and ice are not to remain on sidewalks longer than 24 hours (this includes walks where Public Works may do an initial pass with their equipment).

Advancing Emerald Ash Borer Management

Emily Ball, WSB Forestry Program Manager

St. Anthony Village recently received several grants to help with the management of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB was first found in Minnesota in 2009, and has since spread across the entire Twin Cities metro area. EAB is a non-native insect that feeds under the bark of ash trees and kills them by disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients.

With the grants that were received, obtaining a complete inventory of public trees in parks and along boulevards was identified as a top priority, which was accomplished with an aerial photo mapping software system. The software was used to collect tree data throughout the city, and allows staff to update data as tree work or removals occur, and rapidly assess tree species diversity. This will guide selection of new trees to replace trees that die not only from EAB, but from storm damage or other diseases. The tree data that was collected also revealed there were approximately fifty public ash trees that could still be protected or treated for EAB, with injections that last for two years. The first round of injections occurred in August and will ensure that our living ash trees continue providing valuable shade on public property.



Mature tree canopies provide benefits in the form of air quality improvement, stormwater control, air cooling, providing habitat, and capturing and storing carbon dioxide. Preserving our existing mature ash trees through EAB treatments will help ensure that these benefits continue as long as possible. A tree can be treated for EAB for up to 20 years for the same cost of tree removal, stump grinding, and replacement.

We are reviewing the remainder of the city's tree data and drafting a comprehensive structured 10-year EAB plan to address the removals and replacements that will need to occur. For more on EAB, including how to identify if you have an ash in your yard, and how to manage it, or if you have questions related to public ash trees, contact Public Works Superintendent Zach Lundberg at 612-782-3440.