

“Trees are the lungs of the land.”

— Franklin Delano Roosevelt

*Minnesota’s
community forests—*



The ‘Granfather Tree’, Eagan

*Properly cared
for, they are
valuable—
and growing—
assets . . .*

*Neglected,
they become
liabilities.*



Weakness due to mproper planting procedure



Oak wilt pocket

Trees dieing
from emerald
ash borer dam-
age, Michigan

The community forest is the green infrastructure that encompasses all natural resources of any urban or community area.

**Minnesota Shade Tree
Advisory Committee
(MnSTAC)
Report to the Minnesota
State Legislature**



Successes . . .



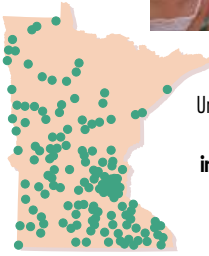
Tree Inspectors are certified throughout the State, keeping communities' trees and citizens up to date.

Tree Trust of Minnesota conducted ___ different **Outdoor Environment classroom programs** in 2001–2002.



MN ReLeaf funds aid communities in restoration after storms or other tragedies, such as in Comfrey, MN.

MN ReLeaf helped **120 communities** plant thousands of trees throughout the state.



University of Minnesota **research-based information** is helping communities manage their trees.



Research says Trees...

• *clean the air.*

Urban trees reduce smog. A mature tree absorbs 120 to 240 pounds of air-polluting gases. Chicago's urban forest, for example, provides air cleaning worth \$9.2 million per year.

• *reduce crime.*

Buildings with ample greenery had 56% fewer violent crimes than those with little or none.

• *raise property values.*

Trees add 10–23% to the value of a residence.

• *improve life for children.*

Children with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) have fewer symptoms after contact with nature. The greener the setting, the better.

• *improve human health.*

Hospital patients recover more quickly when their windows overlook trees.

Minnesotans' Investment Partnerships

in their community trees...

Minnesota has 128 million trees in urban areas, with a compensatory value of \$80 billion—reflected in greater tourism, lower energy costs, cleaner air and water, and less crime.

Other assets depreciate . . . trees grow in value.

As our living infrastructure, trees play a vital role in the economic, social, and environmental welfare of healthy, sustainable communities.

that have seen success over many years.

Since 1974, MnSTAC and its partners—state agencies, local governments, non-profits, corporations, foundations, and volunteers—have collectively invested time, money, and sweat equity to support this important resource.

. . . and challenges.



A new and insidious pest, the **Emerald ash borer**, is gaining a foothold in Michigan, with damages of \$xx,xxxx so far.

Oak wilt continues to expand in the metro area, at a rate of 700 acres per year.



Urban growth claims 36 square miles of land each year in Minnesota and badly fragments undeveloped land—and its ecological niches.



Learn more at www.mnstac.org.

*“One generation plants the trees;
another gets the shade.”*

—Chinese proverb



“Without the Minnesota ReLeaf

funding, we would not have had the money to replant . . . in the City of Comfrey after the storms of 2000.”

—Linda Friesen, City Clerk of Comfrey;

*We can protect
that investment
and maximize our
efforts, but we
need your
help . . . NOW.
Please support
Minnesota’s
communities
and their urban
forests by:*



Gypsy moths captured in Minnesota doubled in 2001.



🍁 Funding MN ReLeaf

Treat LCMR funding of MN ReLeaf like other regular pass-through grant programs—do not usurp funds for budget-balancing. Fund LCMR’s 2004-05 recommendation for \$785,000 for Minnesota ReLeaf, to leverage local funding and citizen volunteer support.



🍁 Helping to reduce CO₂ :

Provide incentives to companies on the Toxic Release Inventory list to contribute to community forestry and tree-planting programs to improve air quality



🍁 Adopting state guidelines for tree protection.

Communities that must do comprehensive plans should be required to have natural resource and tree protection strategies in those plans

Affiliations

MnSTAC's diverse members represent a wide spectrum of tree-related interests. The organization fosters and supports local community tree programs across the state so healthy forests are fully integrated into community development, infrastructure, education and management. MnSTAC's specific role is to:

- Advocate for public and private community forest interests
- Network, exchange and disseminate information
- Serve as Minnesota's urban forestry council, advising the state forester on implementing state and federally funded programs.



MnSTAC is committed to bringing the best information to the public, professionals and decisionmakers of Minnesota.

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www.mnstac.org
 on the World-Wide Web.

Cities

Andover
 Apple Valley
 Austin
 Bemidji
 Blaine
 Bloomington
 Brooklyn Center
 Burnsville
 Chalfield
 Coon Rapids
 Crookston
 Crystal
 Duluth
 Eagan
 East Grand Forks
 Eden Prairie
 Golden Valley
 Hastings
 Hawley
 Hendrum
 Hutchinson
 Kennedy
 Lake City
 Lewiston
 Lino Lakes
 Mankato
 Minneapolis (MPRB)
 Mounds View
 New Brighton
 New Hope
 Plymouth
 Preston
 Ramsey
 Red Wing
 Robbinsdale
 Rochester

State Agencies

IA DNR—Forestry Div.
 IRRRB
 MN Dept. of Agriculture
 MN Dept. of Natural Res.
 MN Dept. of Transportation
 Minnesota Grown
 MN House of Representatives
 MN Office of Tourism
 MN Office of Waste Mgmt.
 MN Senate
 MN Office of Environ Serv.
 SD Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks
 WI DNR

Counties

Anoka Co. Tree Bd.
 Dakota Co. Pks
 Hennepin Co. Pks
 Isanti Co. Pks & Rec.
 Marshall Co. SWCD
 Ramsey Co. Pks
 Sherburne Co. Tree Bd.
 Washington Co. Health Dept.

Federal Agencies

USDA Forest Service
 VA Medical Center

MnSTAC

www.mnstac.org

Nonprofit Organizations

American Forests
 Chisago-Isanti Woodland Council
 Dirt Diggers Garden Club
 St. Paul Foundation/Great
 River Greening
 Hiawatha Valley RC&D
 Inst. for Ag. and Trade Policy
 Merriam Park Env. Com.
 MN Association of SWCDs
 MN State Horticultural Society
 MN Nursery and Landscape Assn.
 Tree Trust
 Whittier Neighborhood
 Reforestation Proj.

Media

Minneapolis Star & Tribune

Universities

Horticultural Research Ctr.
 Isanti Community College
 Itasca Community College
 St. John's University
 U of M
 College of Agriculture
 — Plant Pathology Dept.
 College of Natural Resources
 — Entomology Dept.
 — Forest Resources Dept.
 MN Landscape Arboretum
 Landscape Plant Dev. Ctr.
 U of M Crookston
 — Dept. of Natural Resources
 University of Minnesota Extension
 Service
 — Clay Co.
 — Mahnomon Co.
 — Norman Co.

Private Consultants

Accent Company
 Close Landscape Architect.
 Cook Company
 Dahlgren, Shardlow and
 Uban, Inc.
 EnvironMentor Systems
 Forestry Professionals, Inc.
 Heartwood Forestry
 Kunde Company Inc.
 MyCological Applications
 Plant Disease Diagnostics
 Plant Health Assoc., Inc.
 Point Forestry
 Scientific Services
 The Write Connection
 Vernix Forestry Consultants

Utilities

Minnesota Power
 Northern States Power

Nurseries

Bachman's Wholesale Cntr.
 Bailey Nurseries, Inc.
 Law's Nursery
 Lee Nursery
 Wild Rose Landscape
 Gardening

Tree Services

Canopy Tree Care
 Davey Tree Company
 Living Sculpture Tree Care
 Rainbow Treecare
 St. Croix Tree Service
 Top Notch Treecare