



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – 7:00 PM  
Village Hall – 400 Park Ave., River Forest, IL

You may submit your written public comments via email in advance of the meeting to: [sjansen@vrf.us](mailto:sjansen@vrf.us)  
You may listen to the meeting by participating in a Zoom conference call as follows: dial-in number: 312-626-6799 with meeting ID: 816 4491 8569 or by clicking [here](#). If you would like to speak during public comment, please email [sjansen@vrf.us](mailto:sjansen@vrf.us) by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes for September 10, 2024
4. Commissioner Updates
5. Review of Community Survey Feedback
6. Continued Discussion on Proposed Leaf Blower Ordinance
7. Continued Review of UIC Climate Action Plans
  - a. Village Forestry Operations and Potential Tree Ordinance
  - b. Next Month - Transportation
8. Communications and Other Business
  - a. Quarterly Electric Vehicle Report
9. Schedule Next Meeting – November 12, 2024
10. Adjournment

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Sustainability Commission was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Co-Chairs Charrette and Lennon, Commissioners Veazie, Hayley, Mezzatesta, Kadlec, and Avalos, Student Commissioner Stierwalt  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Management Analyst Seth Jansen

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jansen noted written public comment was received and copies were provided for the Commissions. Scott McAdam of McAdam Landscaping submitted a letter on the proposed leaf blower ordinance. Mark Kelty of Kelty Lawn Care and Robert Mahon of Mahon Landscaping jointly submitted a letter on the proposed leaf blower ordinance.

Selena Herrera of Herrera’s Landscaping spoke about their experience using electric leaf blowers in Oak Park during the summer months this year. Co-Chair Lennon asked for further elaboration on difficulty faced. Ms. Herrera specifically cited the cost of the batteries, the battery life, and the charging time to recharge batteries. She specifically cited the impact on the quality of work, being unable to fully clean properties while trying to preserve battery life.

Rob McAdam of McAdam Landscaping emphasized the cost between gas and battery-operated equipment and cited short battery life and the need for backup batteries and charging systems needed in trailers and trucks. Mr. McAdam feels the landscape companies were singled out in Oak Park through the focus on leaf blowers rather than all types of equipment. Mr. McAdam cited other actions landscaping companies take to be green. Co-Chair Lennon inquired about the timeline for operating costs recouping the upfront costs through lower maintenance and fuel costs. Mr. McAdam said larger equipment takes longer to payback but for blowers it is mostly fuel cost since gas-powered blower maintenance is typically minimal. Co-Chair Lennon asked about McAdam’s experience in Oak Park this year. Mr. McAdam said they were initially unaware of the ordinance until they were cited. He stated they purchased several hand blowers with backup batteries totally approximately \$6000. He indicated that hand blowers are sufficient for smaller things but lack the power and capability needed for larger work like fall leaf clean up. Mr. McAdam states that the equipment often needs to be dedicated to Oak Park because of the ordinance and that crews often need to switch equipment depending on who is working in Oak Park. Co-Chair Lennon

asked what Mr. McAdam views as a potential timeline for transition to all electric leaf blowers or electric equipment generally. Mr. McAdam stated it was difficult to anticipate given the cost needed to transition and waiting for more efficient batteries to be developed. Co-Chair Charrette asked about interest in group purchasing for potential discounts; Mr. McAdam indicated they generally receive good prices because of the amount they need to purchase but indicated it would be beneficial. Commissioner Hayley asked if the costs of the newer equipment has been passed to customers; Mr. McAdam indicated it has not occurred yet because its been relatively small scale but thought it may be needed in the future.

Ms. Herrera wished to make further comment indicated the need to plan for any potential changes and that increased costs to recoup costs could result in losing customers. She stated one of her largest concerns is the time it takes to perform debris clean up at each home with the limited power of the battery blowers.

Co-Chair Lennon inquired about the Green Landscape Technology working group being a part of the Cross Community Climate Collaborative (C4).

### **3. ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Mezzatesta made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Veazie to approve the meeting minutes from August 13, 2024, with typo corrections indicated by Co-Chair Charrette.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chairs Charrette and Lennon, Commissioners Veazie, Hayley, Mezzatesta, Kadlec, and Avalos

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

### **4. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED LEAF BLOWER ORDINANCE**

Mr. Jansen outlined the updated draft copy, including the “whereas” provisions of the ordinance, and that the draft ordinance language text had been shared via mail and email with all landscape contractors licensed in the Village. Commissioner Mezzatesta stated that she still believes it will be a burden on landscape companies and that we should examine the full cost of a policy before adopting it. Co-Chair Charrette outlined the incentive provision to the contractors present, including an area on the website highlighting those who only use electric leaf blowers. Commissioner Veazie asked for clarification about which sections apply to whom in the draft language; Mr. Jansen stated that the rebate would apply to landscape contractors but that the seasonal ban would apply universally. The Commission discussed how the survey could be used to gauge resident feedback on the issue prior to making a decision.

Co-Chair Lennon asked about the C4 work on green landscape technology; Mr. Jansen provided a quick overview of what work the group had done so far. Co-Chair Lennon

inquired about potentially joining on to what other communities are doing on the topic or if there is a general consensus for communities to forward.

Ms. Herrera provided further comment in support of limiting the noise level and number of leaf blowers used at one site. Co-Chair Charrette indicated the Commission is open to any further suggestions and would provide plenty of notice to any impacted businesses.

## **5. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY SURVEY**

Mr. Jansen outlined the draft version of the survey and that the test survey was sent to everyone. Mr. Jansen indicated that he had initially made it one question per page to make the branching questions operate. Commissioner Mezzatesta indicated the edits she made to make the branching of questions possible based on different response or categories. Commissioner Mezzatesta discussed the flow and the logic for the survey. Mr. Jansen discussed some of the smaller changes he made to the wording and layout and that his biggest concern was too many pages.

The Commission discussed different edits and ways to reword the questions and answer options to various survey questions. Mr. Jansen indicated ways he would consolidate the survey into a smaller number of pages with multiple questions on each. The Commissioners suggested indicating the anticipated length of the survey at the beginning and including a progress bar in the survey.

## **6. SOLSMART DISCUSSION**

Mr. Jansen outlined the memo on SolSmart and the designation levels and required action items. Mr. Jansen indicated, that when leveling up, Village permitting and inspection staff would likely need to re-complete the training that was completed to achieve Silver designation. Co-Chair Lennon indicated what was needed of the Commission to go forward. Co-Chair Charrette inquired about what is feasible or achievable from a Village administrative perspective. Mr. Jansen outlined the needed items to achieve Gold and Platinum designation and that most changes needed would be from a permitting perspective and a needed zoning change. Co-Chair Charrette stated that administrative feedback would be preferred to start before pushing for any changes that would be onerous to implement. Co-Chair Lennon stated that actions should be undertaken based on what is most optimal and beneficial, which in this case is to encourage people to put more solar on their homes. The Commission discussed the best ways to implement solar policies and what policies suggested by SolSmart would be most beneficial. Commissioner Veazie discussed looking into the fee waiver policies in the permitting and inspection section as potential ways to encourage more rooftop solar.

## **7. COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Jansen outlined the IEPA EV charging grant that the Village received and what the rough timeframe is moving forward. Commissioner Hayley inquired about partnering with businesses in River Forest to create economies of scale to purchase EV chargers at a

potentially reduced price. Co-Chair Lennon asked if it was possible to do a group buy through the Village and Co-Chair Charrette asked if the Village could use its purchasing power to assist other institutions in the Village with purchasing EV chargers.

Mr. Jansen noted he would have a memo and some background information regarding the forestry recommendations from the UIC Climate Action Plans. Co-Chair Lennon requested feedback from the Village arborists on the feasibility of each.

Commissioner Avalos inquired about potentially partnering with the Library for a sustainability event. Commissioner Mezzatesta stated she had not had time since the last meeting but was still looking into it.

Commissioner Mezzatesta discussed some of the challenges her condominium building is facing in order to comply with the requirements of the state Electric Vehicle Charging Act and suggested the Village look into renting out overnight parking spaces with charging stations.

Co-Chair Charrette stated she could submit a draft for the next monthly newsletter on going solar. Co-Chair Charrette attended the recent EV Readiness Cohort at Argonne National Lab and shared the innovations she saw regarding EV.

#### **8. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – OCTOBER 8, 2024**

The Commission reached a consensus to hold its next meeting Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Co-Chair Charrette made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Veazie, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Co-Chairs Charrette and Lennon, Commissioners Veazie, Hayley, Mezzatesta, Kadlec, and Avalos

Absent: None

Nays: None

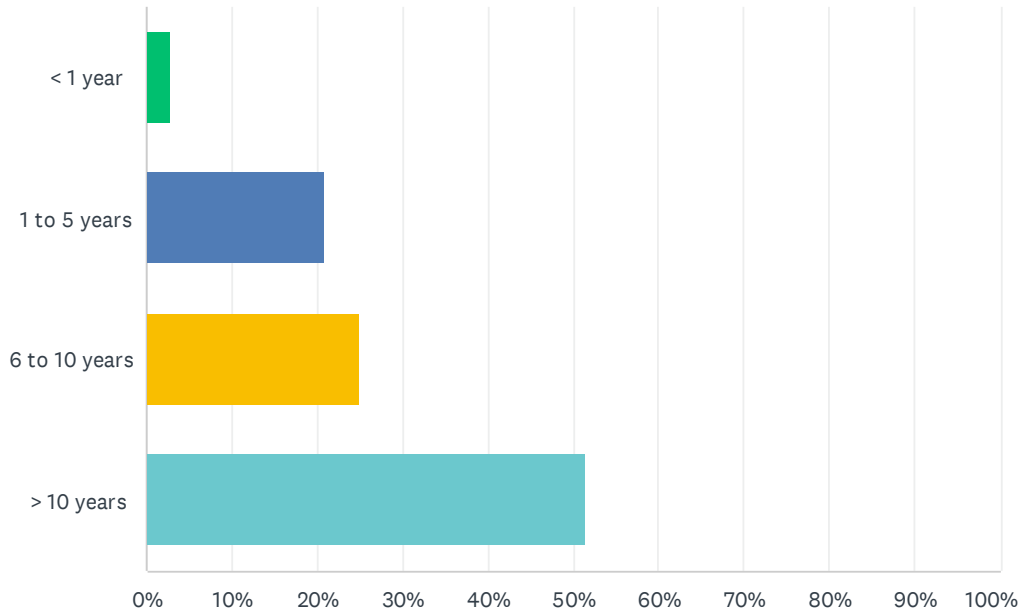
Motion Passes.

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Seth Jansen, Secretary

# Q1 How long have you resided in the Village of River Forest (VRF)?

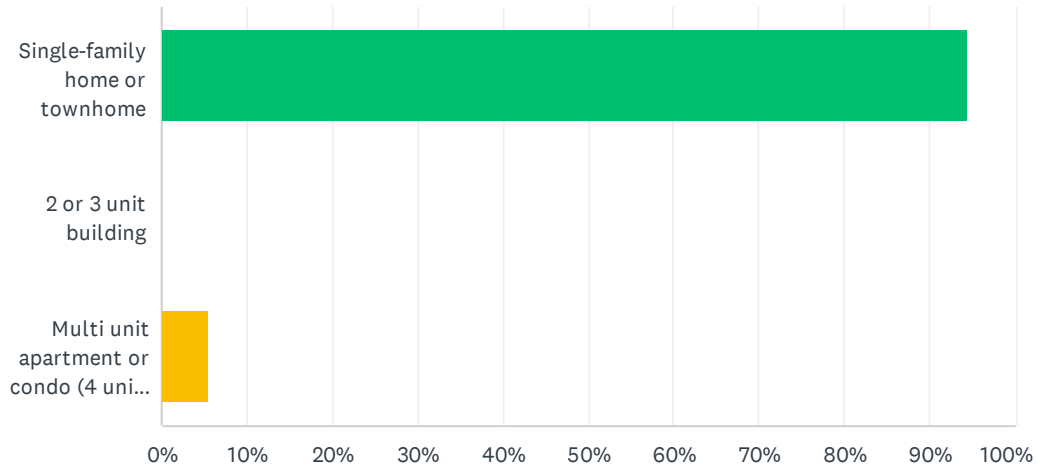
Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
< 1 year	2.78% 2
1 to 5 years	20.83% 15
6 to 10 years	25.00% 18
> 10 years	51.39% 37
TOTAL	72

## Q2 What kind of home do you live in?

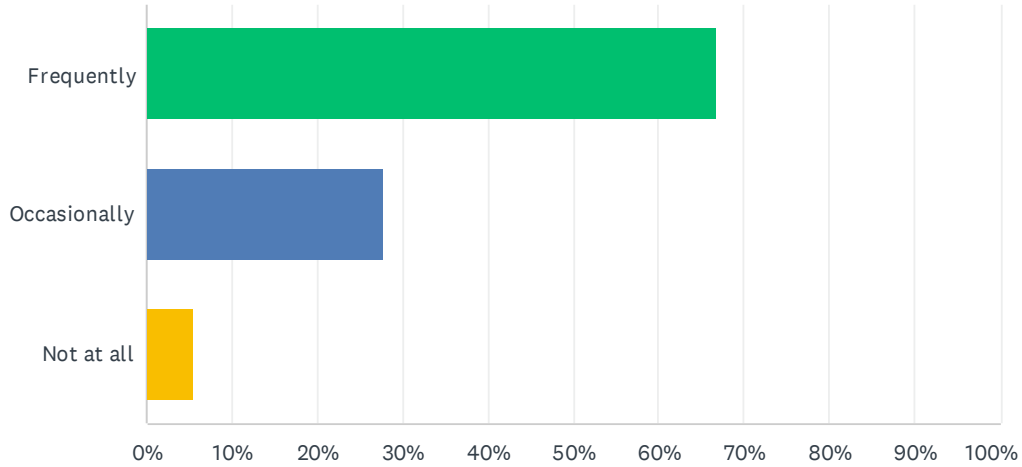
Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Single-family home or townhome	94.44%	68
2 or 3 unit building	0.00%	0
Multi unit apartment or condo (4 units or more)	5.56%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72</b>

### Q3 How often do you think about sustainability-related issues and their impact on your daily life?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0

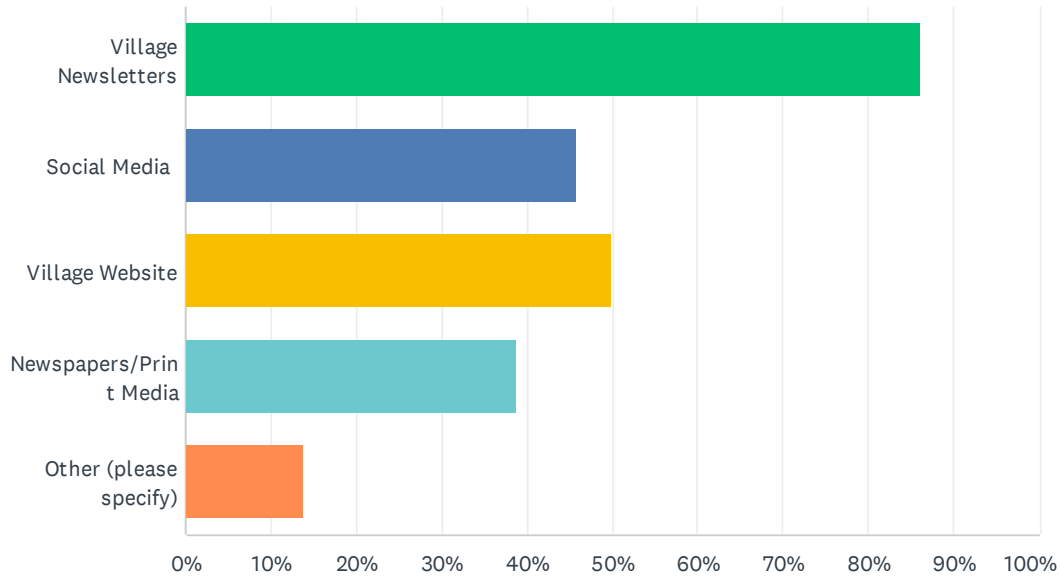


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Frequently	66.67%	48
Occasionally	27.78%	20
Not at all	5.56%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72</b>



## Q4 How do you obtain your information about River Forest? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 72 Skipped: 0

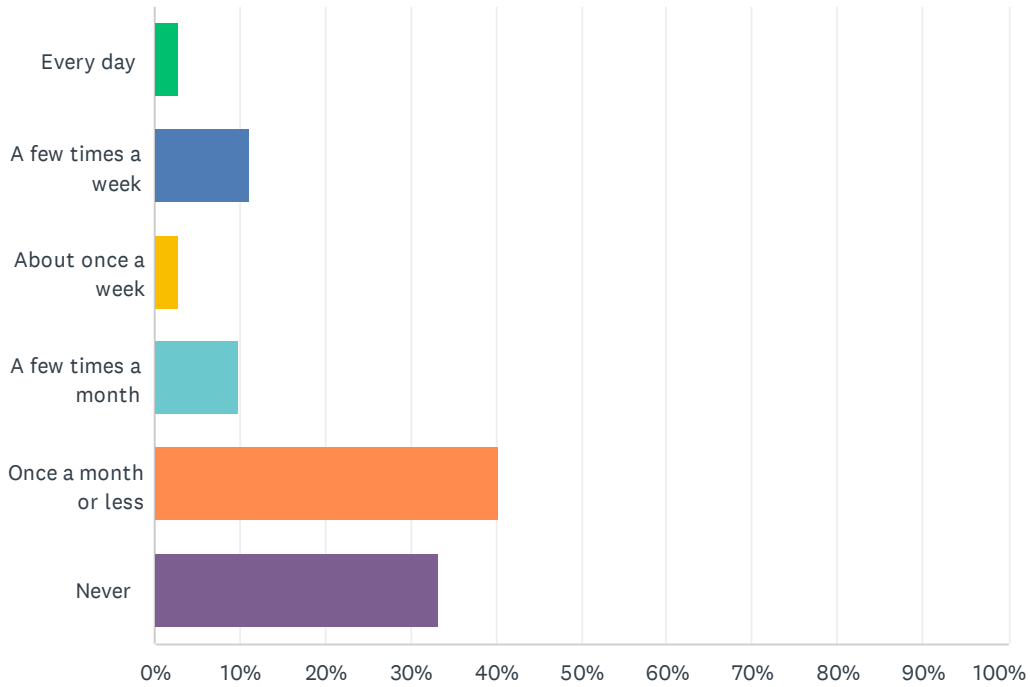


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Village Newsletters	86.11%	62
Social Media	45.83%	33
Village Website	50.00%	36
Newspapers/Print Media	38.89%	28
Other (please specify)	13.89%	10
Total Respondents: 72		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Word of mouth from neighbors	10/3/2024 4:13 AM
2	Word of mouth	9/30/2024 11:34 PM
3	Social circle	9/30/2024 12:37 PM
4	I have called the Public Works department with questions.	9/30/2024 1:29 AM
5	Township	9/27/2024 6:50 AM
6	Conversations.	9/26/2024 3:18 PM
7	By paying attention	9/23/2024 9:31 AM
8	Rumor word of mouth	9/21/2024 12:07 PM
9	neighbors/friends/posters/signs	9/20/2024 10:16 AM
10	Word of mouth	9/19/2024 5:51 PM

## Q5 How often do you use public transportation?

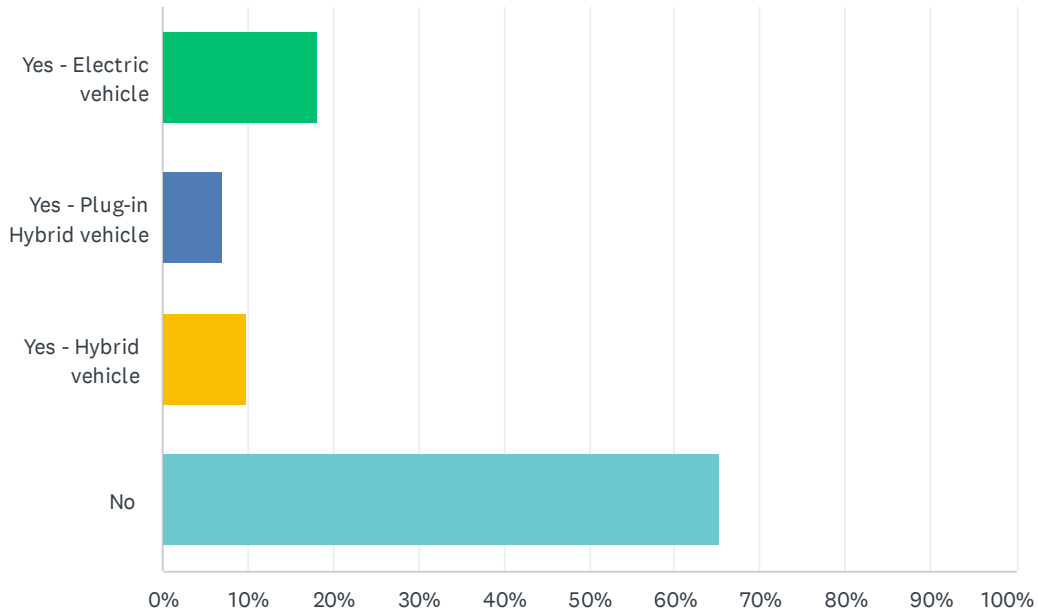
Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Every day	2.78% 2
A few times a week	11.11% 8
About once a week	2.78% 2
A few times a month	9.72% 7
Once a month or less	40.28% 29
Never	33.33% 24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>

## Q6 Do you drive an electric or hybrid vehicle?

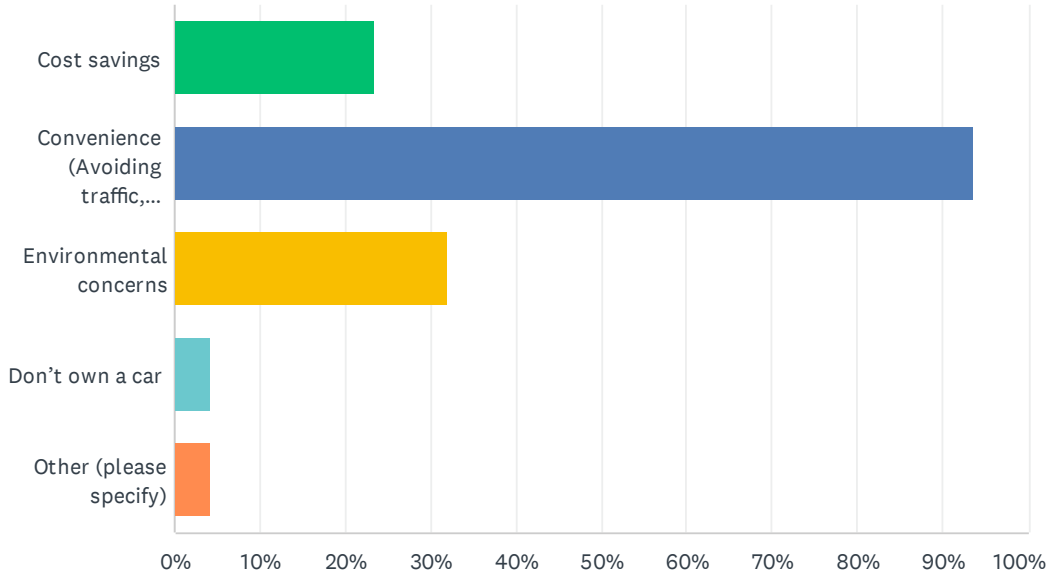
Answered: 72 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - Electric vehicle	18.06%	13
Yes - Plug-in Hybrid vehicle	6.94%	5
Yes - Hybrid vehicle	9.72%	7
No	65.28%	47
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72</b>

### Q7 What are the main reasons you use public transportation? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 47 Skipped: 25

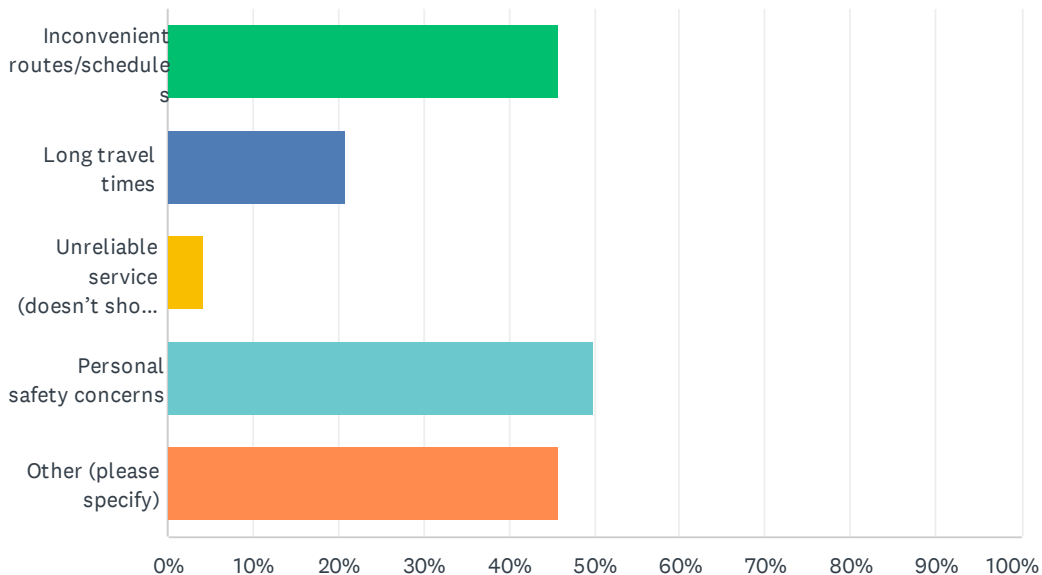


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Cost savings	23.40% 11
Convenience (Avoiding traffic, parking issues, etc.)	93.62% 44
Environmental concerns	31.91% 15
Don't own a car	4.26% 2
Other (please specify)	4.26% 2
Total Respondents: 47	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Metra to work	9/30/2024 11:37 PM
2	Loan my car to a family member	9/19/2024 5:57 PM

## Q8 What are the main reasons you don't use public transportation? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 24 Skipped: 48



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Inconvenient routes/schedules	45.83% 11
Long travel times	20.83% 5
Unreliable service (doesn't show up on time, unexpected delays, etc)	4.17% 1
Personal safety concerns	50.00% 12
Other (please specify)	45.83% 11
Total Respondents: 24	

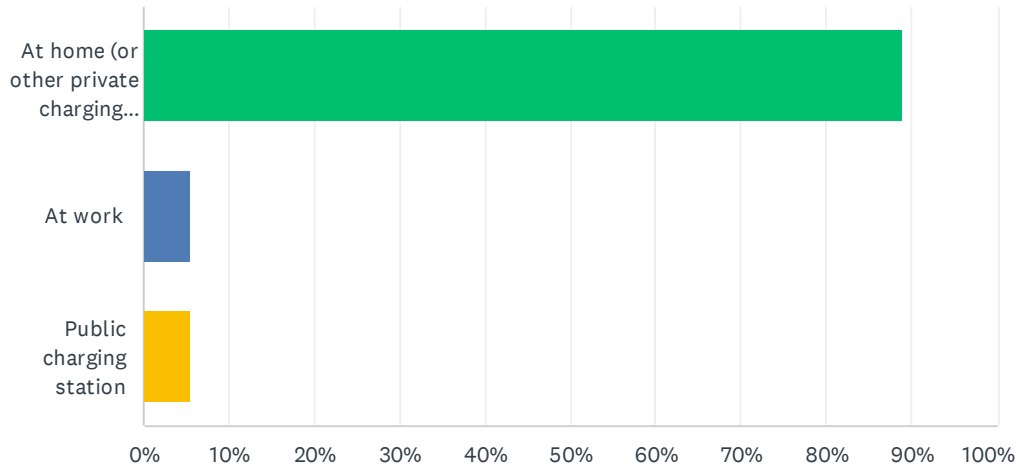
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	My job is 10-15 minutes away. I have to carry a tote bag during my job as a substitute teacher. It is much easier to put all of my gear into my car.	9/30/2024 1:33 AM
2	do not go to work/retired	9/28/2024 5:20 PM
3	Work from home	9/27/2024 10:24 PM
4	unable to physically get on bus.	9/23/2024 11:05 PM
5	Rarely travel	9/23/2024 9:33 AM
6	No direct route to work at odd hours	9/22/2024 11:03 AM
7	We are retired seniors!	9/21/2024 6:01 PM
8	It's too inconvenient for where I want to go	9/21/2024 2:51 PM
9	Dont need to	9/20/2024 9:30 AM

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10	No options for the routes I take	9/19/2024 7:59 PM
11	Hauling cargo and tools that could not be accommodated on public transportation.	9/19/2024 7:39 PM

## Q9 Where do you usually charge your vehicle?

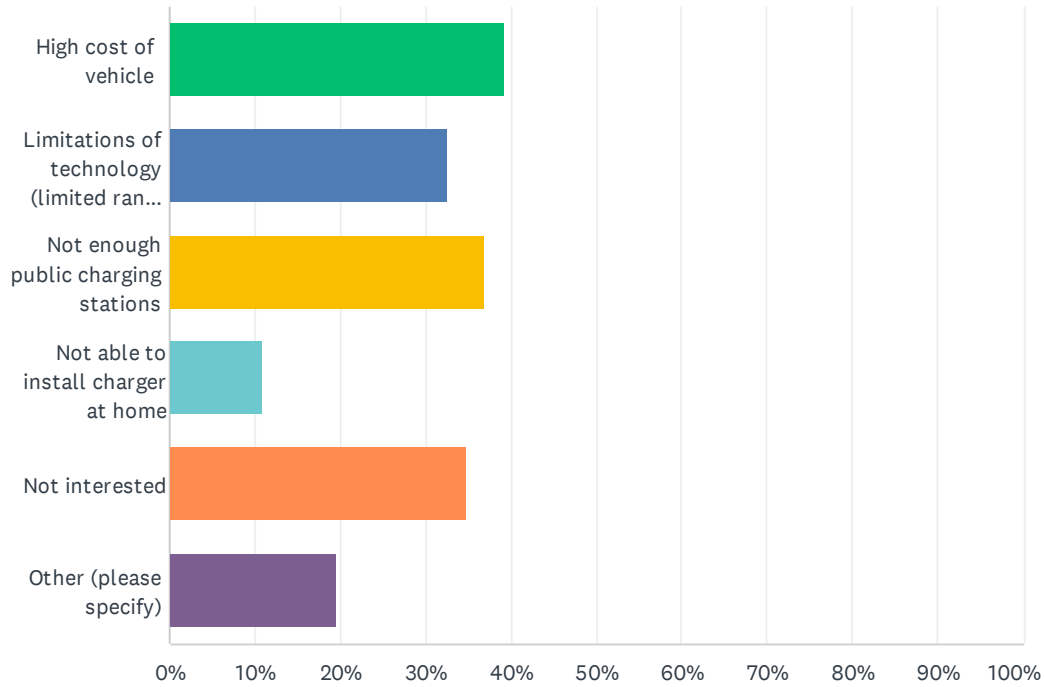
Answered: 18 Skipped: 54



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
At home (or other private charging station)	88.89%	16
At work	5.56%	1
Public charging station	5.56%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18</b>

## Q10 Are there any issues which keep you from considering an electric or hybrid vehicle (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 46 Skipped: 26



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
High cost of vehicle	39.13% 18
Limitations of technology (limited range, long charging times, etc.)	32.61% 15
Not enough public charging stations	36.96% 17
Not able to install charger at home	10.87% 5
Not interested	34.78% 16
Other (please specify)	19.57% 9
Total Respondents: 46	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Not time for a new car.	10/3/2024 2:19 PM
2	Technology advancing rapidly, just like PC's and Laptops.	9/30/2024 11:37 PM
3	Im not ready to buy a new car but now that you mention it I will consider buying one in the near future.	9/30/2024 1:33 AM
4	Need charger at home. Probably electrical service change, more amperage. Excessive cost.	9/26/2024 3:21 PM
5	I don't believe that the manufacturing of batteries for electric vehicles is better for the environment. the vehicles don't last as long as gas powered and they are heavier on the roads leading to the need for more road maintenance.	9/23/2024 8:20 AM



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6	Dangerous - too heavy and cause catastrophic crashes	9/22/2024 8:00 AM
7	Not sure I want to be sitting on a battery	9/21/2024 2:51 PM
8	don't want one, prefer what I have	9/20/2024 10:18 AM
9	Concerns about sustainability of current batteries. Waiting for technological improvements.	9/20/2024 5:50 AM

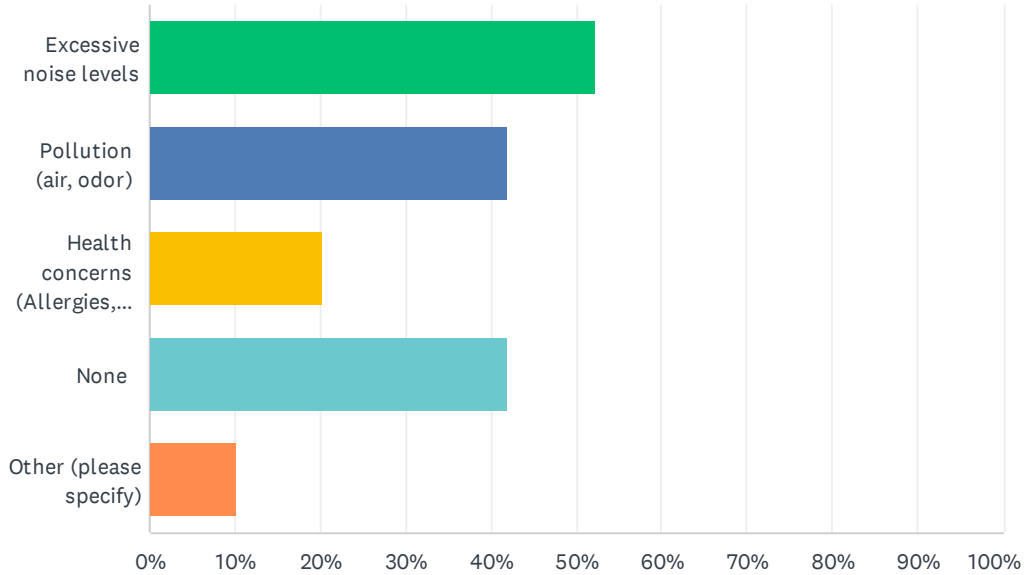
## Q11 In a few words, indicate what additional information might help you to consider the purchase of an electric or hybrid vehicle.

Answered: 29 Skipped: 43

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Information about tax credits	10/3/2024 2:19 PM
2	None really, electricity is limited	10/2/2024 12:19 PM
3	Cost of Solar and home battery technology expense	9/30/2024 11:37 PM
4	Don't tell me what to do/ shame me into something	9/30/2024 12:26 PM
5	None	9/30/2024 12:16 PM
6	lower cost and charger capability	9/30/2024 11:51 AM
7	More public infrastructure to charge the car, parking spaces to do so in public lots.	9/30/2024 11:16 AM
8	I would like to know whether there is a recycling program for batteries used by electric cars.	9/30/2024 1:33 AM
9	none	9/28/2024 5:20 PM
10	I don't need more info. The electricity fir charging has to come from something. Electric cars are not the environmental saviors they are made out to be.	9/26/2024 3:21 PM
11	need more charging stations	9/24/2024 8:37 AM
12	Not able to spend the money while I have a good car that runs on gas.	9/23/2024 11:05 PM
13	More chargers. That's all. Otherwise I'm sold on EV's.	9/23/2024 9:33 AM
14	I would like to see more sustainable battery manufacturing.	9/23/2024 8:20 AM
15	Not in the market for different vehicle at this time	9/22/2024 6:10 PM
16	None. Don't believe they are any net improvements over ICE	9/22/2024 11:03 AM
17	None. My mind is made up.	9/22/2024 8:00 AM
18	Will not purchase an electric vehicle. They are way too expensive. Not reliable a fir us totally unnecessary. We are retired and no longer travel back and forth to wirk.	9/21/2024 6:01 PM
19	We likely will once they can handle longer ranges.	9/20/2024 1:11 PM
20	I'm really not interested at this time. Limited range and cold weather charging concerns will keep me out of the category for a while.	9/20/2024 12:24 PM
21	don't want one, prefer what I have.	9/20/2024 10:18 AM
22	Detailed cost versus regular car	9/20/2024 9:30 AM
23	more charging stations	9/20/2024 7:02 AM
24	See above.	9/20/2024 5:50 AM
25	When current cars die	9/19/2024 8:07 PM
26	At my age, my vehicle will probably outlast my need for personal transportation.	9/19/2024 7:39 PM
27	Lower prices and more public chargeribg stations	9/19/2024 7:32 PM
28	Improvements in range and battery technology, studies on the impacts of increasing electrical demands and power plant source materials, e.g. shifts to coal or nuclear source material.	9/19/2024 5:57 PM
29	discounts for installing charging stations at home or more throughout the community	9/19/2024 5:52 PM

## Q12 What issues have you experienced with the use of gas leaf blowers in the Village? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 69 Skipped: 3

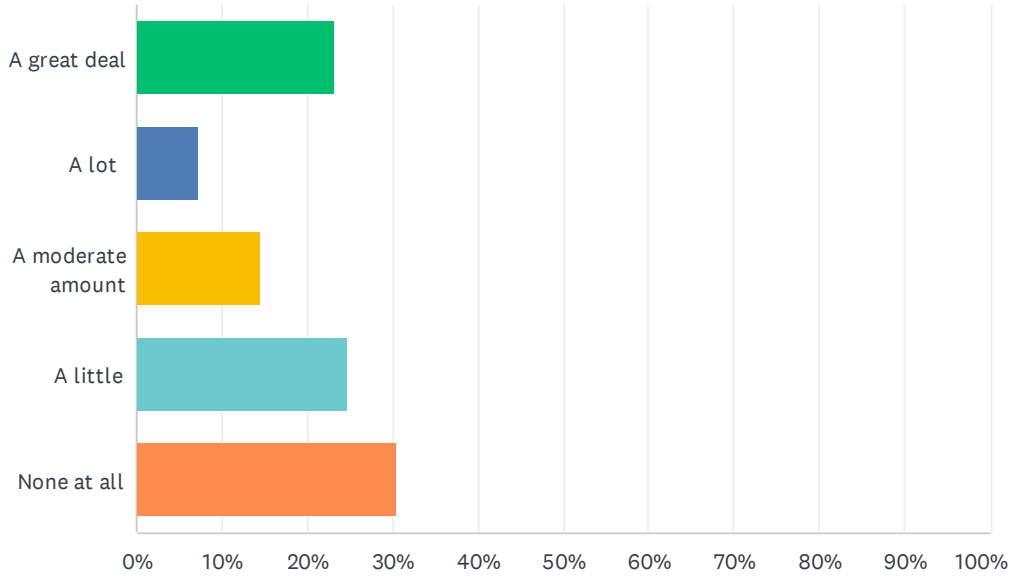


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excessive noise levels	52.17%	36
Pollution (air, odor)	42.03%	29
Health concerns (Allergies, respiratory, etc.)	20.29%	14
None	42.03%	29
Other (please specify)	10.14%	7
Total Respondents: 69		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I use an electric leaf blower	9/30/2024 11:37 PM
2	Are they necessary? What about sweeping? I hate the noise and I hate the fact that they use fossil fuels to run. Lastly, I don't think Blowers should be used for moving bits of trash. Trash should be picked up around buildings and homes and placed into either recycling or landfill dumpster. I also wish disrespectful people would dispose of their trash responsibly too.	9/30/2024 1:39 AM
3	some noise	9/23/2024 11:14 PM
4	noise, noise, noise	9/20/2024 10:19 AM
5	They are a health hazard, and gas powered are unnecessary.	9/20/2024 5:51 AM
6	I thought we were supposed to be leaving yard waste in place rather than blowing it all over the place contributing to poor air quality for everyone.	9/19/2024 7:47 PM
7	SO many leaf blowers and mowers in our village...so loud	9/19/2024 5:53 PM

## Q13 How concerned are you about the environmental impacts of gas leaf blowers?

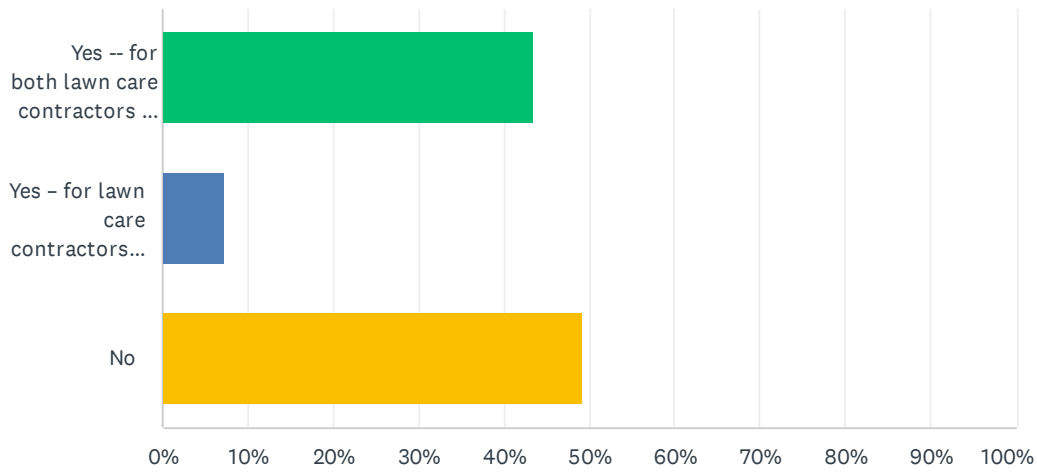
Answered: 69 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A great deal	23.19%	16
A lot	7.25%	5
A moderate amount	14.49%	10
A little	24.64%	17
None at all	30.43%	21
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>69</b>

## Q14 Would you support a ban on the use of gas leaf blowers?

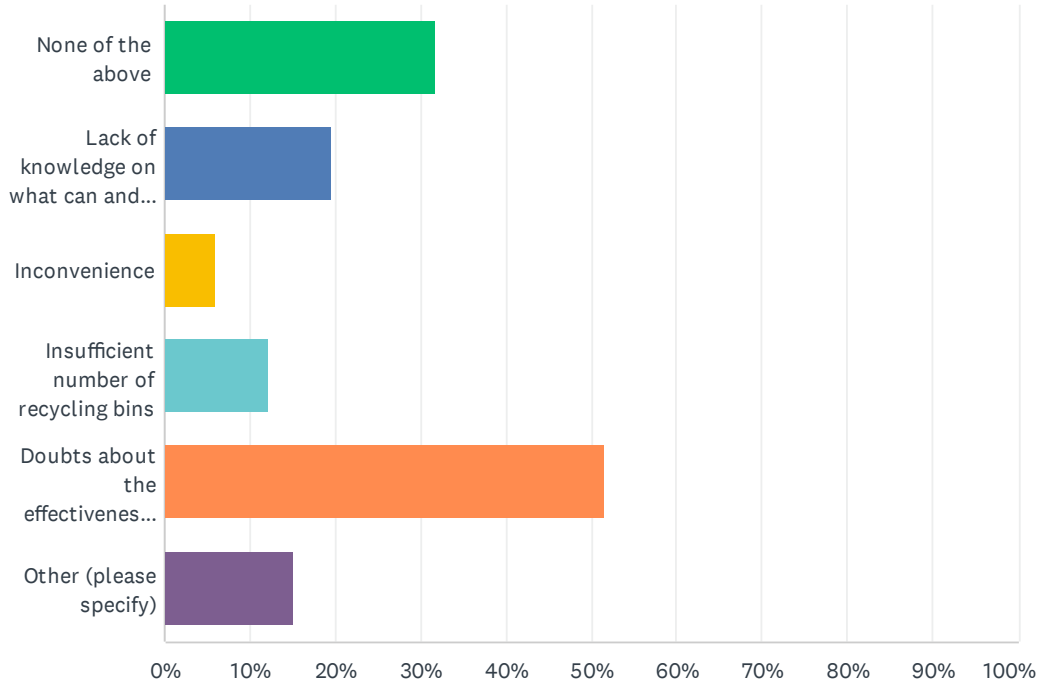
Answered: 69 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes -- for both lawn care contractors and residents	43.48%	30
Yes – for lawn care contractors only	7.25%	5
No	49.28%	34
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>69</b>

### Q15 Are there any obstacles that you believe prevent you from more effectively recycling? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 66 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	31.82%	21
Lack of knowledge on what can and cannot be recycled	19.70%	13
Inconvenience	6.06%	4
Insufficient number of recycling bins	12.12%	8
Doubts about the effectiveness of recycling programs	51.52%	34
Other (please specify)	15.15%	10
Total Respondents: 66		

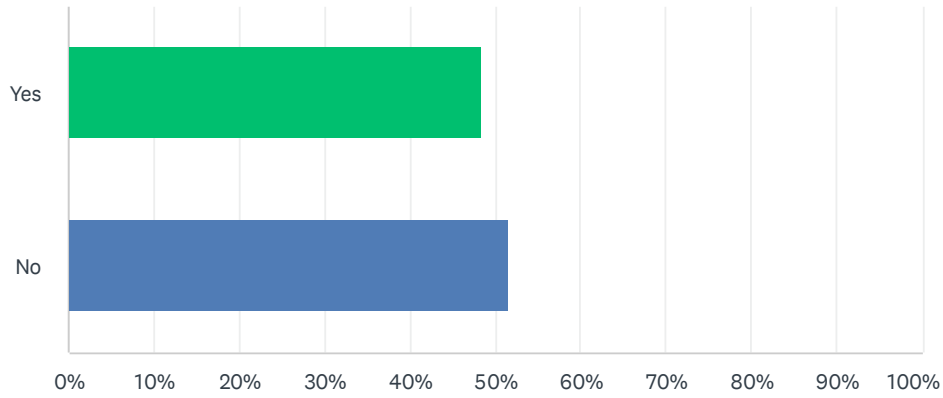
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I do recycle though	10/3/2024 2:20 PM
2	Lack of trust with the recycling provider and lack of education on what it takes to have recycled products accepted at a recycling facility	9/30/2024 11:41 PM
3	No one will tell me where the plastic goes and village officials say things like "we're getting people in the habit" I profoundly do not care.	9/30/2024 12:13 PM
4	Learning about places to drop off things my refuse company does not recycle. I have started using Best Buy for electronics because as a condo resident we are not part of the Village's recycling program. I also dispose of plastic bags at Jewel but make an effort to use reusable grocery bags.	9/30/2024 1:47 AM

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5	It would be great to have a recycling 201 class for people who are already doing a pretty good job of recycling and either want to prepare items better, know how to recycle non-mainstream items, etc. It would also be nice to have an on-demand system, like OP's, for hazardous and electronic waste	9/21/2024 2:56 PM
6	Many people believe that it all gets dumped in together with trash and that it is not actually being recycled. Plus the vast majority of people who do recycle don't follow the guidelines.	9/20/2024 1:14 PM
7	Is any of our recycleable waste really being recycled?	9/20/2024 12:27 PM
8	litter in public places, litter of plastic bottles in public spaces	9/20/2024 10:24 AM
9	Poor communication from waste hauler re what items are currently being recycled.	9/20/2024 5:52 AM
10	Info on how/where to recycle sneakers, styrofoam in packaging, fabrics.	9/19/2024 6:13 PM

## Q16 Would you be interested in attending workshops and/or receiving information on how to improve recycling best practices?

Answered: 66 Skipped: 6

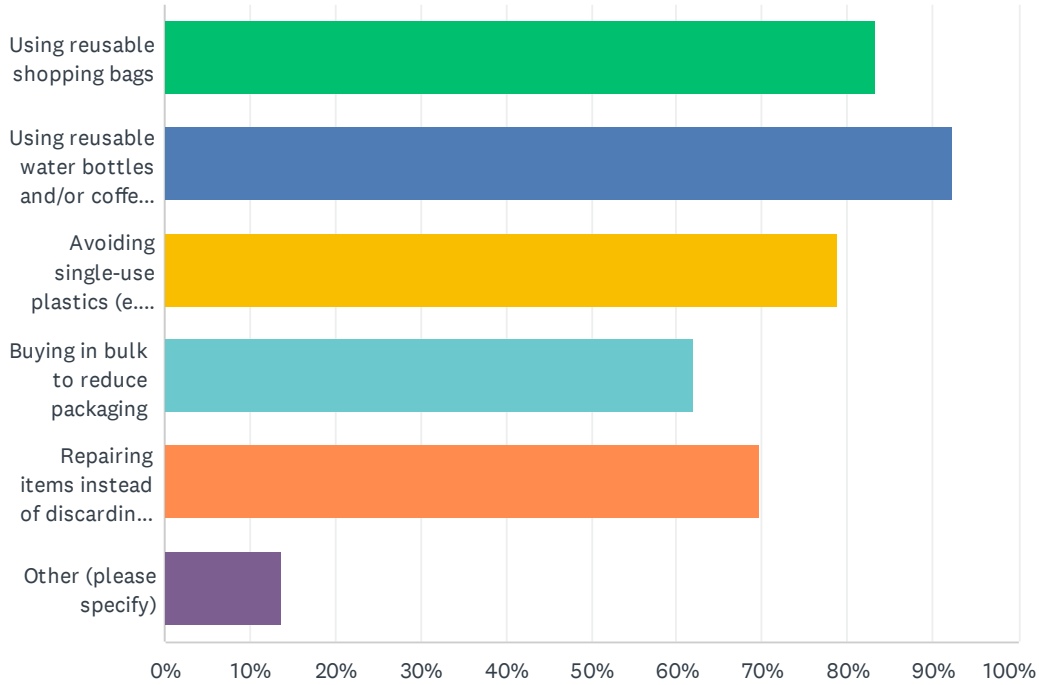


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	48.48%	32
No	51.52%	34
TOTAL		66



## Q17 What waste reduction practices do you currently employ? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 66 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Using reusable shopping bags	83.33% 55
Using reusable water bottles and/or coffee cups	92.42% 61
Avoiding single-use plastics (e.g., plastic silverware, plates, etc)	78.79% 52
Buying in bulk to reduce packaging	62.12% 41
Repairing items instead of discarding and replacing them	69.70% 46
Other (please specify)	13.64% 9
Total Respondents: 66	

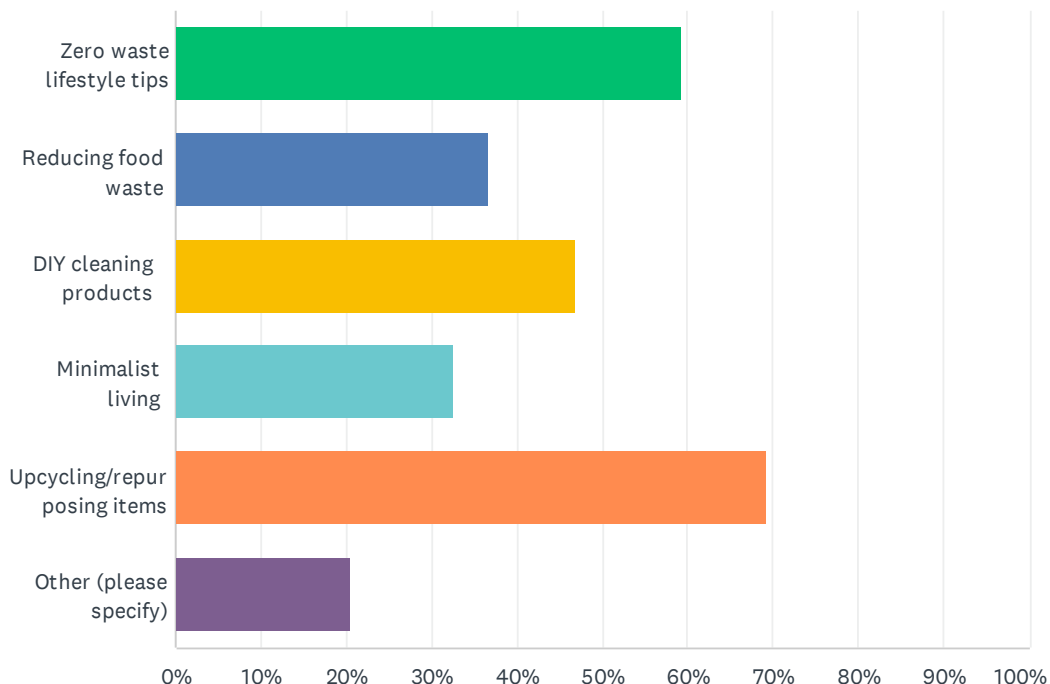
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Compost	10/3/2024 4:16 AM
2	Avid user of bamboo utensils and bamboo products	9/30/2024 11:41 PM
3	Donating items no longer used to Goidwill.	9/30/2024 1:47 AM
4	Thrift	9/27/2024 10:32 PM
5	recycle plastic bags; donate used items	9/23/2024 11:14 PM
6	Composting	9/23/2024 8:23 AM
7	I try to use specialty recycling when I can - plastic film dropped off at Jewel, haz waste and	9/21/2024 2:56 PM

## Sustainability Commission Community Survey

	electronic through RF, weird things through TerraCycle	
8	collect littered tennis balls from areas near local tennis courts , many people throw them on train embankment near tennis courts in River Forest.	9/20/2024 10:24 AM
9	Renovate & repair existing buildings and appliances, Donate items, Wash & reuse plastic bags and old plastic utensils & cups. Recycle plastic wrapping. Substitute wax paper for Saran. Use recyclable waxed food covers & waxed bags, recycle old fluorescent bulbs, switched to LED, wash full loads, turn off water during shampooing, showering, tooth brushing, limit lawn watering, minimize A/C for > 80 deg, lower furnace to 62-66, replaced old windows	9/19/2024 6:13 PM

## Q18 What waste reduction practices would you be interested in learning more about? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 49 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Zero waste lifestyle tips	59.18% 29
Reducing food waste	36.73% 18
DIY cleaning products	46.94% 23
Minimalist living	32.65% 16
Upcycling/repurposing items	69.39% 34
Other (please specify)	20.41% 10
Total Respondents: 49	

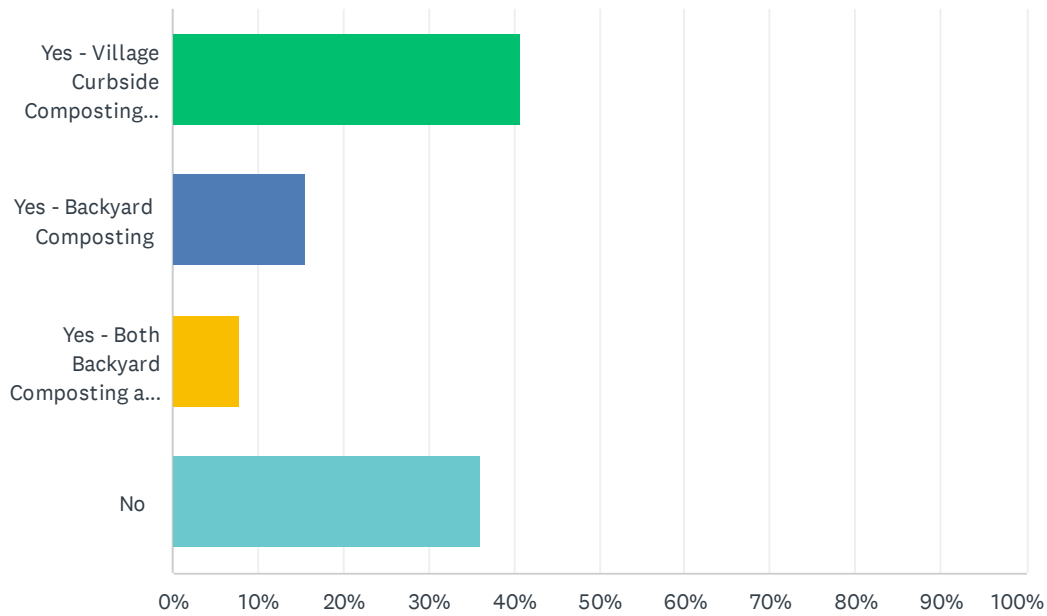
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Bamboo usage should be better promoted	9/30/2024 11:41 PM
2	Compost bins for an 11-unit condo building, compost facilities for weeds and leaves. I do try to put some in garden beds though. I have to ask our landscaper if he uses a compost area off site.	9/30/2024 1:47 AM
3	already do alot	9/28/2024 5:23 PM
4	Information on best choices on products that have less environmental impact.	9/24/2024 1:05 PM
5	none	9/23/2024 11:14 PM

## Sustainability Commission Community Survey

6	It is almost impossible to buy anything that does not have plastic in some fashion. I would like the pressure to be on mfr's to stop using plastic.	9/23/2024 8:23 AM
7	Not interested.	9/21/2024 6:03 PM
8	I'd like to know if there are recycling options for certain things that I currently throw away (though with compost and recycling, I don't actually put out much garbage (it would be nice to have a lower fee for my garbage service, come to think of it! lol)	9/21/2024 2:56 PM
9	Current effectiveness of recycling	9/20/2024 11:33 AM
10	Recycling more materials, explanation of newer terms for older practices	9/19/2024 6:13 PM

## Q19 Do you currently compost?

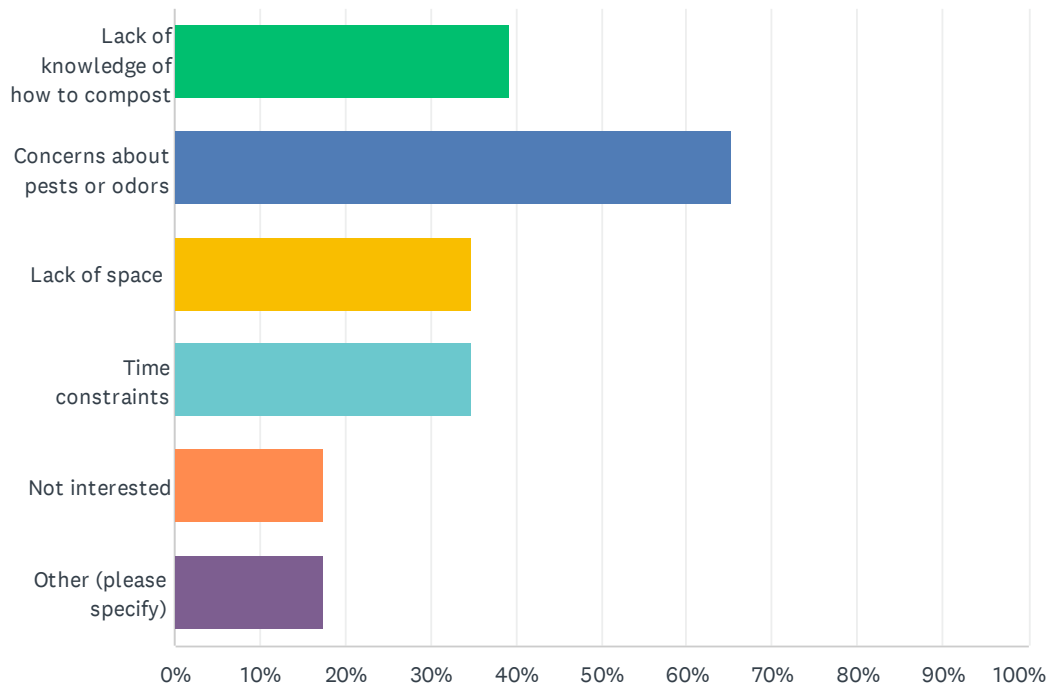
Answered: 64 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - Village Curbside Composting Program	40.63%	26
Yes - Backyard Composting	15.63%	10
Yes - Both Backyard Composting and Village Curbside Composting Program	7.81%	5
No	35.94%	23
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>64</b>

## Q20 What are the reasons you do not compost? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 23 Skipped: 49

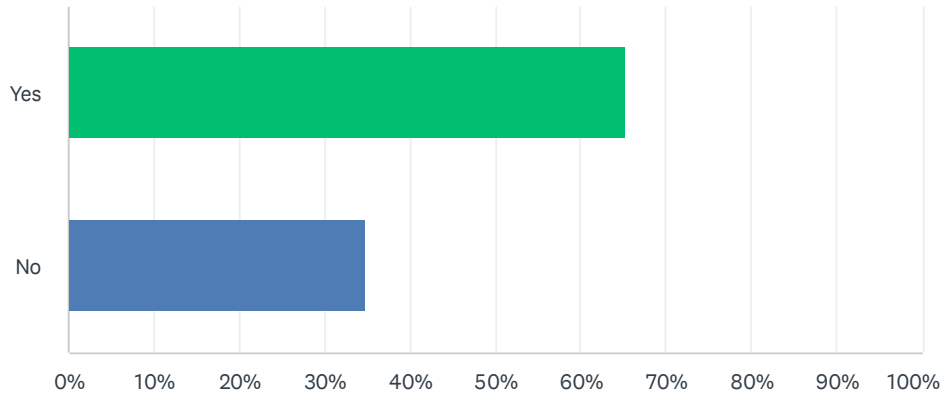


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Lack of knowledge of how to compost	39.13% 9
Concerns about pests or odors	65.22% 15
Lack of space	34.78% 8
Time constraints	34.78% 8
Not interested	17.39% 4
Other (please specify)	17.39% 4
Total Respondents: 23	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	landscaping com. takes grass clippings, etc.	9/23/2024 11:17 PM
2	spouse and I have yet to discuss	9/23/2024 9:35 AM
3	M	9/21/2024 6:04 PM
4	Money	9/20/2024 7:13 AM

## Q21 Would you be interested to learn about the Village's compost pick-up services?

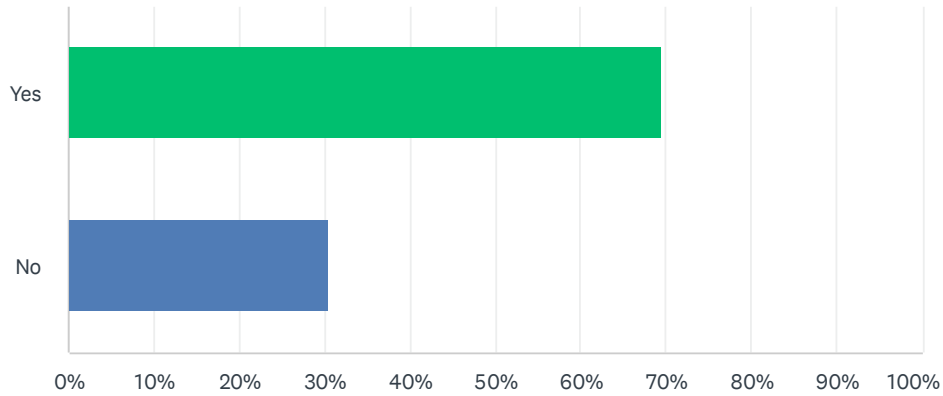
Answered: 23 Skipped: 49



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.22%	15
No	34.78%	8
TOTAL		23

## Q22 Would you be willing to compost if resources and support were provided (e.g., workshops, compost bins, etc.)?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 49

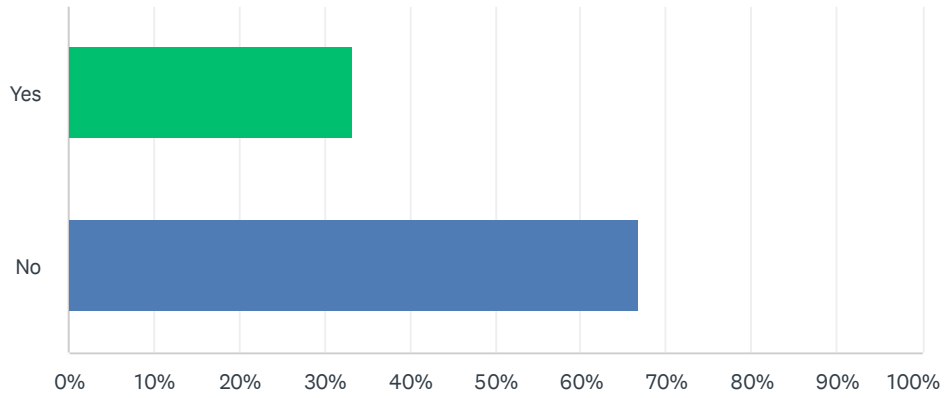


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	69.57%	16
No	30.43%	7
TOTAL		23



## Q23 Would you be interested to learn about vermiculture (composting with worms) and how to start a worm bin?

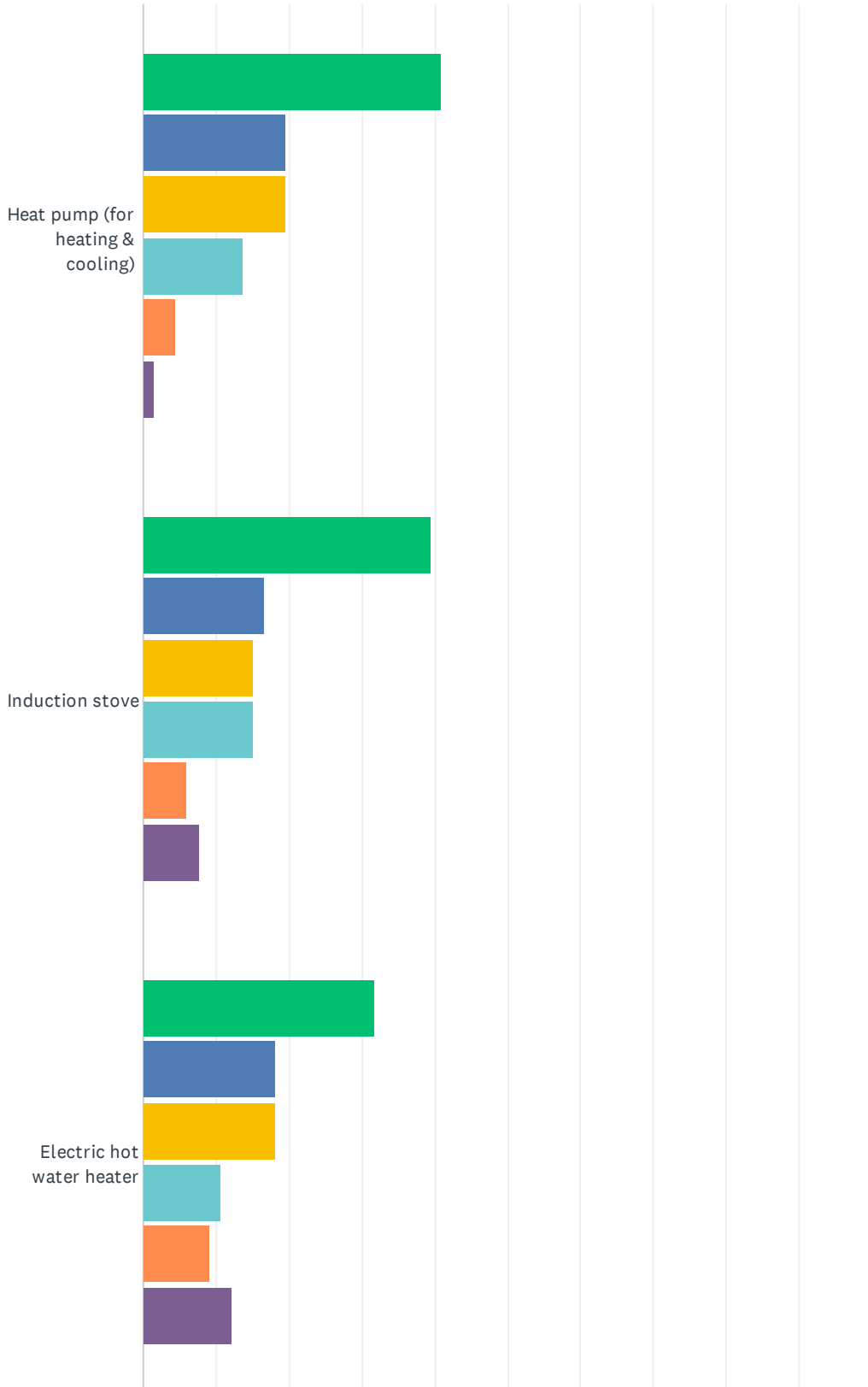
Answered: 15 Skipped: 57



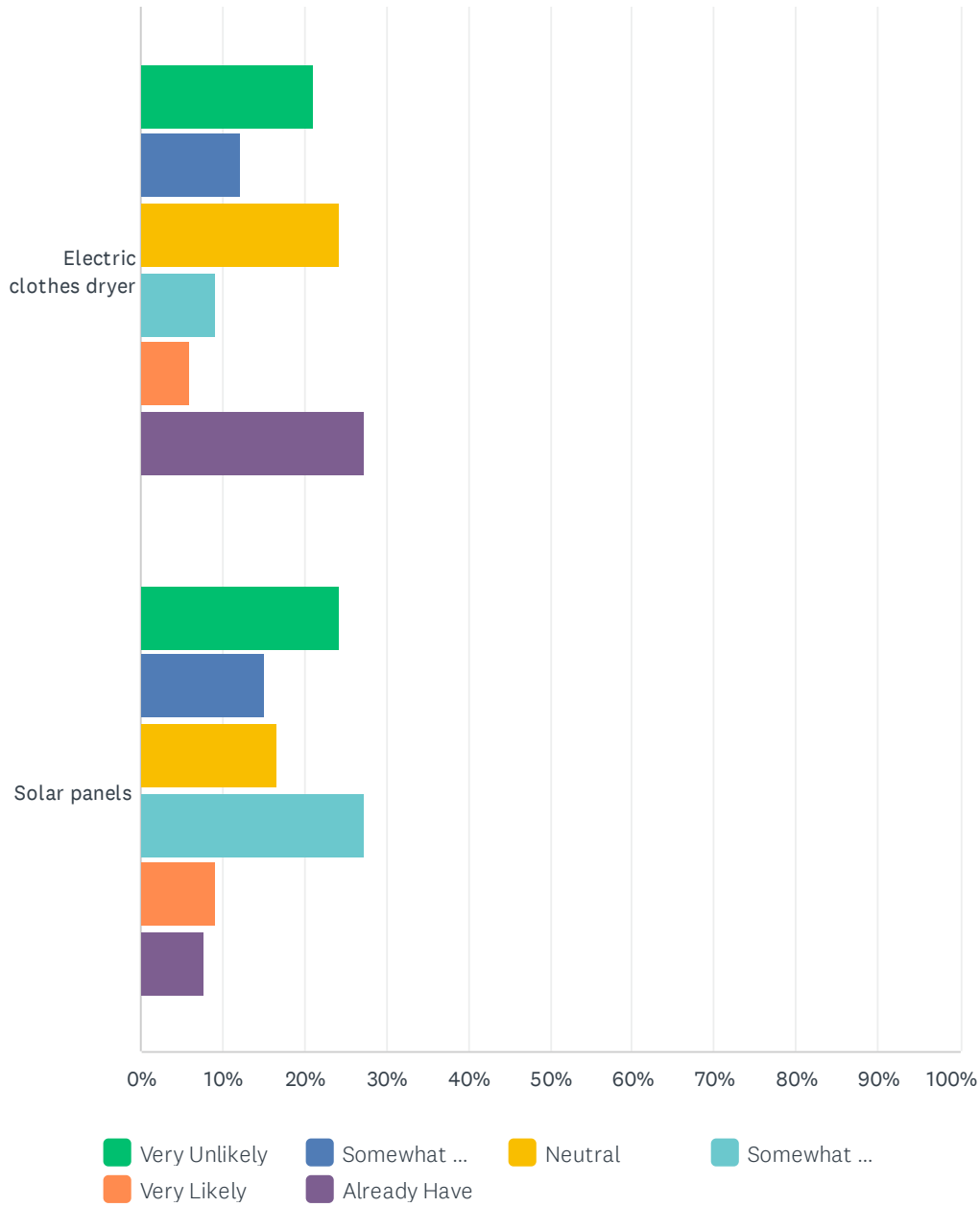
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	33.33%	5
No	66.67%	10
TOTAL		15

# Q24 Would you consider switching your home appliances to electric alternatives? How likely are you to do so in the next five years?

Answered: 66 Skipped: 6



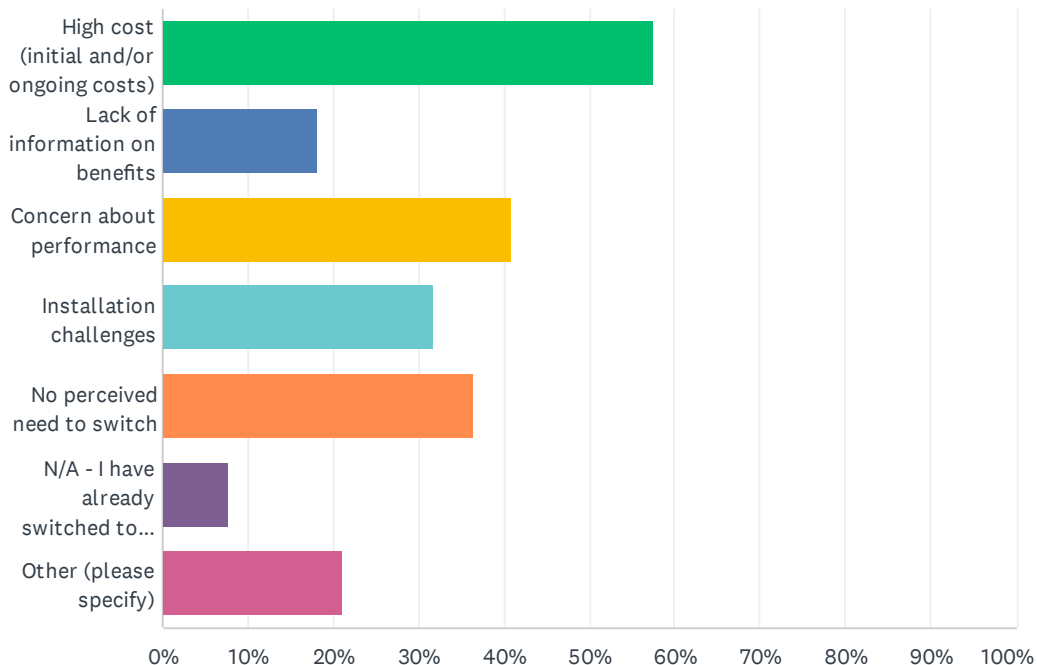
## Sustainability Commission Community Survey



	VERY UNLIKELY	SOMEWHAT UNLIKELY	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT LIKELY	VERY LIKELY	ALREADY HAVE	TOTAL
Heat pump (for heating & cooling)	40.91% 27	19.70% 13	19.70% 13	13.64% 9	4.55% 3	1.52% 1	66
Induction stove	39.39% 26	16.67% 11	15.15% 10	15.15% 10	6.06% 4	7.58% 5	66
Electric hot water heater	31.82% 21	18.18% 12	18.18% 12	10.61% 7	9.09% 6	12.12% 8	66
Electric clothes dryer	21.21% 14	12.12% 8	24.24% 16	9.09% 6	6.06% 4	27.27% 18	66
Solar panels	24.24% 16	15.15% 10	16.67% 11	27.27% 18	9.09% 6	7.58% 5	66

## Q25 Are there any issues which prevent you from adopting electric appliances in your home? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 66 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
High cost (initial and/or ongoing costs)	57.58% 38
Lack of information on benefits	18.18% 12
Concern about performance	40.91% 27
Installation challenges	31.82% 21
No perceived need to switch	36.36% 24
N/A - I have already switched to electric appliances	7.58% 5
Other (please specify)	21.21% 14
Total Respondents: 66	

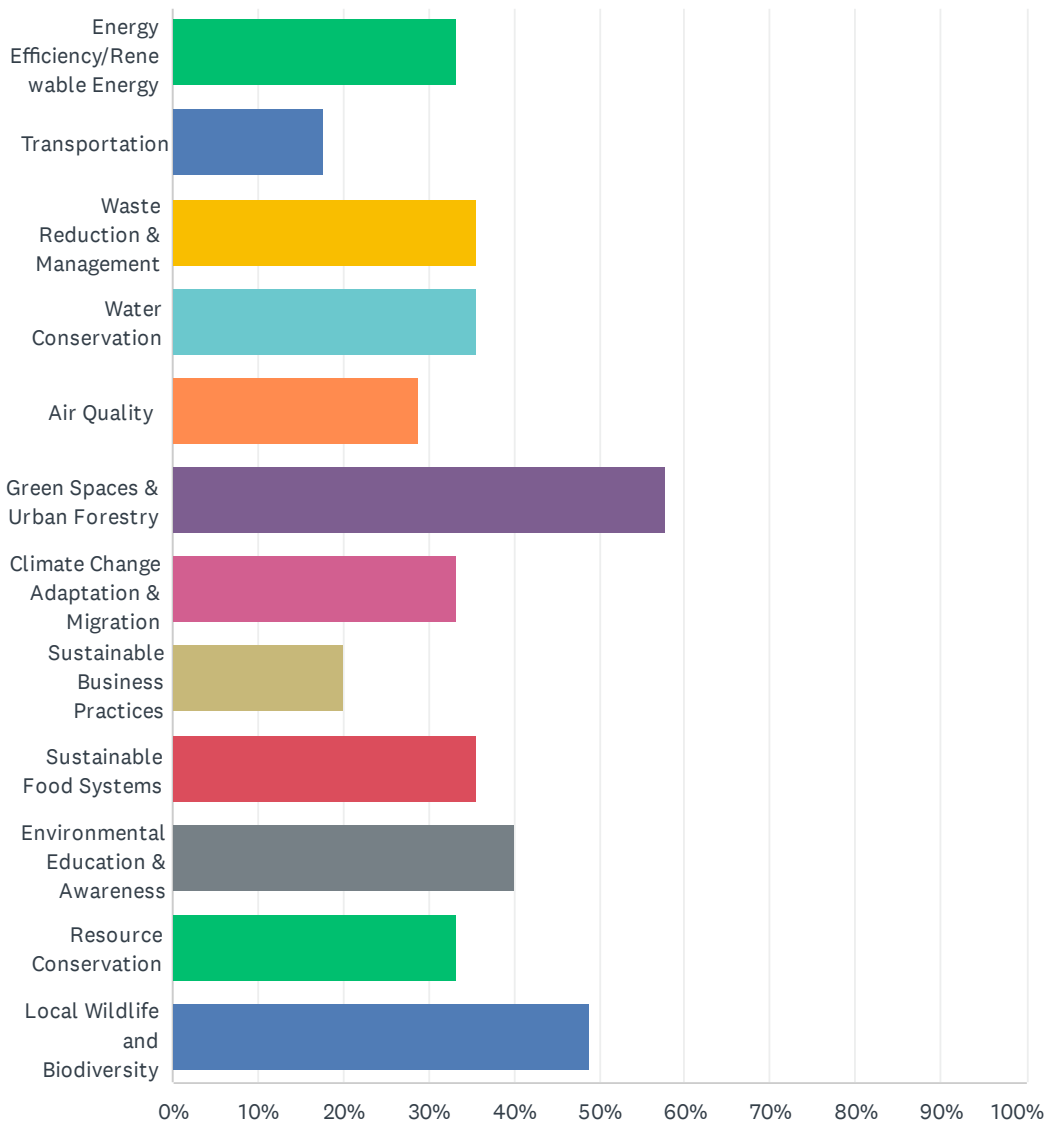
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Reliability - we use natural gas for our 75 yr old radiator that never breaks down and doesn't have to be replaced every 8 years	9/30/2024 11:44 PM
2	no need to remodel at this time	9/30/2024 12:28 PM
3	I live in an 11-unit condo building that was built in 1960. I don't understand how my gas appliances could be switched to electric I.e., gas stove, boiler (used for radiant heat pipes in the ceiling) and gas water heater.	9/30/2024 1:52 AM
4	Electric has to come from a somewhere. Using efficient natural gas devices is just as good as	9/26/2024 3:28 PM

## Sustainability Commission Community Survey

	power plant produced electricity.	
5	looming shortages of electric supply	9/23/2024 11:33 AM
6	Possibility of moving, so why invest when no assurances of return	9/23/2024 9:37 AM
7	Current appliances are all working; oven is already electric, and I just purchased an electric tea kettle to warm water without having to turn on the gas stove	9/21/2024 2:57 PM
8	live with parents	9/21/2024 2:09 PM
9	Not sure if heat pump works with radiator heat and space pack air conditioning	9/20/2024 11:36 AM
10	more electric appliances, more generating facilities needed	9/20/2024 10:27 AM
11	My gas appliances are new	9/20/2024 7:14 AM
12	Not a priority	9/20/2024 5:53 AM
13	How to convert a boiler system to electricity/can spacepak support heating via heat pump/geothermal	9/20/2024 12:35 AM
14	Have electric dryer, need new roof before solar panels, heat pump too draft in this climate & house, will	9/19/2024 6:19 PM

### Q26 Are there any other topics that you would like to learn more about? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 45 Skipped: 27



## Sustainability Commission Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy	33.33%	15
Transportation	17.78%	8
Waste Reduction & Management	35.56%	16
Water Conservation	35.56%	16
Air Quality	28.89%	13
Green Spaces & Urban Forestry	57.78%	26
Climate Change Adaptation & Migration	33.33%	15
Sustainable Business Practices	20.00%	9
Sustainable Food Systems	35.56%	16
Environmental Education & Awareness	40.00%	18
Resource Conservation	33.33%	15
Local Wildlife and Biodiversity	48.89%	22
Total Respondents: 45		

## Q27 Please provide any additional suggestions or comments that you wish to share with the Sustainability Commission

Answered: 26 Skipped: 46

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I am grateful that our village helps to educate residents on sustainability practices. Thank you.	10/3/2024 4:20 AM
2	Bamboo is a highly sustainable plant with many uses and could significantly reduce our reliance on plastics. I would encourage an educational session on its viability in our community as an alternative to plastics.	9/30/2024 11:46 PM
3	The only electric vehicle charging stations I used were removed when the Marion parking lot was redone. Will these be replaced? We should be installing more, not fewer.	9/30/2024 2:38 PM
4	We should make clothes lines legal.	9/30/2024 12:14 PM
5	Improved infrastructure for biking and pedestrians	9/30/2024 11:18 AM
6	I think telling residents about replacing their Kentucky Blue Grass lawns with White Clover and Fescue grasses will greatly improve the negative environmental impacts of traditional grass lawns. A combination of white clover and Fescue Tall Grass (it's really not tall) has positive impacts and are more suitable to Illinois's climate. They are drought and grub resistant, help pollinate gardens, conserve water. Clover attracts parasitoid wasps that feed on aphids, scales and whiteflies. These wasps are tiny and harmless. Clover never needs fertilizer. Grass that is intermixed with clover will be healthier and greener. Clover never needs herbicides. Clover out competes weeds. The herbicide industry will not like the use of clover and Fescue, but it's time they start changing their ways. Maybe these companies could start selling clover and fescue seeds. The chemicals people use on their Kentucky blue grass lawns are bad for people, wildlife and the environment. Clover is immune to dog patches too. Lastly, Kentucky Bluegrass has shallow roots that make it more susceptible to heat and drought. At a recent condo meeting I introduced the use of clover and Tall Fescue in an area damaged by grubs. There was no interest. It would be helpful if the Village told residents about the benefits of these two plants. One more thing. Does the Village have to spray for Mosquitoes? Why can't people use Off? I do all the time when gardening. Our property had some Lightning Bugs this summer but after the Village sprayed, these cute and beneficial insects were wiped out.	9/30/2024 2:19 AM
7	Sustainability does not mean all electric. An all electric infrastructure, or an all anything infrastructure is a fragile system. Much better to have diversified energy sources and infrastructure.	9/26/2024 3:31 PM
8	Let's get after it. We should be an example for the Chicago-area in terms of sustainability and I feel like we're in the middle of the pack. Communities have already banned gas leaf blowers and have significantly more public charging options--we have two. Let's go!	9/26/2024 2:35 PM
9	get the trains to stop idling on the tracks for hours. Has been a problem since living here from 1985!!!	9/24/2024 8:41 AM
10	some way to dispose of material(cloth) products that are no longer wearable or rugs,etc . that are worn out.	9/23/2024 11:22 PM
11	Lots. Need more time and space.	9/23/2024 9:38 AM
12	I said that I don't support a ban on leaf blowers, the nuance there is that I do. but not in the current conditions until there are solid commercial options for contractors which will happen - but it isn't there yet.	9/23/2024 5:00 AM
13	Go away	9/22/2024 11:05 AM
14	I would love to install some rain barrels, and know I can get them for reduced cost through water reclam district, but the thing that's stopping me is that I don't know of a knowledgeable handy person who could install them with all the important bells & whistles..like making them high enough to make gravity help out, how to make overflows, how to make them easy to	9/21/2024 3:01 PM



## Sustainability Commission Community Survey

disconnect in the winter, etc. For example, if a person who's super knowledgeable about all the installation options could do so for - say - \$25 per barrel, that would be a cool service to have. That's the main thing that has kept me from installing several around the house...though I also wish there were more decorating options so the barrels would look attractive with whatever house color/style you have. I spend a lot of time and money on my gardens, and I'd like rain barrels that complement that.

15	Work with the RF grocery stores to have a special section in the grocery store focused on packing kids waste free lunches.	9/20/2024 1:16 PM
16	Why is the electronic recycling program limited to personal electronic items, like computers and monitors? What do I do with the an old toaster for example?	9/20/2024 12:31 PM
17	Programs should be encouraged and voluntary not mandated. Consider switching leaf pickup to Spring as there are positive to keeping leaves in gardens for the winter but then you would be stuck bagging and paying separately. Additional options are nice.	9/20/2024 11:39 AM
18	Get R.Forest Park district to promote folks from throwing tennis balls on to property next to tennis outside courts. Players/workers throw tennis balls on to land near courts-litter! Pass an ordnance that plastic bottle littering is not allowed in River Forest. Tell residences and lawn service firms their workers should not litter their empty plastic bottles in our village.	9/20/2024 10:33 AM
19	The commercial lawn care companies are a public nuisance. Really gone overboard with their use of loud, toxic gas-powered equipment.	9/20/2024 7:27 AM
20	Would like to see compost service offered to all residents as part of regular waste service package	9/20/2024 5:55 AM
21	Oak Park also has eco efforts that we might be able to join like opcan.org I think resources on making older homes more eco friendly and how to do things like a home energy assessment. Thank you for asking about this. I do try to read these types of resources.	9/20/2024 12:39 AM
22	i run early in the morning and the large amount of sprinklers going is just obnoxious. i personally view it as just plain waste, it's like we are so rich we like wasting perfectly good drinking water so our grass is a bit greener than my neighbor. can't we just do a bit where it's not allowed i mean if we are really serious about sustainability this would be the lowest hanging fruit	9/19/2024 8:30 PM
23	I share curbside composting with my daughter who lives close by in Oak park.	9/19/2024 7:56 PM
24	Can the village pick-up paint? The recycling day for household hazardous waste is really a dud otherwise.	9/19/2024 7:32 PM
25	Look into why other cities recycle more than we do; focus on water use of underground lawn sprinklers; investigate impact on increasing electric loads from all your suggested changes, focus on reducing gasoline use in vehicles instead of in lawn blowers.	9/19/2024 6:27 PM
26	more native growing spaces/parkway opportunities for residents	9/19/2024 5:55 PM



**Village of River Forest**  
**Public Works and Engineering**  
400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

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**MEMORANDUM**

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Date: October 8, 2024  
To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Seth Jansen, Management Analyst  
Subj: Proposed Leaf Blower Ordinance

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For the past several months, the Sustainability Commission has been considering and collecting feedback on a potential ordinance to address the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within the Village. Mail and email notices were sent twice to all landscape contractors licensed with the Village; several of those contractors presented their input at the June and September meetings of the Commission. Residents were able to provide feedback specific to leaf blower usage via the community survey.

Since the most recent Commission meeting, staff met with the leadership of the C4 Green Landscape Technology working group. They indicated that most of their work done thus far had been on community outreach and developing talking points and discussion points for local advocacy. They did indicate they were beginning to develop a policy guide but did not have a timeframe for any model policy. They did indicate one policy they were intending to put forward was a preferred vendor list, similar to the one suggested by the Commission, to indicate that certain contractors were committing to using electric landscape equipment.

C4 staff also indicated they were monitoring a potential grant option for the replacement of gas-powered landscape equipment with battery operated equipment. In July, the Illinois EPA was awarded a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program Implementation Grant. The grant amount is anticipated to be \$430,251,378 according to the US EPA. Among other activities, the State of Illinois Priority Climate Action Plan outlines the development of a Clean Landscaping and Small Engine Program to promote sustainable professional landscaping and agriculture through the adoption of all-electric equipment. The program will provide grants or rebates for the purchase of all-electric commercial landscaping equipment, such as blowers, trimmers, and mowers. The state expects it could launch the program by 2026.

Attached is the draft proposal as discussed at the August meeting and shared publicly prior to the September meeting. At this time, Commissioners may make any suggested changes to the

draft ordinance, motion to recommend the board adopt the ordinance as currently written, or take no action on the matter. A motion based on the current language is below.

**Motion:** Recommend the Village Board adopt an ordinance regulating the use of gas-powered leaf blowers with the Village and to incentivize the use of electric leaf blowers by landscape contractors operating within the Village.

**Attachment:** Revised Draft Ordinance

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE 3 AND AMENDING TITLE  
\_\_\_\_ OF THE RIVER FOREST VILLAGE CODE  
REGARDING USE OF LEAFBLOWERS WITHIN THE VILLAGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of River Forest (“Village”), is a non-home rule unit of local government as provided by Article VII, Section 7 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village’s Comprehensive Plan declares that “[e]nvironmental sustainability is a multi-faceted principle that aims to reduce negative impacts on the environment and preserve natural resources to ensure quality of life for future generations. Often sought through dedicated initiatives, sustainability informs every component of a municipality by emphasizing that we are conscious of how we affect the world around us;” and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, per the National Emissions from Lawn and Garden Equipment study conducted in 2015, use of gas-powered landscape maintenance equipment accounted for 43% of volatile organic compounds and around 50% of fine particulate matter in the air; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2004, the American Heart Association has continually published new studies linking particulate matter exposure with cardiovascular disease; and

**WHEREAS**, one hour of gas-powered leaf blower use was found, by the California Air Resource Board in a 2021 study on Small Off-Road Engines, to produce similar levels of pollution as a gas-powered car driving 1100 miles; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2011 test conducted Edmunds at the American Automobile Association’s (AAA) Automotive Research Center, found that consumer grade leaf blowers emitted more pollutants than light duty pickup trucks; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2017 study on Characteristics of Lawn and Garden Equipment Sound published in the Journal of Environmental and Toxicological Studies found that “(r)egular exposure to GLB sound is likely to have negative effects on the auditory and non-auditory health of workers and others in close proximity”; and

**WHEREAS**, A 2014 study on Cardiovascular Effects of Environmental Noise Exposure, published in the European Heart Journal, found further evidence that “environmental noise is associated with an increased incidence of arterial hypertension, myocardial infarction, and stroke”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village’s Sustainability Commission held public hearings and considered the regulation of leaf blowers as set forth in this Ordinance at meetings held on May 14, 2024, June 11 2024, July 9, 2024, August 13, 2024, September 10, 2024, and October 8, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sustainability Commission sought input from Village-licensed landscape contractors potentially affected by the regulation of gas-powered leaf blowers as set forth in this Ordinance, and the business owners were invited to share their comments and attend a Sustainability Commission meeting to voice their opinions; and

**WHEREAS**, at its October 8, 2024 meeting, the Sustainability Commission voted \_\_\_ in favor of recommending that the President and Board of Trustees adopt this Ordinance in order to better protect the public's health, safety and welfare, by reducing carbon emissions and noise pollution generated by gas-powered leaf blowers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village has the authority to "prescribe by ordinance for the regulation of ... the operation or use of equipment and appliances emitting air contaminants" pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/11-19.1-11; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village has determined that limiting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers in the Village would reduce the amount of air contaminants emitted, thereby reducing the environmental impact from such equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village have determined that limiting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers is a reasonable and necessary regulation of the operation or use of equipment and appliances emitting air contaminants; and

**WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village find and declare that the use of gas-powered leaf blowers to be a significant detriment to the public's health, safety and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to best serve the public's health, safety and welfare, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village desire to make certain amendments to the Village of River Forest Village Code ("Village Code") regarding the use of gas-powered leaf blowers, as set forth below;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of River Forest, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION 1: Incorporation.** That the recitals above shall be and are hereby incorporated in this Section 1 as if restated herein.

**SECTION 2: Code Amendment.** That Section 5 (Lawn Maintenance/Landscaping) of Chapter 3 (Contractors) of Title 5 (Business Regulations) of the Village Code is hereby amended to read, in part, as follows, with additions underlined and deletions to existing text marked using strikethrough:

### **3-3-5: LAWN MAINTENANCE/LANDSCAPING:**

A. Definitions ~~Definition~~: For the purpose of this section, certain words and phrases are defined as follows:

LAWN MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR: ~~the term "lawn maintenance contractor" is hereby defined to mean~~ any person who makes a business of mowing, trimming, raking or fertilizing lawns, or other landscape work, and who employs two or more persons in the business, and shall include a landscape contractor.

ELECTRIC LEAF BLOWER: A leaf blower which is powered by an electric motor.

GAS-POWERED LEAFBLOWER: A leaf blower which is powered by gasoline or propane, including an electric leaf blower powered by stand-alone fossil fuel powered generators or generators powered by vehicle engines.

B. Removal Of Wastes: Any person conducting the business of lawn maintenance shall, upon completion of each job, remove and legally dispose off site all clippings, trimmings or other yard refuse and materials or shall ensure that the materials are properly bagged, tagged, and

placed for collection by the Village's waste disposal contractor or otherwise removed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local environmental laws, rules and regulations. Such yard refuse shall not be allowed to accumulate on site nor shall it be placed on vacant lots, streets or alleys.

C. Beginning January 1, 2025, a lawn maintenance contractor who commits to using only electric leaf blowers between June 1 and October 1 of that calendar year shall receive a reimbursement of one hundred twenty-five dollars for the fees set forth in section 3-3-2. A lawn maintenance contractor who makes said commitment and is found to be using a gas-powered leaf blower between June 1 and October 1, 2025, shall be fined two hundred fifty dollars per instance.

D. Beginning January 1, 2026, and for each subsequent year thereafter, a lawn maintenance contractor who commits to using only electric leaf blowers year-round shall receive a reimbursement of one hundred twenty-five dollars for the fees set forth in section 3-3-2. A lawn maintenance contractor who makes said commitment and is found to be using a gas-powered leaf blower shall be fined two hundred fifty dollars per instance.

**SECTION 3:** That Title \_\_\_ of the River Forest Village Code is hereby amended by adding a new Chapter \_\_\_\_, entitled "LEAF BLOWER USE," which shall read in its entirety as follows:

**LEAF BLOWER USE:**

- A. Definition. For the purposes of this section, the term "gas-powered leaf blower" shall mean: A leaf blower that is powered by gasoline or propane, including an electric leaf blower powered by stand-alone fossil fuel powered generators or generators powered by vehicle engines.
- B. Gas-powered leaf blower shall only be permitted to be operated at half speed in the Village between June 1, 2025, and October 1, 2025, except as provided below.
- C. Beginning in 2026 and in each subsequent year thereafter, no gas-powered leaf blower shall be permitted to be operated in the Village between the dates of June 1 and October 1, except as provided below.
- D. The use of portable generators to power electric leaf blowers or to recharge batteries used in leaf blowers is prohibited in the Village on or after June 1, 2025, except as provided below.
- E. Exceptions: Gas-powered leaf blowers shall be permitted to be operated as at the direction of Police or Fire Department sworn personnel of the Village for the purpose of:
  - a. responding to an emergency, or in order to restore, preserve, protect or save lives or property from imminent danger of loss or harm; or
  - b. clearing fallen trees for the purpose of providing emergency clearance for public safety.
- F. Conflict with State Law: If any provision of this section conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with a provision of state law, the more stringent or restrictive provision shall prevail and shall be enforced by the Village.

**SECTION 4: Continuing Effect.** That all parts of the Village Code not amended herein shall remain in effect.

**SECTION 5: Severability.** That if any Section, paragraph or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such Section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 6: Repeal.** That all ordinances, resolutions, motions or parts thereof in conflict with this Ordinance shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 7: Effectiveness.** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval according to law.

DRAFT



**Village of River Forest**  
**Public Works and Engineering**  
400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

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**MEMORANDUM**

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Date: October 8, 2024

To: Sustainability Commission

From: Seth Jansen, Management Analyst

Subj: Village Forestry Operations and UIC Climate Action Plan Tree Recommendations Analysis

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The Village Department of Public Works operates a robust Forestry program through the maintenance of over 8,000 trees (and over 90 species) in Village rights-of-way, commonly known as "the parkway." This is the area between the curb and the public sidewalk or lot line. The Village crews, which include 4 Certified Arborists and 3 state-licensed pesticide applicators, perform annual tree planting, trimming, and removals. The Village has been recognized as a Tree City USA Community every year since 1998 and is an ArbNet Level 1 Arboretum. The Tree City USA designation is achieved through having a forestry division, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance. These same criteria, along with a diversity of tree species greater than 25 species, have allowed the Village to achieve the Level 1 Arboretum status.

Village forestry operations are supplemented with contractual work for tree trimming, tree removal, and tree inventory. All contractors are required to have a Certified Arborist per the Village Code. Dead or diseased trees, which cannot be treated, are marked for removal. Tree removals performed by staff are supplemented with contractual work performed by Forestry Contractors licensed with the Village. Removed trees are replaced with the planting of young trees, which occurs in the spring and autumn months, depending upon the species planted. The specific species utilized are the species identified as best suited for parkway planting sites within the Morton Arboretum Northern Illinois Tree Species List.

Tree trimming and tree inventory are both completed over a rolling 4-year period, with one quarter of the Village being completed each year. Tree inventory is contracted to a Certified Arborists who will inspect, identify, and note the overall health of each parkway tree in a given quarter of the Village. Tree inventory generally occurs in the late spring and summer months. Tree trimming will generally occur in the same quarter of the Village the following year, with staff trimming all trees less than a determined breast height diameter, typically 10-13 inches,



and a Village-selected forester completing the trimming for larger trees in the same portion of the Village. Tree trimming generally occurs during the winter months.

Additionally, Village crews treat all parkway Ash trees to prevent the spread of Emerald Ash Borer every other year. As funding allows, staff attempt to treat parkway Elm trees to prevent the spread of Dutch Elm Disease.

The two UIC Climate Action Plans completed this spring make a total of 8 recommendations directly relating to Village trees and forestry. Professor Tilahun's class recommended the Village take the following actions:

- Amend the current tree cutting ordinance to reflect updated best practices on tree planting and maintenance.
- Maintain the tree count that the village already completes, considering which trees are most resilient for future climate projections.
- Develop a tree planting guide for homeowners to educate community members on best practices for tree planting and maintenance.
- Planting mini-forests in urban sites by allocating ~1000 square feet plots of land to a high density woodland, with as many as 100x the number of trees found in natural forest stands.

Professor Lopez-Garcia's class recommended the Village undertake the following:

- Reimagine the "River Forest Trees" section of the website to include more educational information on trees.
- Subsidize and assist residents in private tree planting in residential areas
- Update Ordinances to grow the tree canopy through tree planning requirements in new developments, establishment tree cutting fees, and requiring tree planting requirements to replace trees that are cut down.
- Create a Heritage Tree designation in the landscaping ordinance to further protect old growth trees on private properties.

These recommendations were made prior to the Village updating the Trees and Shrubs chapter of the Village Code this summer. The updates made, as recommended by the Morton Arboretum, achieve the first two recommendations from the Tilahun report. The updated ordinance also provided further clarity for policies concerning the removal and replacement of trees in the Village parkway, partially addressing the third Lopez-Garcia recommendation.

Additionally, specifically utilizing the newly adopted ordinance's recommended species list and invasive species list, a tree planting and maintenance guide could be developed on the Village's River Forest Trees webpage, achieving the third Tilahun recommendation and the first Lopez-Garcia recommendation. While the subsidy provision of the second Lopez-Garcia recommendation is not recommended, the assistance provision can be achieved through the same webpage updates to connect residents with additional resources.

The final Tilahun recommendation concerning the planting of mini-forests is not recommended by staff at this time, but informational slides on how these mini-forests work has been attached for reference and informational purposes.

The final Lopez-Garcia recommendations regarding tree cutting fees, tree replacement, and heritage tree designation would require a change to the Village code. Currently, the Village does not have any authority over private property trees. No permit is required for the removal of trees on private property; however, the removal must be completed by a forester licensed with the Village. Several communities in Illinois do require permits for private property tree removal, as part of tree preservation efforts. Examples of ordinance language and tree removal permits are included in the attachments. Generally, these require a permit before a tree can be removed from a property. If a healthy tree is being removed, the resident is required to replace it with the planting of new trees or by paying a fee in lieu of replacement. The number of new trees and the amount of the fee are determined by the species of the tree along with the size of the tree based on diameter at breast height. If the tree being removed is determined by the Village to be dead, dying, diseased, hazardous, or invasive, no fee or replacement trees are required.

Should the Commission decide to proceed with the above recommendations, staff can prepare items for Commission review at next month's Commission meeting. A draft updated River Forest Trees webpage can be developed for final input from the Commission before being published. This item does not require any formal action. A draft tree cutting ordinance can also be developed for review. This would need a formal vote to recommend adoption by the Commission and approval from the Village Board before it could be implemented. Additionally, a new permitting work process would need to be developed within the Village's permitting software. The staff members best equipped to make determinations on the species and conditions of trees do not currently perform permit reviews for other items, so staff training on the process would be needed as well.

**Attachments:** Mini-Forest Field Guide, Wilmette Tree Preservation Policy Summary, Wilmette Tree Ordinance, Park Ridge Tree Ordinance, Orland Park Tree Ordinance, Park Ridge Tree Removal Permit Requirements, Orland Park Tree Removal Permit Applications.



# ORLAND PARK

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
15655 RAVINIA AVENUE  
ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60462  
708-403-6350  
FAX 708-403-8798  
publicworks@orlandpark.org

PERMIT # \_\_\_\_\_

## TREE REMOVAL PERMIT

Please complete the following form and attach the required documents. Permit review typically takes 3-5 business days. Sample drawing is attached on the back of this permit application. Mitigation requirements can be found on the back of this sheet and in the Land Development Code, Section 6-305 *LANDSCAPE AND TREE PRESERVATION* **PERMIT FEE: Free**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Contractor Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property:  Single Family Home  Multi-Family  Non-Residential  Parkway

### Tree Removal Request:

- 24"+ Diameter (DBH -see page 2) Tree
- Conservation Easement Tree
- Tree planted per a Board Approved landscape plan
- Utility Easement Tree (non-residential)
- Parkway Tree \*

### Tree Removal Permit Submittal Requirements:

- A legible copy of your plat of survey or site plan that clearly denotes the trees to be removed and the trees proposed to mitigate the tree removal (see sample diagram on next page). Please include location of overhead utility lines, easements, buildings, pools, sheds, accessory buildings, etc.
- Photographs of existing trees.

**Proposed trees to be removed:** Include quantity, species, size and condition. (Arborist Certification of tree species and condition may be required.)

**Proposed Tree Mitigation or Fee-In-Lieu:** (All proposed mitigation trees to be planted within 30 days of tree removal. Fee-In-Lieu must be paid prior to tree removal)

Reason for tree removal: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*PARKWAY TREE:** For a dead or diseased tree, contact the Public Works Department at 708-403-6350. Healthy parkway trees cannot be removed without approval and tree mitigation.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### VILLAGE USE:

Approved  Denied \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parkway Tree – PW Approval By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Diameter at Breast Height, or DBH**, is the standard for measuring trees. DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground. The Village loans out "D-Tapes" (Diameter Tapes) that can be used to measure DBH. Alternatively, DBH can be measured as follows using a string, a measuring tape, a thumb tack and a calculator:

1. With the measuring tape, measure 4.5 feet up the trunk of the tree from the ground.
2. Use a thumb tack to mark the height on the tree.
3. Wrap your string around the tree trunk at 4.5 feet. Make sure the string is straight and tight around the trunk, and mark the circumference on the string.
4. Measure the length of string to get the circumference of the tree.
5. Convert the circumference measurement to diameter (DBH) by dividing the circumference by 3.14 (pi).

**EXAMPLE: Circumference = 40 Inches**  
 $40 / 3.14 = 12''$  DBH

**SAMPLE ONLY  
 CANNOT BE USED FOR PERMIT APPLICATION**

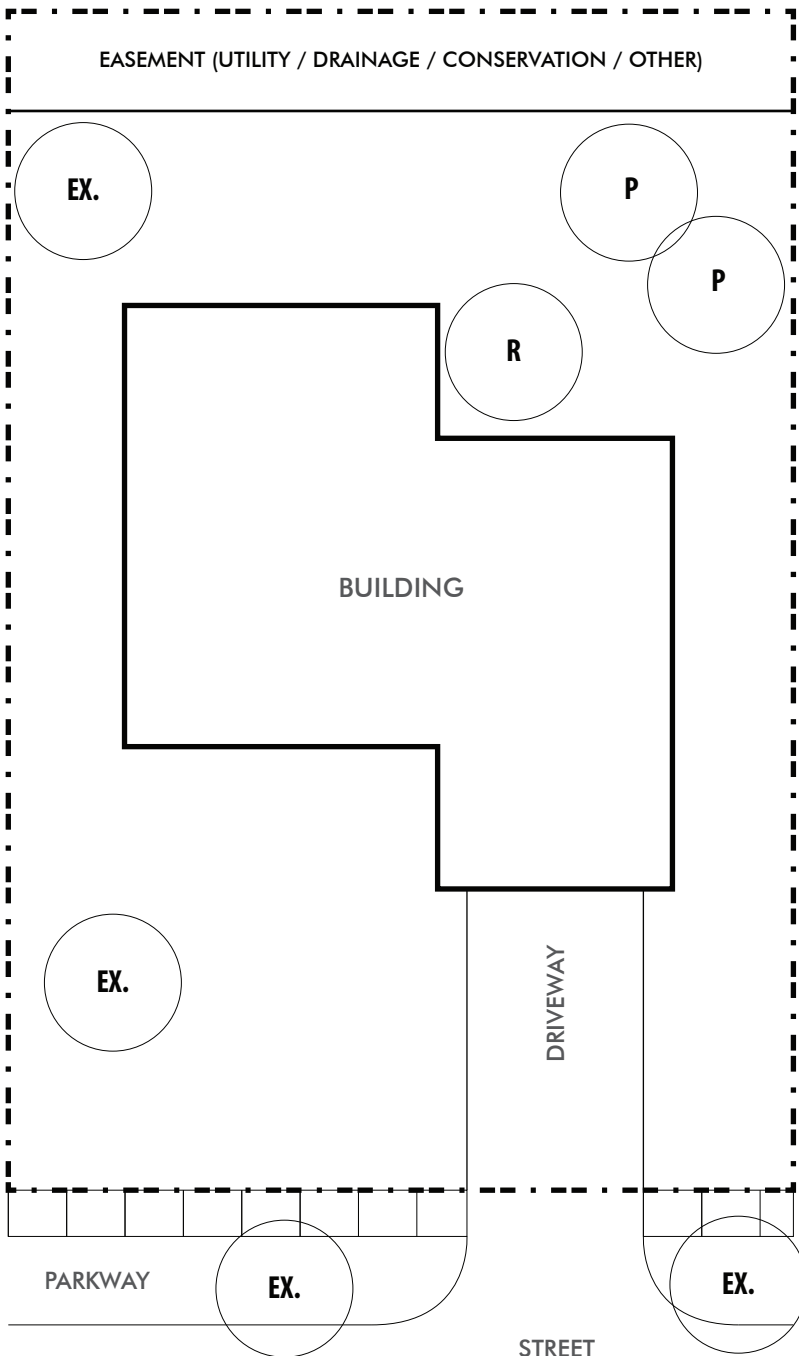


Table 6-305.F.3.f.1 (A) - Tree Replacement Standards

Table 6-305.F.3.f.1 (A): Tree Replacement Standards	
CANOPY TREES	
Diameter of Removed Trees	Number of Replacement Trees Required per Every (1) Tree Removed
4" to 12"	3 trees at 1.5", 2 trees at 2.5" or 1 tree at 4"
13" to 23"	6 trees at 1.5", 4 trees at 2.5" or 2 trees at 4"
24" or greater	8 trees at 1.5", 6 trees at 2.5" or 3 trees at 4"
EVERGREEN TREES	
Height of Removed Trees	Number of Replacement Trees Required
6' to 10'	2 trees at 6' or 1 trees at 10'
10' to 14'	4 trees at 6' or 2 trees at 10'
14' or taller	6 trees at 6' or 3 trees at 10'

Tree of Heaven (Alianthus spp.), Buckthorn, Willow, Box Elder, Silver Maple, Osage Orange, all species of Ash (Fraxinus spp.) and Cottonwood (Populus deltoides) are exempt from mitigation requirements.

**EX = EXISTING**  
**R = TO BE REMOVED**  
**P = PROPOSED REPLACEMENT**

# Chapter 3-6

## Tree Management Program

[HISTORY: Adopted by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park 7-18-2022 by Ord. No. 5727. Amendments noted where applicable.]

### § 3-6-1 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

#### PARK TREES

Trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the Village, or to which the public has free access as a park.

#### PARKWAY

A strip of land situated within the dedicated street right-of-way and 1) located between the roadway and right-of-way line or 2) a median located between the roadways.

#### STREET TREES

Trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation on land lying within the right-of-way lines on the parkway on either side of all streets, avenues, or ways within the Village.

#### URBAN FORESTRY

The planting, maintenance, care and protection of tree populations in urban and suburban settings. Urban forestry recognizes that:

- A. Trees absorb pollution from the air;
- B. Trees produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide;
- C. Trees absorb and filter pollution from stormwater runoff and reduce flooding;
- D. Trees stabilize soils and reduce erosion;
- E. Trees reduce energy consumption by shielding structures from winds and sun;
- F. Trees provide a buffer and screen against noise, light and pollution;
- G. Trees acts as integral parts of the infrastructure of a Village and as such are preserved, protected and cared for as other critical Village infrastructure;
- H. Trees provide value to homes, neighborhoods, parks and business areas;
- I. Trees provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife; and
- J. Trees beautify, protect and enhance our quality of life.

#### URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

A detailed plan developed with the purpose of:

- A. Establishing a shared vision for the proactive management of the Village's urban forest;

- B. Protecting the urban forest as an essential component of the Village's infrastructure;
- C. Establishing nationally recognized standards for tree planting, selection, care and preservation;
- D. Providing detailed information, recommendations, and resources to effectively manage public trees for maximum, long-term benefits to the community; and
- E. The establishment of policy and procedure manuals, specifications, public education, annual forestry work plans and budgets.

#### **VILLAGE FORESTER**

An individual trained in the profession of forestry who has a forestry degree or similar from an institution of advanced education and substantial experience in the planting, maintenance, care and protection of trees. Additional skill requirements for the Village Forester can be found in the urban forestry management plan.

#### **§ 3-6-2 Responsibilities and Duties.**

- A. The Village Forester shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Village President and Board of Trustees for the development, maintenance and administration of the Village's urban forestry management plan.
- B. More specifically, it shall be the responsibility of the Village Forester to study, investigate, counsel and develop and regularly update the Village's urban forestry management plan. The urban forestry management plan, as well as any subsequent updates, shall be presented to the President and Board of Trustees and, upon acceptance and approval of the corporate authorities, shall constitute the Village's official urban forestry management plan for the Village. The Village Forester, when requested by the President and Board of Trustees, shall consider, investigate, make finding, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.
- C. The Tree Preservation Ordinance regulates trees on public property, with the exception of heritage trees, potential risk trees and other development requirements noted in the Land Development Code.

#### **§ 3-6-3 Street Tree Species.**

The "List of Recommended Plant Species" for the Village is found in the landscaping section of the Land Development Code. No species other than those included in this list may be planted as street trees without written permission of the Village Forester or designee.

#### **§ 3-6-4 Spacing.**

A minimum of one parkway tree shall be planted per 40 feet or 30 feet of frontage, as determined by § 6-305, Landscape and Tree Preservation, of the Land Development Code.

#### **§ 3-6-5 Distance from Curb and Sidewalk and Overhead Wires.**

Trees shall be located so as not to interfere with overhead wires or traffic or pedestrian safety.

#### **§ 3-6-6 Distance from Street Corners and Fire Plugs.**

No tree or bush with a mature height of more than two feet shall be planted within a distance of 33 feet of any street corner, measured from the point of the nearest intersecting curbs or curblines as extended. No tree shall be planted closer than six feet to any fire hydrant.

#### **§ 3-6-7 Public Tree Care.**

- A. The Village shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the parkways of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds. However, such

parkway shall be maintained by the adjacent property owner unless an agreement for maintenance has been reached with the Village.

- B. The Village Forester may remove or have removed any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, waterlines, or other public improvements, or is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners, providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with the official street tree species list.

### **§ 3-6-8 Tree Topping.**

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm or Village department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Street or park trees located on public property which are 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 chapter at the determination of the President and Board of Trustees.

### **§ 3-6-9 Pruning; Right-of-Way Clearance.**

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the Village shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of eight feet above the surface of the street or sidewalk. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The Village, in accordance with the law, shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a streetlight or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign.

### **§ 3-6-10 Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property.**

The Village, in accordance with the law, shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the Village, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the Village. The Village will notify, in writing, the owners of such trees. Removal is the responsibility of said owners and shall be done by the owners at their own expense within 60 days after the date of service of notice or such other time as may be agreed upon by the Village and the property owner. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the Village shall have the authority to remove such trees and file a lien against the property for the amount of the costs of removal.

### **§ 3-6-11 Removal of Stumps.**

All stumps of street and park trees shall be removed below the surface of the ground so that the top of the stump shall not project above the surface of the ground.

### **§ 3-6-12 Interference with Village.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay or interfere with the Village, or any of its agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removing of any street trees, park trees, or dead or diseased trees on private grounds.

### **§ 3-6-13 Urban Forestry Management Plan.**

- A. The Village shall adopt and maintain an urban forestry management plan (UFMP). This plan shall be the framework for the protection, management, and planting of trees within the Village and shall support and clearly define the regulations identified in the Tree Preservation Ordinance. At minimum the UFMP shall contain:
1. A defined multiyear urban forestry strategy with clearly identified goals;

2. A strategy for completion and maintenance of a tree inventory on public property;
  3. Clear guidelines on tree species and age diversity;
  4. Clear identification of replacement value and requirements for tree removal or damage;
  5. A list of priority locations for new tree plantings;
  6. A recommended and prohibited tree species list;
  7. Clearly defined specifications for tree planting, pruning, and impact reduction;
  8. A risk assessment and management program;
  9. A heritage tree preservation, protection and mitigation program;
  10. A strategy for management, preservation and protection of naturalized areas;
  11. Clear identification of staff qualifications, training, support and needs;
  12. Specifications for contracted labor and consulting including insurance requirements;
  13. Strategies to eliminate nuisance/invasive trees and other vegetation that constitute a danger or nuisance to the public, Village property or health of other desired trees and vegetation in the Village;
  14. Clear identification of forestry equipment and resource needs; and
  15. A proposed forestry budget with multiyear year projections and goals.
- B. The Village shall establish and maintain an updated inventory of all public trees. The urban forestry management plan shall be based on this inventory.
- C. The Village shall have on staff a Village Forester. Any urban forestry work completed by a contractor on public trees located within the Village shall be under the direction of the Village Forester.
- D. The Village shall require that any contractor, working on behalf of the Village, utilize a certified arborist(s) for all work pertaining to trees, including but not limited to removal, pruning and planting activities in compliance with applicable American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards.
- E. The Village shall provide special protection to heritage trees as detailed in the urban forestry management plan.
- F. It is recognized that diverse species and age of trees throughout the Village are critical to the health of the urban forest. Specifications for species and age diversity, planting and management shall be contained in the urban forestry management plan.



## CHAPTER 18 - TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

## SECTION

*Footnotes:*

--- (17) ---

*History—Ord. No. 2010-83, 12-6-2010.***Cross reference—** *Regulations regarding Parkway/Public trees, Article 9, Chapter 4.*

## 15-18-1 - POLICY

It has been determined that trees provide the following enhancements to the public health, safety and welfare:

- a. Enhance the scenic beauty of the City and its natural and unique environment.
- b. Enhance air quality by reducing and filtering air pollutants.
- c. Reduce topsoil erosion.
- d. Reduce stormwater runoff and replenish ground water supplies.
- e. Provide a buffer and screen against noise pollution.
- f. Reduce energy consumption by acting as a wind barrier and providing shade.
- g. Preserve and enhance nesting areas for birds and other forms of wildlife which assist in insect control.
- h. Protect and enhance property values.
- i. Protect and enhance the quality of life and general welfare of the City and its residents.

Therefore, it is the policy of this Chapter to preserve, protect, replace and properly maintain trees on private property within the City while at the same time respecting the private property rights of Park Ridge landowners.

## 15-18-2 - DEFINITIONS

*Buffer zone:* For the purposes of this ordinance, Buffer Zone shall be defined as an area of land extending out twelve feet from the exterior walls of the principal structure, measured perpendicular to the exterior wall at a height of 4.5 feet above the ground. The twelve-foot Buffer Zone shall be measured from the exterior walls only and not from unattached amenities, attached decks, patios or porches.

*Building footprint:* That precise portion of a lot or parcel where it is proposed that a structure will be placed.

*Circumference:* The measure of the distance around a circle. The circumference of a circle is computed by multiplying the diameter by pi (3.1412).

*DBH:* The diameter in inches of a tree trunk measured at a height of four and one-half (4.5) feet above ground. (DBH = Diameter Breast Height)

*Diameter:* The width of a circular or cylindrical object; a straight line passing through the center of a circle or sphere and meeting the circumference or surface at each end.

*Drip line:* An imaginary, perpendicular line that extends downward from the outermost tips of the tree branches to the ground.

*Maintenance activity:* Any activity including (but not limited to) the pruning, spraying, injecting, bracing, and nutrient supplementation of a tree with the intention of improving or maintaining tree health and/or structure.

*Multi-stem tree:* A tree having two or more stems attached to the same common root system.

*Principal structure:* A non-accessory building in which the principal use of the lot on which it is located is conducted.

*Private property:* Any property not owned by the City of Park Ridge.

*Protected trees:* (A) Any tree larger than ten inches DBH (31.5" circumference) or multi-stemmed tree having a total diameter of 15 inches DBH (47.12" circumference); and (B) Any tree of any size that was required to be planted by City regulation, permit, ordinance or agreement.

Protected trees shall fall into one of two categories:

An "At Risk Protected Tree" is any Protected Tree that the City Forester, by applying accepted arboricultural standards, has determined that due to (1) loss of structural integrity resulting from internal defects or external factors; (2) aging; (3) disease; (4) damage; or (5) decay is either dead or would not be expected to be viable beyond three subsequent growing seasons.

A "Healthy Protected Tree" is any Protected Tree that has not been classified as an At Risk Protected Tree.

When the term "Protected Tree" is used, it shall mean both Healthy Protected Trees and At Risk Protected Trees.

*Removal:* The cutting down or other Substantial Destruction of a tree.

*Root zone:* Portion of the tree located underground spreading out from the trunk in all directions, and at varying depths, generally confined to the drip line area. (Most root zones are found within 18 inches of the ground surface.)

*Structure:* Anything built, constructed, installed, erected or placed on, in or under the ground, or attached to something on, in or under the ground.

*Substantial destruction:* The pruning out of more than 35% of the live branches of a tree; or an activity that in the opinion of the City Forester, is likely to result in the death of a tree; or any activity that puts a tree in an "At Risk" category.

*Topping:* The cutting back of a tree to buds, stubs or lateral branches not large enough to assume the terminal role.

*Tree bank replacement fund:* That fund established by the City for the purpose of compliance with Section 15-18-6 of this Code.

*Unattached amenity:* Any swimming pool, gazebo, patio, play apparatus, basketball court, tennis court or similar structure or installation which is not attached to the principal building on the lot, and which is a permitted accessory structure on the parcel.

#### 15-18-3 - REMOVAL OF TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY PROHIBITED

Except as provided in this Chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person, including but not limited to the Property Owner, to remove a Protected Tree or cause the Substantial Destruction of a Tree.

#### 15-18-4 - PRUNING

No Healthy Protected Tree may be pruned except in compliance with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 Tree Care Performance Standards. No permit is required for pruning a private property tree. However, any party performing such pruning shall do so in full compliance with the aforesaid ANSI standards. If any Healthy Protected Tree is subjected to Substantial Destruction, the Party doing the pruning shall be deemed to be in violation of Section 15-18-3.

#### 15-18-5 - PERMIT REQUIRED FOR REMOVAL OF PROTECTED TREES

No Protected Tree may be removed without first obtaining a tree removal permit from the City Forester pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

Permits authorizing the removal of trees may be issued by the City Forester in accordance with, but not necessarily limited to, the following conditions:

- A. The tree is dead, dying, diseased, or within the Buffer Zone.
- B. The tree is damaged or injured to the extent that it is likely to die or become hazardous within three years.
- C. Removal of the tree is consistent with good forestry practices in consideration of the species, location, condition, age, safety, and historic/aesthetic value of the tree to be removed.
- D. Removal of the tree will enhance the health of one or more trees, of greater relative value, within the immediate vicinity of the tree to be removed.

- E. Reasonable efforts have been undertaken in the architectural layout and design of the proposed development or improvement to minimize tree damage and/or removal.

#### 15-18-6 - PROTECTED TREE REMOVAL

- A. Removal of At Risk Protected Trees. Upon proper application, the City Forester shall inspect and issue a permit for the removal of any At Risk Protected Tree.
- B. Removal of Healthy Protected Trees.
1. Removal of Healthy Protected Trees due to New Construction of One Single Family Residence, an Addition to Such a Residence, or an Unattached Amenity Serving One Single Family Residence shall be subject to the following:
    - a. A Healthy Protected Tree in any area falling within a Buffer Zone or footprint of a detached garage or new driveway may be removed but shall be replaced as set forth in Section 15-18-8. However, the City Forester, in consultation with the Department of Community Development and Preservation, may require the reduction in size, relocation or other modification of any attached deck, new driveway, patio, porch or detached garage that would require the removal of a Healthy Protected Tree.
    - b. No Healthy Protected Tree may be removed for the placement of an Unattached Amenity or for expansion or relocation of a front or side yard driveway or sidewalk.
  2. Removal of Healthy Protected Trees for a non-residential development, a residential development that involves two or more principal structures or any multifamily development shall be subject to the following:
    - a. No Healthy Protected Tree may be removed unless it is within a building footprint or the Buffer Zone.
    - b. All Healthy Protected Trees that are removed shall be replaced according to Section 15-18-8.
    - c. The City Council may approve exceptions to this Paragraph pursuant to approval of a Subdivision Plan, Planned Unit Development or Special Use. Any such exception must include a specific finding that the alternative will be in furtherance of the City's policies as a Tree City.
- C. Other City Landscaping Requirements. To the extent that this Article imposes greater planting requirements than any other regulations of the City, this Article shall control.
- D. Escrow.
1. If tree replacement is required by this Chapter, then as a condition of the tree removal permit, the applicant shall place into escrow with the City an amount of money equal to tree replacement value, as determined by the City Forester. The money shall be returned once the

new tree(s) is planted or deposited to the tree bank if no tree has been planted after a period of one year. The City Forester shall maintain a current schedule of the cost (including planting expenses) for replacement of trees.

2. If it is determined that practices which violate any portion of the City Code have resulted in tree damage, then the City may require that an escrow payment, equal to the replacement value of the damaged tree(s) (See Section 15-18-08). The City Forester shall determine the period for which the cash escrow shall be held (not to exceed 36 months). That period shall be reasonably related to the amount of time that is necessary to determine the health of the damaged tree(s). The escrow shall be held for the purpose of assuring that all remedial actions required by the City to restore the health of the tree(s) are taken, and/or for the purpose of assuring the appropriate tree replacement should any damaged tree die or show noticeable signs of decline as determined by a certified arborist.

#### 15-18-7 - TREE REMOVAL PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- A. Tree Removal Permit Application When a Building or Site Work Permit is Being Sought. When a building or site work permit is being sought, a tree removal permit application shall be submitted which includes three copies of a legible Tree Preservation Plan, drawn to scale of one inch equals 20 feet, and indicating the following information for the entire site:
  1. A tree survey indicating location, size, and species of all Protected Trees on site. All trees requiring a tree removal permit must be specifically labeled on the survey.
  2. All tree protection measures to be taken to minimize damage to trees. At a minimum, all fencing shall go to the dripline or to the excavation limits. Excavation limits falling within the dripline shall be subject to the approval of the City Forester.
  3. Location, shape and spatial arrangement of all existing and proposed buildings, walls, impervious surfaces, improvements and structures.
  4. Location, shape and spatial arrangement of all driveways, construction access roads, and construction material/debris storage areas.
  5. Existing and proposed utility services including gas, electric, telephone, cable TV, water and sewer.
  6. Existing and proposed elevations with contour lines at one-foot intervals.
  7. Setbacks, yard requirements, easements and conservancy areas.
- B. Tree Removal Permit When No Building or Site Work Permit is being sought. The applicant seeking a Tree Removal Permit shall provide the City with a completed permit application that includes the following information:
  1. First and last name, address and telephone number of applicant.
  2. General location and size (DBH) of tree(s) for which permit is sought.

3. Reason why applicant seeks removal of tree(s).
- C. Review of Tree Removal Permit Application. The City Forester shall review the tree removal permit application. This review may include an inspection of the site and/or meetings with the applicant. The City Forester shall render a decision on the tree removal permit request within ten working days of the receipt of a properly filed request.
- D. Appeals. Any appeal of the denial of a Tree Removal Permit shall be heard by the City's Public Works Committee of the Whole. Appeals must be filed, in writing with the City Forester, within ten days of denial of the Tree Removal Permit. Appeals will be heard within 30 days of such filing.

#### 15-18-8 - TREE REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Any Healthy Protected Tree that is removed, and requires replacement by this Chapter shall be replaced with single stem trees from Appendix A. The minimum size of any replacement tree shall be two-inch DBH; the maximum size shall be four-inch DBH. The number of replacement inches is determined on the following basis:

- DBH of 1—10 inches: No replacement trees required.
- DBH of greater than 10 inches to 20 inches: One replacement tree required.
- DBH of greater than 20 inches to 30 inches: Two replacement trees required (Min. of one tree planted back on site).
- DBH of greater than 30 inches to 40 inches: Three replacement trees required (Min. of one tree planted back on site).
- DBH of 40 inches or larger: Four replacement trees (Min. of two trees planted back on site).
- At Risk Protected Trees that are removed do not require tree replacement.

If the City Forester determines that it would not be consistent with best arboricultural practice to plant replacement trees on the parcel from which trees were removed, then an amount of money equal to the value of the replacement trees shall be deposited into a tree bank replacement fund. This fund may only be used for the planting of trees on public property.

#### 15-18-9 - PERMIT ISSUANCE

- A. Issuance. The City Forester shall issue a tree removal permit upon compliance with the requirements described in this Chapter and payment of any required fees and escrows.
- B. Time Limitations. A permit shall expire if the work authorized by the permit is not commenced within one year from the date of the permit or if such work, when commenced, is suspended or abandoned at any time for a period of six months. If a permit expires, a new permit must be obtained before work may be resumed.

## 15-18-10 - TREE PROTECTION DURING CONSTRUCTION

Where any construction activity is taking place, the following preservation methods and standards must be followed:

- A. No construction activity, movement and/or placement of equipment, vehicles, material, spoils excess soil, additional fill, liquids, or construction debris shall be placed within the protected root zone or at any elevation above the root zone.
- B. Crushed limestone and other materials detrimental to trees shall not be dumped within the protected root zone of any tree nor at any location above the root zone where drainage toward the tree could reasonably be expected to affect the health of the tree.
- C. Appropriate protective fencing shall be temporarily installed at the periphery of the tree's root zone/dripline. All fencing must be secured to metal posts driven into the ground no further than ten feet apart. The entire parkway must be fenced and maintained for the period of the construction whether trees are present or not. Either the existing drive or the proposed drive may remain open.
- D. No attachments, signs, fences, or wires, other than approved for bracing, guying, or wrapping shall be attached to trees during the construction period.
- E. Other measures, including but not limited to, construction pruning and root pruning may be required upon the written demand of the City Forester.
- F. Unless otherwise authorized by the City Forester, no soil is to be removed or added within the root zone area of any tree.
- G. All Protected Trees within 12 feet of the building footprint shall be evaluated by the City Forester to determine the effect of the construction on the trees' long-term survivability and safety. Protection or removal may be required accordingly.

The general contractor shall be responsible for the construction, erection, and maintenance of temporary fencing in accordance with the conditions of the building permit around tree preservation areas. Violation will result in the stoppage of all work until corrections have been made to the satisfaction of the City Forester.

## 15-18-11 - EMERGENCIES

In the event of emergency conditions requiring the immediate cutting or removal of a tree or trees protected by this Chapter in order to avoid danger or hazard to persons or property, an emergency permit will be issued by the City Forester without formal application. If City Hall is closed when the emergency arises, the Police Department shall be contacted for appropriate assistance before any action is taken.

## 15-18-12 - PENALTY

1. Any person, who removes or substantially destroys a tree(s) without a City tree removal permit, in violation of Section 15-18-3, shall be fined a minimum of \$500.00 per inch of tree DBH.
2. Any person who violates any other provision of this Chapter shall be fined not less than \$250.00 and not more than \$2,500.00 for each violation.
3. Where applicable, each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.
4. The payment of a fine shall not relieve any violator of this Chapter from tree replacement requirements.

**APPENDIX A**

Common Name	Scientific Name
Black Maple	<i>Acer nigrum</i>
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Yellow Buckeye	<i>Aesculus flava</i>
Ohio Buckeye	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>
Horse-chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>
European Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
American Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Bitternut Hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>



Mockernut Hickory	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Katsura tree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba (male only)</i>
Honey-locust, thornless	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos f. inermis</i>
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Tamarack	<i>Larix laricina</i>
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostreboides</i>
Tupelo (black gum)	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
American Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Sycamore	<i>Plantanus occidentalis</i>
London Planetree	<i>Plantanus x acerfolia</i>

White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Hill's Oak	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Chinkapin Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus montana</i>
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium Distichum</i>
American basswood (linden)	<i>Tilia Americana</i>
American Elm	<i>Ulmus (cultivars)</i>
Japanese Zelkova	<i>Zelkova Serrata</i>

(Ord. No. 2019-25, § 1, 4-15-2019)

# Tree Removal Permit Application

- **All trees over 10” in diameter (DBH) are Protected Trees** as well as any tree of any size that was required to be planted by City regulation, permit, ordinance, or agreement.
- **No Protected Tree on private property may be removed without first obtaining a Tree Removal Permit from the Forestry Division.**
- Once submitted, Forestry Staff will review the application which may include an inspection of the tree and/or meetings with the applicant. Forestry Staff will render a decision on the tree removal permit request within ten working days of permit submittal.
- If a healthy, Protected Tree is approved for removal, the property owner will be required to plant new trees in its place. The number of replacement trees is determined by its size. The City collects \$400 per replacement tree which is held for one year from the date of permit issuance. The escrow is refunded once the new trees are planted or submitted to the City’s Tree Bank Fund after one year. Tree Bank Funds are only used to purchase and plant trees throughout the City.

Protected Trees determined to be dead, declining, or “At-Risk” do not require tree replacement.

**Beginning March 2024, tree removal permits will no longer be submitted via the CSS Citizen Self Service Online Permitting Portal.** To apply for a tree removal permit, simply fill out the form linked below. Tree permits will be issued via email (if provided) or can be picked up at City Hall in the Public Works Administration Department.

## [Apply For A Tree Removal Permit](#)

If you are required to replant trees as part of a tree removal permit, each replacement tree shall be single-stemmed, of a species listed in Category A or B below, and not less than 2" (inches) in caliper. Caliper is the diameter of the tree measured 6" (inches) above the ground. Prior approval for all other species must be obtained from the City Forester.

It is recommended that trees be planted at least **15’** from a building, **10’** from a driveway and **6’** from a fence. Shade trees should not be planted near or under utility wires.

Category A: Large Trees (over 40')			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name

Maple, Black	<i>Acer nigrum</i>	London Planetree	<i>Plantanus x acerfolia</i>
Maple, Red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Maple, Sugar	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Oak, White	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Maple, Freeman's	<i>Acer x freemanii</i>	Oak, Swamp White	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Buckeye, Yellow	<i>Aesculus flava</i>	Oak, Scarlet	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Horse-chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Oak, Hill's	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>
Hickory, Bitternut	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Oak, Shingle	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Hickory, Pignut	<i>Carya glabra</i>	Oak, Bur	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Oak, Chinkapin	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>
Hickory, Shagbark	<i>Carya ovata</i>	Oak, English	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Hickory, Mockernut	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	Oak, Red	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Oak, Shumard	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Oak, Black	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Katsuratree	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Bald Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
Yellowwood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	Basswood, American (linden)	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Beech, American	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	Elm	<i>Ulmus (cultivars)</i>
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba (male only)</i>	Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
Locusts	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos f. inermis</i>	Zelkova, Japanese	<i>Zelkova Serrata</i>
Kentucky Coffeetree	<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	<b>Category B: Medium Trees (25'-40')</b>	
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans spp.</i>	Birch, River	<i>Betula nigra</i>
Tamarack	<i>Larix laricina</i>	Hornbeam, European	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Hornbeam, American	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
Dawn Redwood	<i>Metasequoia glyptostreboides</i>	Hophornbeam, American	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Tupelo (black gum)	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Horse-chestnut, Red	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>
Sycamore	<i>Plantanus occidentalis</i>	Buckeye, Ohio	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>

## Chapter 29 - TREE REGULATIONS

## ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

## Sec. 29-1. - Policy and purpose.

- (a) *Policy.* While allowing for the reasonable improvement of land within the Village, it is the public policy of the Village to:
- (1) Maintain and grow the tree canopy within the Village;
  - (2) Add to the tree population within the Village where possible;
  - (3) Maintain existing healthy trees within the Village; and
  - (4) Minimize the unnecessary removal of trees.
- (b) *Purpose.* The preservation of existing trees and the planting of additional trees in the Village are intended to accomplish, where possible, the following objectives:
- (1) To preserve trees as an important public resource enhancing the quality of life and the general welfare of the Village and enhancing its unique character and physical, historical, and aesthetic environment;
  - (2) To help preserve and enhance the environment;
  - (3) To preserve the essential canopy and character throughout the community;
  - (4) To preserve, protect and maintain trees as an integral part of the infrastructure of the Village as other critical Village infrastructure;
  - (5) To enhance and preserve the air quality of the Village through the filtering effect of trees on air pollutants and replenishing the atmosphere with oxygen;
  - (6) To reduce noise within the Village through the baffle and barrier effect of trees on the spread of noise;
  - (7) To reduce topsoil erosion through the soil retention effect of tree roots;
  - (8) To absorb excess soil moisture, thereby moderating storm water runoff;
  - (9) To provide habitat and food for birds and other wildlife, including the preservation and enhancement of nesting areas for birds and other wildlife, which in turn assist in the control of insects;
  - (10) To reduce energy consumption through the wind break and shade effects of trees; and
  - (11) To maintain and enhance property values throughout the Village by preserving and adding to the aesthetic quality of land.
- (c)

*Exception.* Vegetation that is the subject of the regulations of this chapter shall not include those species commonly known as woody shrubs or bushes. A list of such species of vegetation that is not to be considered a tree shall be determined by the Director and provided for in a Village manual, that regardless of size shall not be considered to be a tree of any classification. The list of vegetation that is not to be considered a tree for purposes of these regulations may be amended as necessary and as determined by the Director.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

#### Sec. 29-2. - Rules of Construction.

All provisions of this chapter shall prevail as to all matters and questions arising from the subject matter of this chapter. If there are any contradictory provisions, between another chapter of the Village Code and this chapter 29, the provisions of this chapter, upon the subject matter of this chapter shall apply.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022)

#### Sec. 29-3. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Aggregate diameter* means the combined diameter of a Multiple Stemmed Tree of each stem that has a diameter of six inches or greater when measured at breast height as follows:

For Multiple Stemmed Trees where the trunk separations begin at lower than four and one-half feet from the ground, but higher than one foot from the ground, measurement shall be taken one foot below the separation.

For Multiple Stemmed Trees where the trunk separations begin below one foot from the ground, the measurement shall be taken at four and one-half feet above the average ground level at the base of the tree.

*Caliper* means the diameter of a tree as measured at a point six inches above the existing grade at the base of the tree. This point of measurement is used only for measuring nursery stock and replacement trees.

*Canopy* means the area occupied by the live leaves and branches of a tree.

*Certified Arborist* means an arborist that has a valid International Society of Arboriculture certification.

*Certified Arborist Review Certificate* or *Certificate* means a certificate provided and signed by a Certified Arborist that shall be filed with a Tree Removal Permit. The certificate shall, in the professional opinion, based upon Best Management Practices of the International Society of Arboriculture, of the signing Certified

Arborist identify, the location, size, species, condition and form of each tree, and the purpose of the Removal for the tree sought to be removed as applied for in the Tree Removal Permit.

*Critical Root Zone* means that circular area under a tree as determined by a one-foot radius for each one inch in DBH.

*Damage* means any act that results in the death, likely death, loss in value, loss in aesthetic value, or substantial destruction of a tree, or causes the tree to become diseased or a hazard to persons or property, as determined by the Village Forester/Tree Preservation Officer. "Remove" or "Removal" of a tree shall be considered as "Damage" to a tree.

*DBH or diameter at breast height* means the diameter of the trunk of the tree measured in inches at a point four and one-half feet above the existing grade at the base of the tree or the Aggregate Diameter of a Multiple Stemmed Tree. This point of measurement is used for measuring mature and established trees.

*Director* means the Director of Community Development.

*Diseased* means a severe disease or pest that is known to cause or is causing the death of a tree.

*Fee in Lieu* means the fee to be paid, in lieu of planting a Replacement Tree, for the Removal of a Protected Tree or Heritage Tree.

*Governmental Entity* means the United States Government, the State of Illinois, or any Political Subdivision of the State.

*Hazardous Tree* means a tree or any part of the tree:

- Is damaging an existing structure or utility; or
- That because of damage, or because of its deteriorated or damaged state constitutes a possible risk for harm associated with the tree or part of the tree falling on any person or property.

*Healthy Tree* means a tree that is not dead, dying, diseased, hazardous, or an Invasive Tree.

*Heritage Tree* means any tree of the following genera or species or size:

- All trees in the genus Quercus (Oaks) greater than or equal to 10" DBH;
- All trees in the genus Carya (Hickory) greater than or equal to 10" DBH; or
- All trees greater than or equal to 20" DBH except for Invasive Trees, Ornamental Trees and Undesirable Trees.

*Invasive Trees* shall be those trees as determined by the Director and provided for in a Village manual, that regardless of size shall not be considered to be a Protected Tree or Heritage Tree. The list of invasive trees may be amended as necessary and as determined by the Director.

*Jointly Owned Tree* means a tree that has any portion of its trunk, where that trunk has emerged from the ground, located across two or more property boundary lines when such properties are not owned by the same party.

*Multiple Stemmed Tree* means a single tree made up of two or more main stems originated below the height used for measuring DBH.

*Neighbor Notification* means a notice, on a form provided by the Village, to be delivered to the required properties when certain trees are sought to be Removed.

*Nuisance Trees* means the following types of trees:

- Any and all species of Elm Trees that are infected with Dutch Elm Disease;
- Any and all species of Ash Trees that are infected with Emerald Ash Borer;
- Any tree, including its limbs, that constitutes an immediate or imminent hazard to persons, property or the general public.

*Ornamental Tree* means a Protected Tree possessing qualities such as flowers or fruit, attractive foliage, bark or shape, with a mature height less than 40 feet. Ornamental Trees shall be those trees as determined by the Director and provided for in a Village manual, that regardless of size shall not be considered to be a Heritage Tree. The list of Ornamental Trees may be amended as necessary and as determined by the Director.

*Protected Tree* means any single trunk tree or any Multiple Stemmed Tree with at least one stem, having a DBH of six inches or more when located on private property, or a tree of any size when planted as a Replacement Tree.

*Public Property* means any public street, public cul-de-sac, parkway, right-of-way, or any other place owned or controlled by the Village or another Governmental Entity.

*Remove* or *Removal* means the causing or accomplishing of the actual physical removal of a tree.

*Replacement Tree* means a tree on the Village's list of approved tree species, planted pursuant to the Removal of a Protected Tree or Heritage Tree. The list of approved tree species appropriate to be planted as a Replacement Tree, as well as the required size and maturity of the Replacement Tree sought to be planted, shall be provided for in a Village manual and may be amended as necessary and as determined by the Director.

*Tree Protection Area* means the area within the Critical Root Zone of a tree.

*Tree Protection Plan* means the plan prepared by a Certified Arborist as required by this chapter.

*Tree Removal Permit* means the permit required by this chapter prior to the Removal of a Protected Tree or a Heritage Tree.



*Tree Survey* means a graphic display of all existing trees upon the property and within 15 feet of the lot lines on an adjoining property, with a six-inch DBH or greater and existing trees of any size located on the adjacent rights-of-way, which survey shall also contain the approximate outline of the Critical Root Zone of each and every tree located upon the subject property, within 15 feet of the lot lines, and the adjacent rights-of-way. The survey shall also identify the DBH and species of each tree, and an opinion, from a Certified Arborist, of the condition and form of each tree.

*Undesirable Tree* means a Protected Tree that is of a species that is:

- Not well established for the climate of the region;
- Likely to have a high mortality rate for the region;
- Likely to become Diseased; or
- Predisposed to structural deficiencies.

Undesirable Trees shall be those trees as determined by the Director and provided for in a Village manual, that regardless of size shall not be considered to be a Heritage Tree. The list of Undesirable Trees may be amended as necessary and as determined by the Director.

*Yard* means the required open, unoccupied space on a lot, unobstructed from the ground to the sky, except for those encroachments allowed by appendix A of the Village Code. Yard size shall be determined by the yard regulations of the Zoning District as provided for in appendix A of the Village Code, in which the property is located.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

Secs. 29-4—29-15. - Reserved.

## ARTICLE II. - TREE PRESERVATION

Sec. 29-16. - General regulations.

(a) *Unlawful to damage or remove a tree.*

- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to Damage any tree within the Village. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove any tree located upon any public property within the Village, unless expressly authorized by a right-of-way permit as provided for in chapter 20 of the Village Code, which may be denied to preserve any tree. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove any tree not located on public property, without first obtaining a Tree Removal Permit from the Village, except as otherwise authorized by this chapter. The property owner, property owners of a Jointly Owned Tree, and any agent of the property owner or owners violating this article shall be jointly and severally liable.

- (2) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to any Governmental Entity Removing a tree from their own property, property that is leased by a Governmental Entity, or for property when the use of that property is granted to a Governmental Entity pursuant to an easement, license or similar grant of authority.
  - (3) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to public utilities when a tree is located in a public utility easement on private property and the removal of the tree is necessary to the operation of the utility. Trees located in a public utility easement shall not be removed without a right-of-way permit (or the appropriate permit as determined by the Village Engineer and Director) or as otherwise authorized in a franchise agreement. All tree-trimming and vegetation control performed by a utility shall be performed to the standards set forth in chapter 20.
  - (4) The provisions of this Chapter do not apply to the Village of Wilmette when the Village is removing a tree from public property.
- (b) *Tree removal permits.* When a Tree Removal Permit is required by this chapter or any other part of the Village Code, prior to the issuance of a Tree Removal Permit, an applicant shall:
- (1) Submit the following information on an application form to be provided by the Village:
    - a. The address of the property where the tree is to be removed;
    - b. The name, phone number, and email address of the property owner where the tree is to be removed;
    - c. The name, address, phone number and email address of the entity and/or individual that will be removing the tree;
    - d. Provide a description of the:
      - i. The species or common name of the tree to be removed;
      - ii. Location of the tree to be removed which, in the opinion of the Director, may be required to be depicted upon a Plat of Survey or another document acceptable to the Director,
      - iii. The DBH of the tree to be removed, and
      - iv. A photographic documentation of the tree to be removed.
  - (2) Pay the required Tree Removal Permit Fee of \$75.00 per tree to be removed, which shall be in addition to the fee in lieu and any other fees or costs required by the Village;
  - (3) When required by this article, shall pay the required fee in lieu, which shall be in addition to the Tree Removal Permit Fee and any other fees or costs required by the Village;
  - (4) When required by this article, submit at the time the application is filed, a Certificate, a Tree Survey, and proof of Neighbor Notification; and
  - (5)

Determine and disclose if the tree is a Jointly Owned Tree. Prior to the issuance of a Tree Removal Permit for a Jointly Owned Tree, the express authorization to remove the Jointly Owned Tree from all the owners of the Jointly Owned Tree shall be submitted to the Village as part of the application for the Tree Removal Permit.

(c) *Neighbor notification.* When there is a requirement for Neighbor Notification, an applicant shall provide notice of the removal to the property owners of the following properties:

- Any contiguous property;
- The property or properties directly on the other side of the street; and
- The property directly on the other side of the alley

In the form to be provided by the village. Proof of said notice, by means of a signed affidavit form, shall be submitted at the time the application is filed. Neighbor Notification shall be required in addition to any other notice required by the appendix A of the Village Code.

Neighbor Notification shall be provided at least five business days prior to the removal of any trees.

(d) *Replacement trees and fee in lieu.* When a Protected Tree or a Heritage Tree is removed, the applicant shall plant the required number of Replacement Trees, or if authorized by the Director, pay the fee in lieu or a combination thereof as provided for below.

(1) The following Table 1 shall be used to determine, based upon the size of the Protected Tree, Undesirable Tree, and Ornamental Tree Removed, the required number of Replacement Trees to be planted on the property where the Protected Tree was removed or the fee in lieu, or a combination thereof. Any fee in lieu authorized to be paid by the applicant shall be in addition to any other fees or costs charged by the Village.

<b>Table 1</b>		
<b>Protected Trees (including Undesirable Trees)</b>		
<b>Size of Tree Removed (DBH)</b>	<b>Replacements Trees</b>	<b>Fee in Lieu</b>
Greater or equal to 10" but less than 12"	2	\$1,000
Greater or equal to 12" but less than 16"	3	\$1,500

Greater or equal to 16" but less than 20"	4	\$2,000
Undesirable Trees equal to or greater than 20"	4	\$2,000
<b>Ornamental Trees</b>		
Greater or equal to 6" but less than 12"	1	\$500
Greater or equal to 12"	2	\$1,000

(2) Based upon the size of the Heritage Tree Removed, the applicant shall plant the required Replacement Trees on the property where the Heritage Tree was Removed as calculated by an inch for inch basis, or if authorized, pay a fee in lieu in the amount of \$125.00 per inch removed, or a combination thereof. Any fee in lieu authorized to be paid by the applicant shall be in addition to any other fees or costs charged by the Village.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

Sec. 29-17. - Tree removal—General.

(a) *Removal of dead, dying, diseased, hazardous trees, or invasive trees.*

- (1) The owner of any property within the Village shall remove or caused to have removed any tree that is dead, dying, diseased, or a Hazardous Tree from their property. The owner of any property within the Village may remove an otherwise healthy Invasive Tree from their property.
- (2) The property owner or the property owner's agent may not remove a Protected Tree or a Heritage Tree that is also a dead, dying, diseased, or a Hazardous Tree, or an Invasive Tree without first obtaining a Tree Removal Permit.
- (3) The Tree Removal Permit fee, the Replacement Tree requirements, and the fee in lieu of replacement shall not apply to the removal of any dead, dying, diseased tree, or a Hazardous Tree, or an Invasive Tree.
- (4) The health and potential viability of a dead, dying or diseased tree and the danger posed by a Hazardous Tree shall be determined by the Village Forester/Tree Preservation Officer prior to the issuance of a Tree Removal Permit.

- (b) *Removal of nuisance trees—General.* The owner of any property within the Village containing a Nuisance Tree, shall Remove promptly, but in no case less than ten days, such trees and limbs upon notice from the Director.

In the event of an emergency requiring the removal of a Nuisance Tree, an applicant may Remove a Nuisance Tree prior to a Tree Removal Permit being issued. In such situations, the owner shall obtain photographic evidence of the condition of the Nuisance Tree and an opinion from a Certified Arborist or contractor provided for the imminent or immediate need for the removal. A Tree Removal Permit shall be applied for the following business day, or as soon thereafter as authorized by the Director, after the tree was removed and shall be accompanied by the photographic evidence and opinion required.

In situations where a Nuisance Tree is a nuisance solely because of a limb or limbs of the tree are causing an immediate or imminent hazard, said limb or limbs of the tree causing the nuisance may be cut, trimmed or pruned in a manner that abates said nuisance, but does not otherwise damage the tree.

- (c) *Removal of heritage trees—General.* Unless otherwise authorized in this subsection (c), the Removal of a Heritage Tree is prohibited except upon approval of a variation.

In addition to any other requirements of this subsection (c), a Heritage Tree may only be removed upon the submittal and approval of a Tree Removal Permit and all Replacement Trees have been planted, fee in lieu paid in full, or any combination thereof. For those Replacement Trees that cannot be planted prior to removal of the Heritage Tree, the Director may provide for a schedule for the planting of the Replacement Trees.

- (1) Definition applicable to this subsection (c). For purposes of this subsection (c), the term "Construction" shall mean the demolition of a Principal Structure (as defined in appendix A of this Code), the construction of a new Principal Structure, the construction of an addition to a Principal Structure, or the construction of a new detached garage.
- (2) When in this subsection (c), there is a requirement for any approval or review, the following procedures, requirements and standards shall apply:
- a. Zoning Board of Appeals Review. A request to remove a Heritage Tree that requires a variation before the Zoning Board of Appeals shall follow the procedures and requirements of appendix A of this Code except as provided herein. As part of the application for a variation before the Zoning Board of Appeals, an applicant shall provide the notice required for the variation process in lieu of Neighbor Notification.  
  
No variation may be recommended for approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals unless findings have been made, based upon the evidence presented at the public hearing, to support the conclusion that:

- i. The particular physical condition and location of the Heritage Tree would impose upon the owner a hardship or practical difficulty if the Heritage Tree were not to be removed; and
- ii. There are no other reasonable alternatives to Removing the Heritage Tree

The Zoning Board of Appeals may consider the specific attributes of the existing Heritage Tree and its likelihood to remain as a Healthy Tree. The Zoning Board of Appeals may also take into account other trees currently located or to be planted upon the property.

- b. Administrative Zoning Review. A request to remove a Heritage Tree that requires an approval as part of an Administrative Zoning Review shall follow the procedures and requirements of appendix A of this Code, except as provided herein. As part of the application for such Administrative Zoning Review, an applicant shall provide the Neighbor Notification in lieu of the required notice for the Administrative Zoning Review. No Administrative Zoning Review approval shall be given by the Zoning Administrator unless findings have been made, based upon the application and a review of the Construction plans, to support the conclusion that:
  - i. A hardship or practical difficulty exists because the existing Heritage Tree makes it impossible and/or impractical to perform the Construction in a size and configuration allowed by right on a lot of similar size;
  - ii. There are no reasonable alternative methods to perform the Construction that would preserve the condition of the Heritage Tree; and
  - iii. The Heritage Tree to be removed is not expected to remain as a Healthy Tree, if it remains in place, because of the Construction.

An approval by the Zoning Administrator of an application for Administrative Zoning Review pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a final decision, not appealable to the any Village Board or Commission.

A denial by the Zoning Administrator of an application for Administrative Zoning Review pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a final decision except only an applicant may apply for a Variation seeking the same relief sought through the Administrative Zoning Review in the manner provided for in this subsection.

- c. Director Review. A request to remove a Heritage Tree that requires an approval from the Director shall follow the procedures and requirements of this subsection. As part of the application for approval from the Director, an applicant shall provide the Neighbor Notification.

No Director approval shall be given by the Director unless findings have been made, based upon the application and a review of the Construction plans, to support the conclusion that:

- i. The Heritage Tree to be removed is not expected to remain as a Healthy Tree, if it remains in place, because of the Construction.

An approval by the Director of an application for removal of a Heritage Tree pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a final decision, not appealable to the any Village Board or Commission.

A denial by the Director of an application for Removal of Heritage Tree pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a final decision except only an applicant may apply for a variation seeking the same relief sought from the Director in the manner provided for in this subsection.

- (3) Removal of Heritage Trees - not in the Required Yard. A Heritage Tree located on a property that is not in the required yard may only be removed as provided for in this subsection and upon submittal of proof of Neighbor Notification.
- (4) Removal of Heritage Trees during Construction.
  - a. Removal of Heritage Trees during Construction - Required Yard, except Yard, Interior Side. A Heritage Tree located in the required Yard, except the required Yard, Interior Side (as defined in appendix A of this Code), of a property is prohibited from being removed, except when the removal is performed as a necessary part of Construction and is approved by the Zoning Administrator as part of the Administrative Zoning Review.
  - b. Removal of Heritage Trees during Construction-Required Yard, Interior Side. A Heritage Tree located in the required Yard, Interior Side of a property is prohibited from being removed, except when the removal is performed as a necessary part of Construction and is reviewed and approved by the Director as part of the Director Review.
- (d) Removal of Protected Trees.
  - (1) A Protected Tree located on a property may only be removed upon the following:
    - a. Submittal and approval of a Tree Removal Permit; and
    - b. All Replacement Trees have been planted, fee in lieu paid in full, or any combination thereof. For those Replacement Trees that cannot be planted prior to removal of the Protected Tree, the Director may provide for a schedule for the planting of the Replacement Trees.
  - (e) Removal of Trees without a Tree Removal Permit. A tree may be removed without a Tree Removal Permit when the tree is not otherwise classified as a Protected Tree or as a Heritage Tree.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

Sec. 29-18. - Penalty.

- (a) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this article, shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$7,500.00 for each offense. A separate offense shall be deemed committed for each day that an offense continues.
- (b) The fine imposed shall not include any fees or fees in lieu imposed in this article, which shall be charged in addition and separate of any fine.
- (c) Any damage or removal of a tree located upon Village owned property or right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Village, the value of the damaged or removed tree as determined by industry standard, plus the cost of the replacement of the tree of species and size as determined by the Village, shall be charged in addition and separate of any fine.
- (d) Village Manager authority. Upon an individualized assessment of an application, the Village Manager, may, upon good cause shown, waive or reduce the Tree Replacement requirements or the fee in lieu in cases where imposing such requirements would be excessive or otherwise unjust.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

Secs. 29-19—29-29. - Reserved.

ARTICLE III. - TREE PROTECTION

Sec. 29-30. - General regulation.

Except as otherwise provided or as authorized by the Director, all trees located on private property and upon adjacent rights-of-way or public property, where construction work is occurring pursuant to a Building Permit or another permit issued by the Village, shall be protected from damage by means of the requirements stated herein. Both the property owner and the agent of the property owner violating this article shall be jointly liable.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022)

Sec. 29-31. - Tree protection requirements.

- (a) All protected trees shall be protected with temporary fencing placed along the Tree Protection Area. The temporary fencing shall be made of plastic, wood or metal, and shall be secured with metal posts set no farther apart than three feet on center. Where the applicant of the permit has demonstrated to the Village that it is not reasonably practical to install a temporary fence along



the entire Tree Protection Area, the Director shall have the authority and discretion to modify the requirements stated herein, including requiring that a surface barrier such as mulch or plywood be placed on those areas unprotected by fencing. The entire parkway must be fenced and maintained for the period of the construction whether trees are present or not. The existing drive or the proposed drive may remain open for vehicular access during construction.

- (b) Construction materials shall not be stored within the fenced Tree Protection Area and shall not be stored on the construction site so as to cause the natural drainage flow to be diverted toward the protected trees.
- (c) A Tree Survey and Tree Protection Plan shall be provided to the Director prior to the demolition of a structure, new construction of a structure, or construction of an addition to a structure which will result in an increase of 50 percent or more of lot coverage (as defined in section 30-2.1.3 of appendix A of this Code) on the property or upon the request of the Director.
  - (1) The Tree Protection Plan shall include an accurate depiction of:
    - a. The location, species, DBH and Critical Root Zones of all protected trees on the subject property, adjacent rights-of-way, and within 15 feet of the lot lines;
    - b. The location and type of protective fencing to be placed on the property and adjacent rights-of-way;
    - c. The location of Critical Root Zone areas and the types and locations of protection to be provided to minimize damage to tree roots in such areas, such as wood chips and exterior plywood;
    - d. A description of other required tree preservation procedures, such as root pruning, crown pruning, and the like;
    - e. The location, shape, and spatial arrangement of all temporary and permanent driveways, parking areas, and temporary material storage sites and access ways; and
    - f. The location of any new utility services, including water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, gas, electric, telecommunications or any modification to existing utility services, that may impact existing private or public trees.
  - (2) If a Grading and Drainage Plan is required by some other provision of this code, the Tree Protection Plan shall either be incorporated into the required Grading and Drainage Plan or the Tree Protection Plan shall depict the limits of land disturbing activities and the existing and proposed grading of the development, showing spot elevations and/or contour lines at one-foot intervals.
  - (3) The Director may require the applicant to provide any additional information the Director deems necessary to determine whether the tree protection plan complies with the requirements and the stated policy and purpose of this article.

(d)

Upon a showing of good cause by the property owner, the Director shall have the authority and discretion to modify the requirements stated herein.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022; Ord. No. 2023-O-10, § 2, 2-28-2023)

Sec. 29-32. - Notification to adjacent property owners.

Prior to the issuance of any Building Permit for construction work which would change the footprint of the structure, the property owner shall provide written notice of the intended construction work, in a form to be provided by the Village, to any adjacent property owner whose property contains a tree within 15 feet of the property line. Proof of notice shall be the submission of an affidavit, signed by the property owner, stating that written notice has been served and received by all adjacent property owners. No Building Permit shall be issued until five business days after receipt of notice by the adjacent property owners.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022)

Sec. 29-33. - Violations and penalties.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to damage, remove, partially remove, or fail to maintain any tree protection required under this article.
- (b) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$750.00 for each offense. A separate offense shall be deemed committed for each day that an offense continues.

(Ord. No. 2022-O-20, § 2, 3-8-2022)

## Key Components of Approved Tree Preservation Policy

- A tree removal permit (\$75 fee) will be required for the removal of any tree which is 6" in diameter breast height or greater
  - **Upon approval of the Village Forester, the fee will be waived for dead, dying, diseased, hazardous, or invasive trees and none of the other requirements listed below would apply**
- To limit the number of unnecessary removals, and to replace canopy when trees have to be removed, the following replacement requirements will apply when a healthy tree is removed:

Protected Trees		
Size of Tree Removed	Tree Replacements	Fee in Lieu of Replacement
6 – 9"	TBD after data collection	TBD after data collection
10 – 12"	2	\$1,000
13 – 16"	3	\$1,500
17 – 19"	4	\$2,000

Fees would be prorated by \$500 for every new tree planted. New plantings may be required by the Village Forester depending on the specific conditions of each site

- Trees which have been identified as being particularly valuable, are considered Heritage Trees, and their removal, when healthy, would be subject to the following replacements:

Heritage Trees		
Size of Tree	Tree Replacements	Fee in Lieu of Replacement
10 – 19" (Oak and Hickory)	Inch for Inch	\$125 per inch
20"+	Inch for Inch	\$125 per inch

Fees would be prorated by \$125 per inch for every new tree planted. New plantings may be required by the Village Forester depending on the specific conditions of each site

- For Heritage Trees, if the tree is located in the required front or rear yards of the property (where a house cannot be built), a variation, with notice to neighboring properties impacted by the tree removal, will be required to authorize removal of the tree
  - The zoning process for new homes, garages and additions will be expedited, meaning it will be initially conducted by Village staff and if the removal is authorized, the property owner may remove the tree (above replacement requirements will apply)
  - If the Village staff does not approve the variation, or for variations for recreational purposes (such as swimming pools or ice rinks) the property owner may bring the request to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Village Board
- For Heritage Trees in the required side yards, the Village Forester will determine if the tree can be properly protected during construction. If the tree will not survive construction, removal will be authorized subject to replacement requirements
- To ensure compliance with the above provisions, penalties for the removal of a tree without a permit will increase from \$1,500 to a fine of up to \$7,500 plus the above replacement fees

The background is a dark green forest scene. It features several stylized trees with rounded, green canopies and light brown trunks. Scattered throughout the foliage are numerous small, glowing yellow circles. In the lower-left corner, a stylized figure of a person is sitting on the ground, leaning against a tree trunk. The person is rendered in shades of orange and yellow. In the lower-right area, two small yellow butterflies are shown with dashed lines indicating their flight paths. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, using a limited color palette of greens, browns, oranges, and yellows.

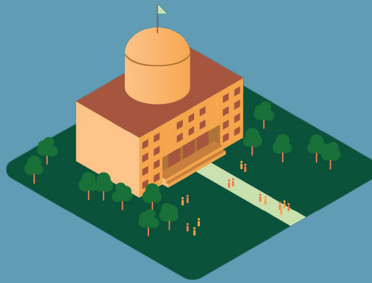
# Mini-Forests

An MKSK field guide for communities and developers with goals to restore habitats and combat climate change by sequestering carbon out of the atmosphere.

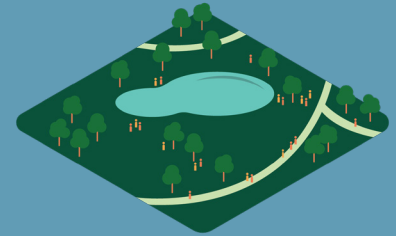
# Where can Mini-Forests be Planted?



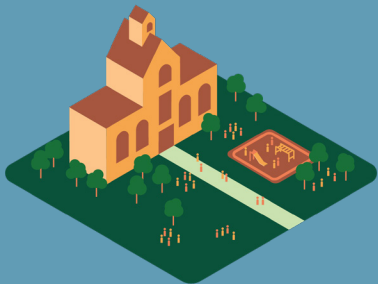
University Campus



Civic Campus



Urban Park



K-12



Library



Development



Museum



Neighborhood



Office

# What are Mini-Forests?

**Mini-forests are a technique for carbon sequestration by planting woodlands at very high densities, with as many as 100x the number of trees found in natural forest stands.**

In addition to their ability to sequester carbon and shelter wildlife, mini-forests provide very high stormwater, heat, and soil contamination mitigation benefits, as well as wind, erosion and coastal flood protection.

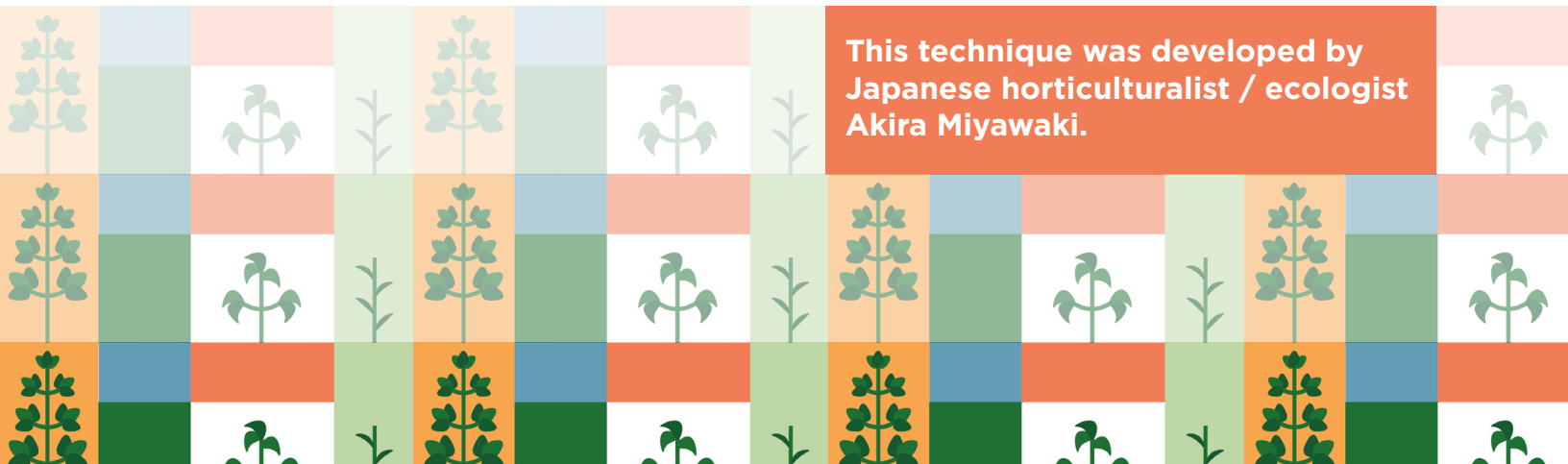
They are composed exclusively of native tree and shrub seedlings planted into deeply cultivated beds, ultra-enriched with compost. Planted as close as 18" apart, the seedlings compete and grow down deep into the soil and upwards quickly, as fast as 5' per year. They develop into mature self sustaining

forest habitats in as little as 20 years, instead of the natural 150 to 200 year process. These are highly engineered landscapes which harness the natural potential of plants to fight climate change and rebuild habitats.

Because of their density, mini-forests require no maintenance after their second year - no sunlight reaches the ground under them, reducing competition to nearly zero.

Their density also makes these planting function ecologically like larger forest stands, even at sizes as small as 800 SF, about the size of four parking spaces, or as narrow as about 25'. This makes them ideal for small urban spaces, privacy and wind breaks.

**This technique was developed by Japanese horticulturalist / ecologist Akira Miyawaki.**



# Planting a Mini-Forest Follows a Unique Process

- 1 Select Site:** This will begin to determine the size of the project, budget and labor required.
- 2 Soil Survey:** A standard test is needed, such as from a university extension service, to determine how to treat the soil.
- 3 Layout:** Measure the extents of the project. Layout offsets from buildings and existing trees, paths, seating areas, etc.
- 4 Project Management:** Generate a schedule, budget, list of materials and logistical plan for the project.
- 5 Species Survey:** Determine number of species, density, layering/structure. This step will require a landscape architect, ecologist or horticulturalist.
- 6 Source Plants:** Determine which nurseries have seedlings. State run nurseries are a good source.

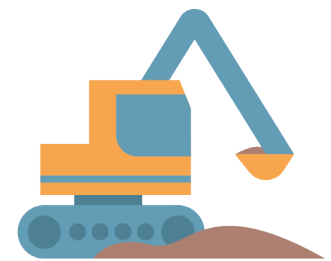
## Field Work



Soil Survey:  
Take samples per  
directions of testing lab.



Species Survey:  
Derived from state/local  
native plant community  
lists or by examination  
of nearby forest stands.



Soil Preparation:  
Oversee work of  
contractor - deep  
bed prep and soil  
amendment mixing.

**7 Soil Preparation:** A contractor with a backhoe will be needed to dig planting area to a depth of 42” and mix in organic matter.

**8 Prepare for Planting Day:** Store seedlings in the shade and water. Secure enough stakes, mulch, fence materials and tools for all participants. Stakeout and “preplant” seedlings.

**9 Planting Day!** Plant the seedlings, staking and loosely tying each. Mulch with compost, straw and coarse wood chips. Water extensively immediately after planting.

**10 Maintenance for 2 Years:** Weed and replenish wood chip mulch. Replace plants if openings appear in the canopy. Water during droughty periods. Do not prune, treat for insects/disease or fertilize.



Prepare for Planting Day:  
Pre-dig half depth holes  
for seedlings and place.



Planting Day!  
All hands on deck to  
plant all seedlings, mulch  
and stake the forest -  
BBQ, games, planting  
ceremony.



Maintenance for 2 Years:  
Weed, replenish wood  
chips/stakes, and water  
as needed.



Watch the forest grow  
and celebrate the  
positive environmental  
impact.



# Site Selection

- Sunny.
- Slightly sloped.
- Access to water for irrigation and electricity to run equipment.
- Free of underground or overhead utilities in the planting area.
- Vehicular access, for equipment and deliveries.
- Space to stage materials deliveries, seedlings, and equipment.
- Site needs to be cleared of any debris, paving and invasive species.
- Existing trees can be worked around and incorporated into the planting.



# How We Can Help

MKSK is committed to designing the change our world needs, discovering new solutions and building new ways of working. Every project is an opportunity to address climate change and loss of biodiversity in the design and planning of communities, landscapes, and cities. MKSK can assist in the design and planning of mini-forests, and other habitat restoration and carbon sequestering landscapes, to help fulfill the environmental stewardship goals of our commercial, institutional, industrial and public clients.

Community planting days can be held to install mini-forests, a great opportunity for children to learn about nature, a celebration of life and hope.



Contact:

**MKSKLAB@mkskstudios.com**  
**MKSKstudios.com**





**Village of River Forest**  
**Public Works and Engineering**  
 400 Park Avenue  
 River Forest, IL 60305  
 Tel: 708-366-8500

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: July 9, 2024

To: Sustainability Commission

From: Seth Jansen, Management Analyst

Subj: Quarterly Charging Station and Electric Vehicle Report

The below and attached report provides following Charging and Electric Vehicle Metrics for Quarter 3: July through September 2024:

- EVs and hybrid vehicles registered within the Village
- EV charging station installation permits during the reporting quarter
- Usage data for the Village-owned EVCS, including:
  - o Number of charging sessions
  - o Number of unique users
  - o Length of charging sessions histogram

**River Forest Vehicle Registration Statistics as of September 2024**

Electric Vehicles	288
Hybrid Vehicles	629

**Electric Vehicle Charging Station Installation Permits - By Quarter**

Q1	3
Q2	8
Q3	3

**2024 Monthly Metrics**

Month	Sessions	Unique Drivers
January	156	47
February	122	36
March	139	44
April	162	29
May	153	30
June	185	40
July	210	37
August	233	42
September	268	39

**2024 Quarterly Metrics**

Quarter	Sessions	Unique Drivers
Q1	417	71
Q2	500	63
Q3	711	69

**Attachment:** Charging Session Length Histogram: July - September

# Session Length Histogram Custom

No. of Sessions  
Cumulative %

