

Next Steps for Protecting our Urban Forest – Lake Oswego Tree Summit 2019

We took your ideas for actions to steward our urban forest and developed these Next Steps. Please think about what you can do as an individual and as part of a group to keep our trees healthy and thriving. We are looking forward to you hearing from you.

1. As an individual you can:
 - a) Develop a plan to take care of trees in your yard. Check out resources on the city [Urban and Community Forest page](#).
 - b) Recommend trees in your neighborhood for [Heritage Tree](#) designation.
 - c) Comment on Type 2 Tree permit applications.
 - d) Work with your church to steward trees at your place of worship.
 - e) Share your appreciation of trees that help to make up the character of your neighborhood. Thank your neighbors for taking care of trees on their property and let them know how much their trees contribute to the livability for everyone on your block. (Use the benefits of trees list to go beyond just aesthetics.)
 - f) Contact [Back Yard Habitat](#) for information on working with native plant species in your yard.
 - g) Participate in stewardship event(s) sponsored by [City of Lake Oswego](#) (on public land) and [Oswego Lake Watershed Council](#) (on private land).
2. Join a Tree Care Education group sponsored by Oswego Lake Watershed Council (OLWC)
Contact: Stephanie stephanie@natureed.org
 - a. Promote City sponsored tree care and pruning workshops.
 - b. Organize tree care information that is available on-line. OLWC will host the information. Include instructions on tree watering as well as pruning and ivy removal.
 - c. Trainings on ivy removal to promote tree protection.
3. Join a city-wide Tree/Natural Resource group that assists in coordinating a variety of stewardship activities across our community using the Neighborhood Associations as a point of contact. Contact: Sharon treecommittee@comcast.net
This group will:
 - a) Assist in forming Tree/ Natural Resource Committees for all Neighborhood Associations. These committees will communicate with neighbors and support efforts to steward our urban forest.
 - b) Develop Arbor Day activities to celebrate and steward local trees.
 - c) Develop stewardship activities that can involve a variety of neighbors. For example, an ivy removal group could assist neighbors in removing ivy and invasive clematis from trees in their yards.
4. Join a city-wide group to work with home-owner associations (HOAs) to develop plans to steward natural resources on common property.
Contact: Jack jack@oswegowatershed.org
5. Join a group to start the process of developing an Urban Community Forest Management Plan. This is the first step that needs to be taken before we can look at the development code and incentives to preserve trees on private property.
Contact: Stephanie stephanie@natureed.org
6. Join a group to inventory trees throughout the city. OLWC has developed an inventory system using iTrees and is looking for volunteers to help start the process.
Contact: Jack (jack@oswegowatershed.org)

Please think about how you would like to be involved and email the contact person to find out how you can help. We can accomplish great things if we all pitch in! Feel free to recruit friends and neighbors.