

Community Tree Programs

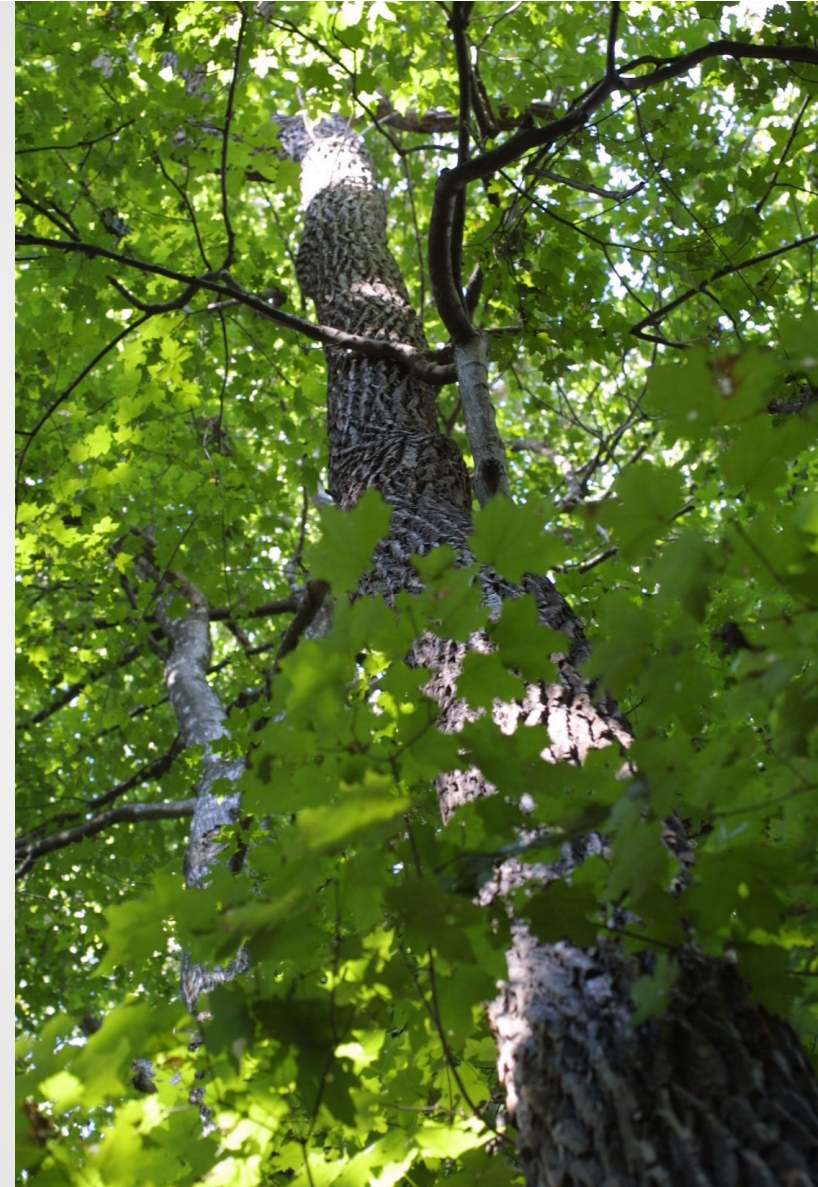
April 15, 2024



Help meet Urban Forest Plan goals

Upcoming strategic plan to a healthy and desirable urban forest and access to tree benefits:

- Environmental
- Health
- Cultural
- Economic



Help meet Climate Action Plan goals

- Natural System Protection and Restoration Measure

Carbon sequestration through

- Protecting and conserving forests, street trees, and landscape practices
- Restoration of degraded lands



Help with Climate Adaptation

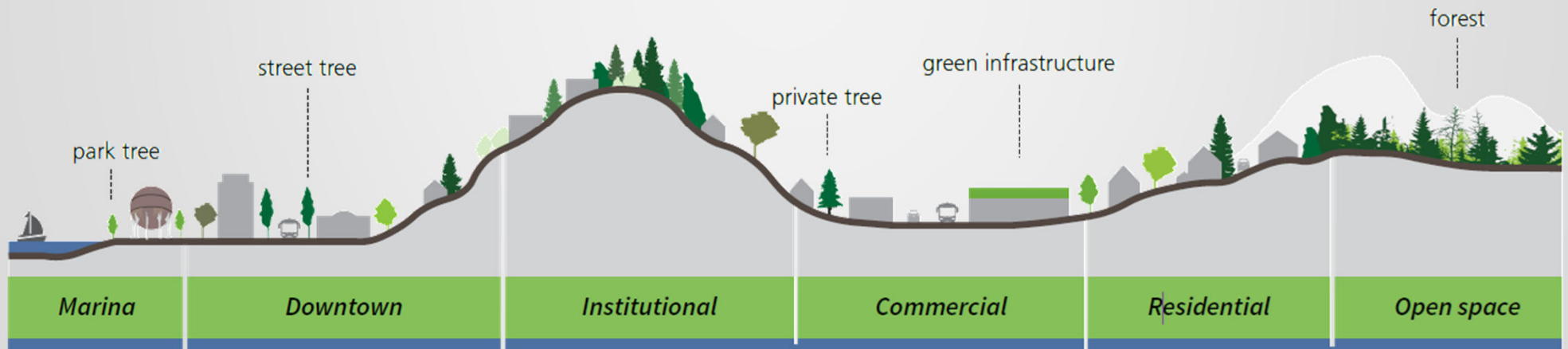
- Shade for streams, lakes, wetlands
- Shade to reduce heat island effects
- Habitat diversity and resilience
- Reduce wildfire risk



What is the urban forest?

“All trees, vegetation, soils, associated natural processes, and cultural elements, found in towns, cities, and other communities where people reside.”

Components of Bellingham’s urban forest



Scope of work and timeline



2024 – also implementing early actions!

Goals



A. Protect and expand the urban forest in alignment with community values as established in the Comprehensive Plan



B. Protect and restore priority habitat areas, movement corridors, and forests



C. Manage the urban forest in alignment with best practices to support healthy and safe trees



D. Adapt the urban forest for climate change resilience



E. Collaborate with diverse people and organizations in urban forest management



F. Monitor performance, adapt strategies

Some of our early actions

Community Tree Programs

- Neighborhood Tree Grants
- Community Partnerships
- Tree Giveaways
- Tree Coupon Program

Small and Simple Neighborhood Grants – Tree Planting (40% of funding)





Community
Partnerships
(45% of funding)

Tree Giveaways (2% of funding)





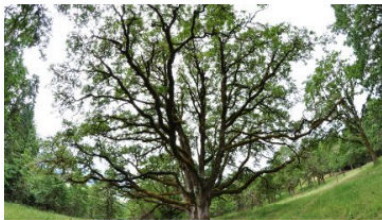
Tree Coupon Program (13% of funding)

Coming in fall 2024!

For more information visit cob.org/trees

Community Tree Programs

The Community Tree Programs include new and existing programs that will help grow our urban forest and increase tree canopy cover citywide, helping us meet the goals in our [Urban Forest Plan](#). Why trees? They provide a wealth of benefits, from cleaner air to cooler streets, making Bellingham a healthier, happier place for our community and environment. The City already plants thousands of trees on public property each year through a variety of programs. In 2024, we are investing in additional programs to encourage more tree planting on private property. Learn more below to find a program that's right for you!



Tree Coupons

Starting in Fall 2024, we will offer tree coupons to Bellingham community members to reduce the costs of planting trees on private property.



Neighborhood Grants

Neighborhood Associations can apply for small grants to plant trees in their neighborhoods.



Community Partnerships

We will be working with local non-profit organizations to plant trees on private property. More info coming soon!



Tree Giveaways

Visit us at several community events between September and April to pick up a free tree sapling for your yard.



Parks Volunteer Program

This long-standing program hosts volunteer work parties and supports stewardship in local parks.



Tree Planting Guidance

Find a comprehensive guide for planting trees in Bellingham.

Questions?

Presented by: Analiese Burns
Habitat and Restoration Manager, Public Works Natural
Resources

360.778.7968 acburns@cob.org

