

**City of ...  
Tree City USA  
2008 Work Plan**

**Assessments**

The Tree Warden determines the status of trees and schedules any necessary work. Work is scheduled based on priority. Twenty eight requests for tree removals were assessed and removal was deemed unwarranted as a result of resident inquiries in 2008.

**Pruning**

Pruning is a regular part of maintaining a healthy tree. If the Tree Warden determines a tree needs to be pruned, the tree is placed on the pruning list. Work is completed based on priority. Utility companies such as National Grid also complete pruning in the City to maintain their overhead lines. One hundred fifty trees were pruned by the City in 2008.

**Tree Removals**

Public trees may only be removed with the consent of the City's Tree Warden. Only trees that are deemed dead, dying or hazardous can be removed. The United States Department of Agriculture's [How to Recognize Hazardous Defects in Trees](#) defines a "hazard tree" as "a tree with structural defects likely to cause failure of all or part of the tree, which could strike a 'target'. A 'target' can be a vehicle , building, or a place where people gather such as a park bench, picnic table, street, or backyard." If the Tree Warden determines a tree should be removed, the tree will be placed on the removal list. Work will be completed based on priority. Once a tree is removed, a stump will be left and the location will be placed on the stump removal list. Once the stump is removed the area will be loamed and seeded. If the site warrants, it will be placed on the tree replacement list. There were 84 tree removals in 2008. The City also held two tree removal hearings at the request of residents.

**Stump Grinding**

All stump grinding is outsourced to an outside contractor. Work is completed based on priority. Once a stump is removed, the area is loamed and seeded. There were 118 locations in 2008.

**Annual Tree Planting Program**

Every year the City's Tree Planting Program replaces trees and fulfills requests for trees throughout the City. Trees are planted at the discretion of the Tree Warden. The City planted 40 trees in 2008 and plans on planting 120 trees in 2009.