

Elements in a Commercial Tree Recognition Program
(Drafted by the Urban Forestry Subcommittee - version Nov. 21, 2016)

The following represents initial thoughts about the City of Gresham recognizing businesses and/or governmental/non-profit organizations for their ~~landscape design and maintenance that~~use, maintenance, and support healthy trees in our city. Ideally businesses would view this recognition as another way to demonstrate their “green” enterprise, one that contributes positively to the environment as well as to the livability of the city.

Criteria for Selection:

1. ~~A landscape that provides for trees that with maturity add to the canopy in the city~~ A site that uses trees that have significant canopy size or will grow to such at maturity
2. The number and diversity of trees in the landscape
3. Appropriate placement of the particular tree species within the landscapesite
4. Demonstrated maintenance of ~~the landscape~~trees on site (including appropriate tree pruning) that enhances the aesthetics and health of the trees/space
- ~~5. Use of native as well as non-native tree species~~ Allowance for root space and healthy soil, which are key to tree survival and growth
- ~~5-6. Use of appropriate species and varieties, including natives where suitable: right tree in the right place~~
- ~~6-7. Absence of invasive plants (ivy, budleia, blackberry, etc.)~~

Timetable:

The recognition would occur annually as part of the Arbor Day Celebration. The recognition would be based on a decision from the Urban Forestry Subcommittee, which would review in early spring recommended business or non-profit landscapes in the city.

Award Process to Consider:

Their recommendation would be forwarded to the City. The Mayor’s office on behalf of the City Council could issue and present a certificate of the award to the particular business or non-profit organization. Local media would be notified of the recognition.

Promotion and Information:

The Urban Forestry Subcommittee will present the concept of the recognition program to the Chamber of Commerce and take their input on the drafted criteria and process for selection. Information would also be placed on the city website for businesses or non-profit organizations to review.