The Minneapolis
Urban Forest Policy
Revised 2016

Contents
Preamble ..................................................................................................................... 3
Section 1. Background, Process .............................................................................. 3
  1.1 Background .................................................................................................. 3
  1.2 Policy Development and Review Process .................................................. 4
  1.3 How the Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth (MPSG), previously called the Minneapolis Plan, Pertains .................................................. 4
Section 2. Purpose, Goals, Values ........................................................................... 5
  2.1 Purpose .................................................................................................... 5
  2.2 Policy Goals ............................................................................................ 5
  2.3 Values ....................................................................................................... 6
Section 3. Guidelines, Standards, and Recommended Practices ......................... 6
  3.1 Tree specifications and practices will provide for and sustain healthy trees ... 7
  3.2 In accordance with Section 427.10 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, open boulevards shall not be paved .................................................. 8
  3.3 Openings for trees in hardscapes may be allowed with conditions .......... 8
  3.4 An Engineered Root Space shall be used ............................................... 8
  3.5 Construction practices will avoid damage to trees and their root systems.... 8
  3.6 Development proposals that are subject to Site Plan Review shall submit landscaping management plans as part of the Site Plan Review process ...... 9
  3.7 Tree servicing work will be done by licensed qualified tree professionals .... 10
  3.8 Directional boring will be used for conduit work in a Tree Protection Zone .. 10
  3.9 Public right-of-way will be managed to reduce tree impacts .................. 10
  3.10 Healthy, sound trees are encouraged on private property ..................... 11
Section 4. Targets for the Future (Performance Measures) .................................. 11
Section 5. Glossary of Terms .................................................................................. 12
  5.1 Boulevard .............................................................................................. 12
  5.2 Continuous Open Boulevard ................................................................... 12
  5.3 Open Planting Space .............................................................................. 12
  5.4 Engineered Root Space ....................................................................... 12
5.5 Site Plan Review .......................................................................................... 12
5.6 Tree Protection Zone (TPZ).......................................................................... 12
5.7 Urban Forestry.................................................................................................. 13
Section 6. List of Policy Collaborators ................................................................. 13
Section 7. Effective Date .......................................................................................... 13
Section 8. Cross References: Pertinent City and Park Board Ordinances.............. 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>The Minneapolis Urban Forest Policy provides guidance to protect, maintain and manage the Minneapolis urban forest.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applies to</td>
<td>All departments, developers, contractors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History: Approval date, effective date, revisions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related mandates</td>
<td>Amendments to Section 427.10 and Chapter 347 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links: procedures, forms, flow chart</td>
<td>To be drafted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preamble

The urban forest is an integral part of the Minneapolis infrastructure. Properly planned and managed, the urban forest provides significant ecological, social, and economic benefits. These include: improved air and water quality, reduced erosion and storm water runoff, conserved energy, improved health, enhanced livability, traffic calming, reduced noise, and increased property values.

In 2004, the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) adopted a comprehensive urban forestry policy. The City and the MPRB found that the standards and guidelines in the Policy were necessary to ensure the continued protection, maintenance, replacement, and management of the Minneapolis urban forest. In 2016, as a result of a report commissioned by the MPRB and completed by the University of Minnesota regarding tree damage by severe storms, the policy was updated to reflect the report findings and recommendations, and generally modernize the policy.

Section 1. Background, Process

1.1 Background

In response to public complaints about the adverse impacts of sidewalk repair and replacement on boulevard trees and their root systems, the Sidewalk Inspection Section of Minneapolis Public Works Department (PW), and the Forestry Department of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB/Forestry) began collaborating in 2001 to address the complaints. PW is charged with replacing and repairing streets and sidewalks, which can involve conflicts with tree roots. The MPRB is charged with the care and management of public boulevard trees. It became evident that an urban forest policy was necessary to help bridge the gap between those agencies that impact the urban forest and those that can help to enhance it.

This dialogue broadened to include the impact that other city departments, private developers, tree care companies, utilities, Minneapolis Public Schools, etc., have on components of the Minneapolis urban forest. The dialogue has led to improved specifications in City contracts and improved communication among City departments, MPRB, and other public and private entities.

In 2014, the University of Minnesota completed a report entitled “A Case Study of the June 21, 2013 Wind Loading Event in Minneapolis: Tree Failures and the Relationship to Pre-existing Site Conditions.” The report was commissioned by the MPRB and funded by the MPRB and the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. The report was presented to the MPRB Board of Commissioners on December 17, 2014, and then on February 3, 2015 to the City Council at a Transportation & Public Works (T&PW) Committee. At the T&PW Committee
meeting, Public Works staff was directed to continue to work with the MPRB regarding the report findings. Part of that effort was to update this Urban Forestry Policy.

1.2 Policy Development and Review Process

In late 2002, Council Members Paul Ostrow, Dan Niziolek, Sandra Colvin-Roy, and Dean Zimmermann convened a meeting of stakeholders (Section 6) to identify the challenges to the city’s urban forest and to make policy recommendations for its protection and preservation. The stakeholders met several times in 2003 and worked collaboratively to identify problems and corresponding solutions. In 2015, at the February 3 T&PW Committee meeting, a staff directive to “continue to work with the MPRB/Forestry, the Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission (MTAC), and the Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee on recommendations for changes to City policy and practice that will limit the impacts to trees from City sidewalk repair work, and report back to the T&PW Committee by July 31, 2015…” was passed. That direction led to the 2016 update to this document and policy.

1.3 How the Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth (MPSG), previously called the Minneapolis Plan, Pertains

The “Natural Ecology” Section of the MPSG provides:

An important aspect of overall improvements to the quality of air, water, neighborhoods, and public spaces is the presence of mature, healthy trees in the city. The urban forest provides many pleasures and serves many purposes, and includes gardens and wetlands as well as trees planted on street boulevards and in parks and other public places. Strategic tree planting is a proven complementary approach to conserving energy because trees and other foliage provide shade and form windbreaks. The planting and maintenance of shade trees should be considered by all city departments as an investment in public infrastructure.

There are other purposes and pleasures provided by the urban forest, gardens, and wetlands. Plants, particularly trees, wetland species and native prairie grasses play a significant role in flood control by intercepting, filtering and storing water, and slowing the rate and volume of runoff. They clean the air as they transform and render harmless many pollutants and convert carbon dioxide into oxygen. Mature trees provide a leafy canopy over city streets for three seasons of the year, calming traffic, buffering noise and beautifying the city in simple and effective ways. *Minneapolis will encourage the planting and preservation of trees and other vegetation.*
1.3.1 Some Implementation Steps Identified in the Minneapolis Plan:

- Encourage the planting and replacement of trees on public and private property.
- Encourage the use of plant communities native to the Twin Cities which achieve native biodiversity and wildlife habitat (particularly for resident and migratory songbirds and waterfowl).
- Develop protection measures for unique ecosystems including remaining areas of native vegetation (particularly oaks and wetland vegetation).
- Continue to invest in the health of the urban forest by avoiding tree monocultures and planting a variety of native and other hardy non-invasive species.

Section 2. Purpose, Goals, Values

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to preserve, protect, and improve the health and general welfare of the public by promoting the public benefit of saving, maintaining, and planting trees. This will be accomplished by providing or referring to standards, guidelines, and recommended practices that result in a safe, healthy urban forest that contributes to a quality environment instead of creating problems. This document is not intended to be the repository of procedures or specifications, but to briefly describe some of them, or refer readers to the appropriate place.

2.2 Policy Goals

2.2.1 Establish an urban forest policy that promotes and facilitates the communication and coordination of City Departments, MPRB, University of Minnesota, the Minneapolis Public Schools, the Downtown Council, developers, contractors, public utilities, non-government organizations, and the residents and property owners of Minneapolis in their respective interactions affecting public trees and the urban forest.

2.2.2 Establish the urban forest as a public utility in the same context as water and sewer are public utilities. This urban forest utility shall be defined and governed by this urban forest policy and the details of planning, design, construction and maintenance, shall be defined and governed within the “Standard Supplemental Specifications for Construction of Public Infrastructure” along with the applicable “Standard Plates Manual”. These specifications and standard plates shall be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and the latest version shall be located on the City of Minneapolis website under the Public Works tab.

2.2.3 Establish guiding principles, standards, and practices for municipal staff, agencies, contractors, and others doing business in Minneapolis.
2.2.4 Mitigate tree loss and tree damage caused by construction activities, improper pruning practices, and tree diseases and pests.

2.2.5 Design, install, and maintain public spaces that incorporate trees according to current best arboriculture practices that accommodate pedestrian accessibility.

2.2.6 Explore cost-effective options to increase and sustain the tree canopy in Minneapolis.

2.2.7 Explore the possibility of green easements that allow public trees to be planted in private lawns adjacent to the public property.

2.3 Values

2.3.1 Tree cover provides benefits and enhances the community.

2.3.2 When people work together to create a healthy urban forest, they develop neighborhood and community partnerships that benefit participants both sociologically and psychologically.

2.3.3 Proper management of the urban forest can lessen the impacts of drought, tree diseases and insect pests, construction, and storm damage.

2.3.4 Good stewardship of trees on both public and private property benefits the entire community.

2.3.5 The ecological integrity of watersheds and the Mississippi River is benefited by preserving and protecting the Minneapolis urban forest as green infrastructure.

2.3.6 Tree canopy helps to mitigate stormwater runoff issues.

2.3.7 Planting the right tree in the right way in the right place can avoid future tree health and management problems.

2.3.8 Creating proper planting environments for urban trees.

2.3.9 Trees are good for business. Consumers respond positively to shopping environments having a healthy urban forest.

2.3.10 The urban forest contributes to an amenable pedestrian environment by visually enhancing streets and buildings with greenery, creating shade, and improving air quality.

Section 3. Guidelines, Standards, and Recommended Practices

The following guidelines, standards, and recommended practices will help protect and preserve the Minneapolis urban forest.

The information presented here is intended to serve as guidelines to support this policy. For further and more specific standards, practices and design criteria, the Minneapolis Standard Specifications for Construction; Tree Specifications (Tree Specifications; see Section 5, Glossary of Terms) shall be the repository for complete and final specifications and criteria. Those standards are reviewed
annually and will be the most up-to-date reference for best management practices for Minneapolis. Those documents may be found at http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/plates/index.htm

In response to recommendations of the MTAC and the University of Minnesota report “A Case Study of the June 21, 2013 Wind Loading Event in Minneapolis: Tree Failures and the Relationship to Pre-existing Site Conditions,” the MPRB Board of Commissioners created a new position called the Forestry Preservation Coordinator (FPC). The FPC serves to make tree related recommendations regarding construction practices, utility work, permitting, development review, and plan design for both Public Works and the MPRB. The FPC also serves as a field representative to mitigate impacts to trees for any construction and repair conflicts.

The City’s Forestry Preservation Coordinator should be trained in current pedestrian accessibility standards and be familiar with both the City’s Pedestrian Master Plan and Design Guidelines for Streets and Sidewalks.

3.1 Tree specifications and practices will provide for and sustain healthy trees

3.1.1 **MINNEAPOLIS STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION; TREE SPECIFICATIONS** (see Section 5, Glossary of Terms) shall state that no living trees, including roots, shall be severed &/or removed without permission of the FPC. Root removal for the purpose of installing sidewalks at the proper grade is subject to inspection and approval by the FPC. If the sidewalk grade is changed to accommodate tree roots, it should follow the current Public Right of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), as recommended in the City’s Pedestrian Master Plan.

3.1.2 The specifications shall include parameters for rings (aka arcs) around trees in boulevards and/or adjacent to sidewalks and rights-of-way. All parties implementing projects affecting trees (including but not limited to contractors, planners and developers) shall follow the **TREE SPECIFICATIONS** and policy and be held responsible for violating them. This includes following best management practices for proper tree planting and tree protection.

3.1.3 The goal for boulevard tree-planting space shall be to provide wider boulevards as directed in the **TREE SPECIFICATIONS**. MPRB/Forestry has discretion to refuse to plant a tree in a boulevard or median that does not meet an adequate width.

3.1.4 MPRB/Forestry shall, at its discretion, strive to replace all boulevard and park trees that are removed after taking into consideration the surrounding environmental conditions.
3.2 In accordance with Section 427.10 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, open boulevards shall not be paved

3.2.1 Developers and site plan proponents shall obtain paving permits and encroachment permits in conformance with the City Code. [Note: Sections 3.1 and 3.2 involve amendments to Section 427.10 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.]

3.3 Openings for trees in hardscapes may be allowed with conditions

3.3.1 An open boulevard is always the first choice for tree planting. However, tree grates may be used at openings for planting trees in hardscapes such as sidewalks or other paved areas that are in high traffic areas or are required to meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) policy, provided that an Engineered Root Space is provided for the growth of the tree. This shall be done with the mutual consent of both MPRB/Forestry and Public Works.

3.3.2 Tree grate openings should meet accessibility guidelines as possible without damaging existing healthy trees. Open planting areas shall have a visual and tactile edge distinct from the adjacent walking surfaces.

3.4 An Engineered Root Space shall be used

3.4.1 An Engineered Root Space shall be used in planting pits, continuous trenches, and in other areas as necessary in order to provide a sustainable growing environment for the roots of public trees.

3.4.2 The FPC shall determine the soil type, volume and opening required for the sustainability of specific tree types based on the site characteristics and surrounding environment. Exceptions to creating an engineered roots space must be approved by MPRB/Forestry.

3.4.3 Shared planting trenches for trees are encouraged, forming a grouping or row of trees.

3.5 Construction practices will avoid damage to trees and their root systems

3.5.1 Developers, other government entities, and contractors should have a pre-design meeting that includes the FPC, in addition to appropriate City staff. If any negative impact on existing trees is anticipated, projects managed or built by the City will notify the FPC. The FPC and City staff will work collaboratively to reduce or eliminate the negative impact where possible.

3.5.2 Public Works shall include the FPC in the annual sidewalk and capital improvement planning process.
3.5.3 Effective tree preservation must be integrated into site/design plans during the design and land development process. [NOTE: For reference purposes the on-line Policy will link to the University of Minnesota publication called “Protecting trees from construction damage: a homeowner's guide.”]

3.5.4 For projects that require Site Plan Review and which have the potential for impacting existing trees, tree protection shall be performed in accordance with the TREE SPECIFICATIONS. Tree protection shall locate the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) around each tree which is subject to the best management practices stated in the TREE SPECIFICATIONS.

3.5.5 For tree protection, the City and MPRB/Forestry are required to follow the applicable TREE SPECIFICATIONS and ordinances needed to accomplish the goal.

3.5.6 Site Plans shall be stamped with a notice that requires the owner and/or contractor to contact the MPRB/Forestry prior to the start of any on-site work.

3.5.7 All applicable permits are required from the MPRB, pursuant to Chapter 10 of Park Board ordinances. Failure to obtain such permits may subject the owner and/or contractor to monetary penalties.

3.5.8 City, MPRB, and other public construction projects (not subject to Site Plan Review) shall also adhere to the TREE SPECIFICATIONS including locating the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) around each tree which is subject to the best management practices stated in the TREE SPECIFICATIONS.

3.5.9 The FPC and other appropriate MPRB/Forestry personnel shall be allowed in the construction site at any stage of the construction project to monitor the work’s impact on the trees that are within the MPRB’s jurisdiction.

3.6 Development proposals that are subject to Site Plan Review shall submit landscaping management plans as part of the Site Plan Review process

3.6.1 The landscaping management plan will detail how trees, turf, and other landscape features will be watered and maintained for the first five years after installation.

3.6.2 The use of structural or engineered soil or other health growing media in planting islands in parking lots is encouraged for the long-term vitality of trees and other plant materials, heat-island mitigation, and storm water-runoff reduction.

3.6.3 Landscaping management plans are encouraged to incorporate alternative, cost-effective deicing and anti-icing products and procedures that will mitigate the impact to trees, turf, and other vegetation. The use of salt- and heat-tolerant plants in parking lots is encouraged.
3.7 Tree servicing work will be done by licensed qualified tree professionals

3.7.1 For the purpose of this policy, special attention should be given to the Certified Arborist credential that is obtained through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). [Chapter 347 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.]

3.7.2 Tree servicing companies must comply with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standards A300 and Z133 when pruning or otherwise servicing trees on public or private property.

3.7.3 The practices of tree-topping and using spikes for anything other than tree removals or emergency rescues are prohibited as tree care practices on public or private trees.

3.8 Directional boring will be used for conduit work in a Tree Protection Zone

3.8.1 Whenever below-grade conduit work is performed in the vicinity of trees, contractors and city staff shall use directional boring or other tree protection measures in accordance with the TREE SPECIFICATIONS.

3.8.2 During excavations, when it becomes necessary to expose or cut tree roots that are greater than one (2) inches in diameter or are within the TPZ of any tree, the contractor shall protect the roots in accordance with the TREE SPECIFICATIONS.

3.8.3 Any exception to the use of directional boring by a private contractor must have the permission of the MPRB/Forestry. Excavators shall consult with the MPRB/Forestry regarding the feasibility of alternatives to directional boring.

3.8.4 The contractor is subject to the MPRB ordinances that pertain to tree protection.

3.9 Public right-of-way will be managed to reduce tree impacts

3.9.1 For notification purposes, Public Works and private contractors shall provide the MPRB/Forestry with a copy of its underground utility and conduit installation and/or maintenance plans for areas in the TPZ two weeks prior to construction.

3.9.2 When possible, Public Works and private contractors shall install utility and conduit installations beneath the sidewalk or street. When this is not possible, such installations shall be as close to the curbside edge of the boulevard as possible in accordance with the TREE SPECIFICATIONS, in order to leave maximum open boulevard space for plantings and stump grinding.
3.9.3 Public Works is encouraged to look for alternative, cost-effective deicing and anti-icing products and procedures that will mitigate the impact to trees, turf, and other vegetation.

3.9.4 Public Works shall work with the MPRB Forestry and the FPC when planning street-lighting projects, in order to coordinate tree-planting/spacing standards with lighting designs and layouts in boulevards and public rights-of-way.

3.9.5 When disputes arise over public construction practices which impact the health of trees, the FPC is authorized to resolve the dispute.

3.10 Healthy, sound trees are encouraged on private property

3.10.1 Residents and property owners are encouraged to plant and maintain trees on their own private property, especially in areas where public boulevards are too narrow. The City is encouraged to provide incentives and/or a low cost tree planting program to facilitate tree planting on private property.

3.10.2 The City’s Housing Inspection Services Division shall maintain a process for tree risk assessment to identify and mitigate high-risk trees on private property. High-risk trees on public property are identified and mitigated by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Such trees are defined as those that present a high likelihood of failure and impact with a significant consequence of failure.

Section 4. Targets for the Future (Performance Measures)

4.1 The number of instances of sidewalk/tree conflicts will be reduced.

4.2 The MPRB maintains an inventory of boulevard, park and other public trees in Minneapolis. This will eventually be included as a layer in the City’s GIS databases.

4.3 The City and MPRB will strive to identify a minimum of two sites (one north and one south) for processing wood debris that is generated through Forestry operations or storm clean up.

4.4 Public Works, in consultation with MPRB/Forestry, via site plan review and routine inspection, shall pursue improperly paved boulevards when encountered.

4.5 This policy will be reviewed at least four years after its revision to update and revise it as needed.

4.6 This Policy shall be posted on the City of Minneapolis and MPRB web sites, with links to pertinent code provisions and resource materials.
4.7 The City and MPRB will strive to update citywide tree canopy data at least every five years.

Section 5. Glossary of Terms

5.1 Boulevard
for the purpose of this policy, is the lawn or turf area lying between the sidewalk and the curb. In cases where a sidewalk does not exist, the boulevard is the right of way between the curb and property line. Trees growing between the sidewalk and property line can also be considered to be boulevard trees.

5.2 Continuous Open Boulevard
is an unpaved area that runs the length of a block in the public right of way for tree root growth. (See City of Minneapolis Standard Specifications)

5.3 Open Planting Space
is an unpaved area for tree root growth in the public right of way that does not run the length of a block. (See the TREE SPECIFICATIONS)

5.4 Engineered Root Space
is an area beneath a hardscape that is conducive to the growth of tree roots. An engineered root space is typically achieved using suspended pavement systems or structural soil. (See the TREE SPECIFICATIONS)

5.4.1 Suspended Pavement Systems are engineered to suspend (or support) pavement for carrying loads and are filled with planting soil that is not compacted for tree root growth.

5.4.2 Structural Soils are engineered soils that are compacted to support pavement for carrying loads and permit tree root growth in pore spaces between varying size soil particles. Structural soils are typically rock based or sand based.

5.5 Site Plan Review
shall have the meaning described in Chapter 530 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.

5.6 Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)
is an identified area where activities are restricted surrounding existing trees within a construction zone with the primary functions: (1) to avoid physical damage from contact by equipment, materials, and activities; and (2) to preserve roots and soil conditions in an intact and non-compacted state. (See City of Minneapolis Standard Specifications)
5.7 **Urban Forestry**

is the art and science of planning, managing, and protecting natural and planted trees and related plant material in an urban area.

5.8 **Tree Specifications**


**Section 6. List of 2004 Policy Collaborators**

- Minneapolis City Council Members Paul Ostrow, Dan Niziolek, Dean Zimmermann, and Sandra Colvin-Roy
- Minneapolis City Council Aides, Gay Noble, Natalie Collins, Lorrie Stromme
- Minneapolis Fire Department
- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, Commissioner John Erwin
- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, Forestry Department
- Minneapolis Public Schools, Facilities Management
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Division
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Forestry Division
- Private arborists: George Welles and Katie Himanga
- Representatives from the following Minneapolis Departments, Divisions, and Commissions:
  - Public Works, Planning, Regulatory Services, Environmental Services, Neighborhood Revitalization Program, Committee on Urban Environment
- Schafer Richardson, Inc., developer
- Tree Trust, St. Louis Park, MN
- University of Minnesota
- Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission
- Xcel Energy

**Section 7. Effective Date**

The effective date of this Policy revision is ______________, 20__. 

**Section 8. Cross References: Pertinent City and Park Board Ordinances**

Minneapolis City Code:

- Chapter 1, Article II, Section 7 – Tree-trimming (Cable Companies)
- Chapter 16 – Parks and Parkways; authority of Park Board relative to trees
- 47.190 – Public nuisance prohibition and abatement
- 52.100 – Erosion Control
- 74.20 – Attachment of animals to trees
- 173.450 – Christmas trees (Fire Code precautions)
- 227.90 – Offensive conditions and vegetation
- 229.10 – Pest & Vermin Control (“Rubbish” definition includes tree branches)
- 230.10 – Definitions/Pest Control (see “Lawn”)
- 244.1580 – Weeds, dead trees, other vegetation
- Chapter 279 – Christmas tree dealers
- Chapter 347 – Tree servicing (licensing)
- Chapter 399 – Dutch Elm Disease and Abatement of Public Nuisances
- 427.10 – Boulevards
- 427.200 – Destruction of trees, posts; attachment of objects prohibited
- 427.280 – Obstructing Driver’s View of Traffic
- 437.20 – Permit for Sidewalk, Curb, Gutter Pavement
- 451.100 - Newsstands
- Chapter 530 – Site Plan Review
- 530.150 – General Landscaping & Screening
- 530.160 – Parking and Loading Landscaping & Screening
- 535.300 – Protection of Natural Features
- 551.310 – Linden Hills Overlay District Site Plan Review Requirements
- 551.490 and .500 - Shoreland Overlay Districts
- 551.700 – Mississippi River Critical Area Overlay District
- 555.460 – “Clear Cutting” definition
- Chapter 593 – Special Act relating to planting, care, protection, etc. of trees
- 598.100 – Protection of Natural Features, Land Subdivision Regulations

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Ordinances
- PB 2-2 – Molesting vegetation
- PB 2-7 – Bill posting
- PB Chapter 10-1 et seq. – Tree Protection, Nuisances, etc.
- PB 13-5 - Utility encroachment application procedures
- Park Board Specs Section 02050, Parts 2 and 3 – Fines for Tree Damage
- Park Board Specs Section 02059 – Tree Protection; Memorandum of Understanding

Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 Tree Care Standards