

Milwaukie Tree Board | 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd, Milwaukie, OR 97206

Board Members: Kathleen Brennan-Hunter (Chair), Ley Garnett (Secretary), Jon Brown, Alexis Barton, Olivia Padilla, Camden Mckone

Milwaukie Staff: Katie Gavares, Climate and Natural Resources Manager (staff liaison); Courtney Wilson, Urban Forester

Guest: Brett Kelver, Senior Planner, City of Milwaukie

AGENDA: March 19, 2025 | 5:45 – 7:15 p.m. | 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd /Online Zoom Meeting

5:45 –5:50	Welcome and Introductions	All
5:50 -5:55	Review minutes from January and February	All
5:55 -6:00	Public Comments	
6:00 -6:10	Staff Updates	Courtney
6:10-6:45	Milwaukie Tree List	Brett Kelver
6:45 –7:00	Tree Board Vice-Chair Selection	All
7:00 –7:15	Tree Board member Updates	All
7:15	Adjourn	



Tree Board March 19, 2025

Katie Gavares

Climate and Natural Resources Manager

Courtney WilsonUrban Forester



Agenda

3.43 -3.30 WEICOINE AND INTOGUCTION	5:45 -5:50	Welcome and Introduc	ction
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5:50 –5:55 Review minutes from January & February

5:55 –6:00 Public Comments*

6:00 –6:10 Staff Updates

6:10-6:45 Milwaukie Tree List

6:45-7:00 Vice-Chair selection

7:00- 7:15 Tree Board member updates

^{*} Public comments regarding Milwaukie's invasive species list will be heard after staff presentation, around 6:25.

Staff Updates

- Recent permit complaints
 - Willamette Weekly Portland Tree Code Article
 - Recent tree code challenges heard from residents
- Updates on ODF grant implementation

Milwaukie Tree List

Goals

- Get input from Tree Board on how invasive trees should be managed in Milwaukie.
- Identify the ideal overlap between the Tree Code and Natural Resources Code.
- Improve awareness and clarity for residents on which tree lists apply in different scenarios.
- Promote the multiple benefits of trees in the city's code and processes.
 - Ecosystem Benefits
 - Tree Canopy
 - Climate Resilience
 - Community Benefits

Milwaukie Tree Lists

1. Street Tree List

 Updating the current list to include more native species and species that are more easily accessible in plant nurseries.

2. Oregon Noxious Weed List

 Used as Milwaukie's invasive species list. Intended to become a subset of Milwaukie's invasive species list.

3. Portland Plant List

Formerly used in natural resources code as Milwaukie Native Plant list.

4. Tree Crown Area Reference List

• Used for development tree permits. We provide a list of projected tree crown areas at maturity to help applicants select species for planting to meet 40% canopy coverage goal.

5. Invasive Tree List

Listed in the tree code and natural resources code but doesn't exist.

6. Rare and Threatened Tree List

• Identified trees that are provided special protection. Listed in the tree code and fee schedule but doesn't exist.

Invasive Species

An **invasive** plant/ tree is one that is capable of moving aggressively into a habitat and monopolizing resources such as light, nutrients, water, and space to the detriment of other species.

- Cornell University Botanic Gardens

Negative characteristics of invasive species

- Competitive growth habit
- Structural stability
- Potential to bring in new pests
- Limited food and habitat for wildlife
- *Not inherently place of origin

Invasive Tree Lists

Oregon Noxious Weed List

- Tree of Heaven
- English Hawthorn

Portland Nuisance List

- Norway maple
- Sycamore maple
- Tree-of-heaven
- Cutleaf birch
- English hawthorn
- English Holly
- Golden chain tree
- Empress/ princess tree
- White poplar
- Sweet Cherry
- English laurel
- Black locust
- European mountain ash
- Siberian elm
- Horse chestnut

Tree Code's Invasive Species Considerations

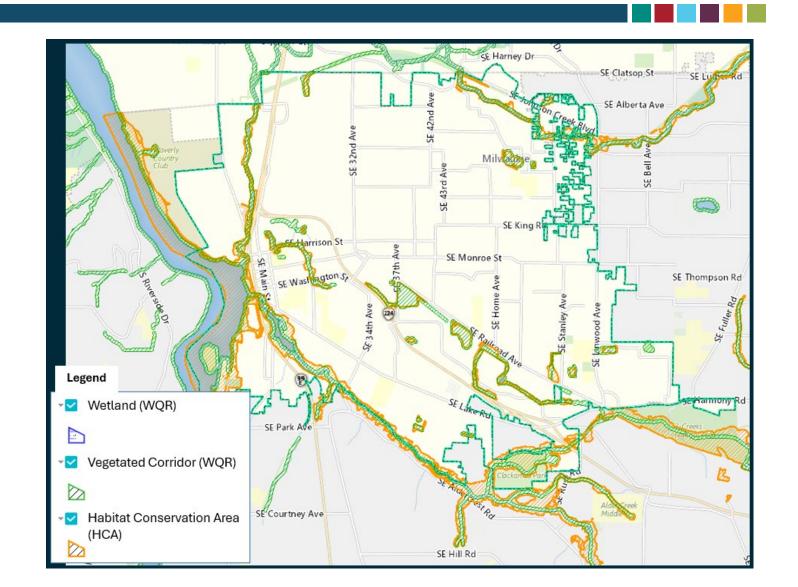
- Type B healthy tree removal fees apply equally for an invasive and naturalized tree species.
- Development's tree canopy credits currently include any invasive trees not on the Oregon Noxious Weed List.
- Residents have a general understanding that native trees are better for the environment and want to remove invasive species.

Natural Resources Code Overview

- Purpose and intended outcomes:
 - Protect water quality for creeks & wetlands (WQRs)
 - Preserve and enhance riparian habitat (HCAs)
- Need for and uses of a plant list
 - Protection, mitigation
 - Considerations for invasive vs native species
- Current conflicts between tree code and NR code
 - Overlap of applicability
 - Categorization of invasives
 - Prioritization of canopy

Natural Resource Areas in Milwaukie

- Covers multiple zones
- River, creeks, streams, wetlands
- Approx. 175properties



Potential Options

- 1. Expand Milwaukie's invasive tree list that would apply in all residential areas and in natural resource areas (WQR & HCA).
 - Tradeoffs: Reduced canopy coverage, might reduce climate resilient tree species, improved ecosystem benefits
- 2. Use the Oregon Noxious Weed List for all residential areas and natural resource areas.
 - Tradeoffs: Reduced ecosystem benefits in NR areas, maintain canopy coverage, maintain community benefits, acknowledge socio-political context
- 3. Utilize the NR invasive list in residential areas, but only within NR areas; use the Oregon Noxious Weed List outside residential NR areas.
 - Tradeoffs: Reduced canopy coverage in residential NR areas (short-term), might reduce climate-resilient trees in residential NR areas, maintain community benefits in most residential areas, improved ecosystem benefits
- 4. Others?

Urban Forestry Staff Recommendation: One expanded invasive species list

Discussion Questions

- Preferred approach or alternative options?
- What is your preferred definition of an invasive tree species?
 - Are there negative characteristics of tree species that should be regulated?
- Preferred species on an invasive/noxious tree list?
 - Is there an existing list we should adopt or create our own?

Public Comments?

• 3 minutes each

Thank you!

Katie Gavares

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Learn more at milwaukieoregon.gov/trees

