

## Duluth Tree Commission

### 2005 Annual Report

Members: Brian Allen, George Kirk, Louise Levy - Chair, John Moir, Christine Penney - Secretary, Ethan Perry, Margi Preus, Wendy Sjoblom, Therese Vaughn

#### Trees in the news

- County tax forfeit land - motion supporting city acquisition of Piedmont Trail.
- Elm trees - Kelly concerned that remaining American elm trees are at risk. Fifteen elms around city hall will be inoculated at a cost of \$5,000.
- Development proposals: Clough Island, Trinity Road
- Insects and disease: breeding gypsy moth population near Tower, sudden oak death infections limit planting stock, emerald ash borers in Upper Peninsula, MI.
- Magney Snively forest admitted into Duluth Natural Areas Program, supported by an alliance between The Natural Conservancy and the City of Duluth.

**Tree Scaping Awards:** coordinated by Wendy Sjoblom; 4 winners - large and small lot residential, institution, and new development; presented at November 28 City Council meeting.

#### Community Collaborations:

- **Skyline Parkway vegetation management:** \$\$ from city capital improvement fund will be used to hire MN Conservation Corps to remove trees for view enhancement; coordination with Skyline Parkway Preservation Alliance; Attention also should be paid to removing invasive plants.
- **Hartley Nature Center:** Tree Commission asked to assist in development of management plan.
- **Work event:** bud capping and fencing of white pine and white cedar above north boundary of zoo; in coordination with Sierra Club and Society of American Foresters.

**Arbor Day 2005:** Christine Penney coordinated community outreach effort - tree planting at Grant Recreation Center and Copeland Community Center.

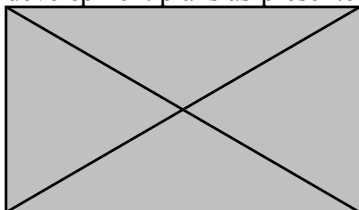
#### Motions:

- **Piedmont Ski Trail system:** March 2005. Supporting city acquisition of county tax forfeit land currently used as Piedmont Ski Trail system
- **Northshore Vegetation Management:** March 2005. Supporting joint effort to seek funding for development of Northshore vegetation management plan.

**Street Improvement Program:** tree commission members attend neighborhood meetings to listen and advocate for tree retention.

**City Comprehensive Plan:** we submitted our 2001 comprehensive planning vision statement to current comp plan committee; trees mentioned often in community charette - Greater Downtown Council interested in increasing boulevard trees, especially on Superior St.

**Bayview Municipal Forest and Sugarloaf LLC:** Tree commission opposed to proposed housing development plans as presented to city council.



**Insects & Disease:** proposed emerald ash borer survey, Duluth harbor, Val Cervenka, MN Dept of Ag.

