

## Duluth Tree Commission

### 2004 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

- Duluth city government complex trees dying due to stem girdling roots
- Dutch elm disease
- Emerald ash borer

**Tree Scaping Awards:** coordinated by Wendy Sjoblom; presented in four categories - small lot residential: 123 N 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave W; large lot residential: Sharon and Kemp London Rd; Urban: St Luke's Hospital; and new development: John Hovland. Presented by city council November 2004.

#### Community Collaborations:

- **Skyline parkway vegetation management:** issue - public and private desire to remove or retain trees along Skyline parkway to enhance views or retain privacy; litter accumulation is high. Collaborations with Duluth Parks and Rec Commission, Skyline Parkway Preservation Alliance, and Sierra Club to assist in species selection, manual labor projects, and future joint work-days.
- **North Shore vegetation management:** issue - illegal removal of woody vegetation to improve lake views contributes to increased erosion of shore embankments between Scenic highway 61 and Lake Superior. Northshore community association jointly develop a shoreline vegetation management procedure

#### City Parks:

- Vegetation clearing for new ski-trail groomer: assisted in review of tree removal recommendations for Hartley Park. \*Ski trail grooming done by city forestry staff.

**Street Improvement Program:** funded through casino revenue. Some of the SIP allocation will be diverted to the Kroc Center project. New tree planting only occurs in conjunction with SIP projects.

**Duluth city forestry budget:** City forestry budget is insufficient for tree planting projects; tree hazard inspection occurs in limited scope.

