



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Parks and Recreation Division

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DATE: 1/24/2019

SUBJECT: Duluth reLEAF Program Seeking Volunteer Citizen Foresters

BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Duluth reLEAF Program Seeking Volunteer Citizen Foresters

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth is re-launching our *reLEAF Duluth* program which aims to engage citizens in our urban forestry efforts. *reLEAF Duluth* will provide volunteer opportunities for boulevard tree maintenance and monitoring. Specifically, citizen volunteers will be invited to a training and participate in:

- Tree planting events in areas where ash trees were removed due to Emerald Ash Borer infestation.
- Water newly planted trees to ensure their health and vitality.
- Learn about pruning techniques and attend pruning events.
- Learn how to be a Tree Health Monitor to help the City track failing and unhealthy trees in our Urban Forest.

How to get involved: A Citizen Pruning and Tree Health Monitoring Training is scheduled for Friday, February 15 (6:30-8:30pm) and Saturday, February 16 (9am-12pm) at Pinewood Inc. Duluth, located at 1102 East 4th Street. Attendees should be available for both days. The training will be hosted by the City of Duluth – Park Maintenance Division and the University of Minnesota – Extension Office. The training is FREE and open to all. Youth under the age of 16 must attend with an adult or guardian. Once trained, reLEAF volunteers will work with the City Forester to create their scope of services and identify their project zone.

Registration is recommended. Please go to www.duluthmn.gov/parks/volunteer/volunteer-calendar to register your participation.

The *reLEAF Duluth* program is funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Forest Service.

Contact Clark Christenson, City Forester, at cchristenson@duluthmn.gov or Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, at cskafte@duluthmn.gov for more information.

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