



2011 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Awards

Many thanks to *PacifiCorps* and *Davey Resource Group* for sponsoring the awards ceremony today.

Oregon Tree City of the Year Award

City of Salem

In 1975, the City of Salem became a charter member of the National Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA program -- the first and only nationally recognized Tree City in Oregon at the time. City staff has attended the Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) and in recent years, Salem completed an extensive Oregon white oak assessment in one of the city's largest urban parks. The city highlighted the remaining oak stands, identified hazardous trees for removal and led replanting of Oregon white oaks in the middle of the city. Salem has recently rewritten its tree code for trees on private property to put a greater emphasis on tree preservation and the retention of larger Oregon white oaks. Salem also maintains a Heritage Tree Program with 78 trees. Salem's tree program upholds a strong commitment to preserve trees in developments through public support, information, and instruction. Since 1975, Salem has had nine mayors and the most recent, Anna Peterson, was elected in 2010. Salem's ongoing commitment to be a Tree City USA is but one part of the city's ongoing strategy to become an increasingly sustainable and "green" urban area.

Thank you. The City of Salem is pleased to be recognized by OCT for its long standing commitment to cultivating and preserving trees on both public and private properties. The City and its citizens understand the need for an active tree program that provides planting, care, and protection for trees on both public and private property. In addition to the long standing street tree maintenance program, the City has strengthened its efforts to protect and promote riparian landscapes. These efforts include public outreach on the benefits of retaining trees in riparian areas along with city codes that encourage retention of trees on private property.

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Residents/Parks/UrbanForestry/Documents/TreeFAQ.pdf>