

Draft TREE COMMISSION FY2026 WORK PLAN

Planning and Policy

1. Prioritize follow-up actions related to the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) Infill Development Board Matter that directed Land Development Services (LDS) to support the Tree Commission in an effort to engage the development community on potential policy modifications that could lead to greater tree preservation on individual lots.
2. Continue to review the 2019 Tree Action Plan to identify areas in need of updating and improvement.
3. Monitor and analyze County tree canopy updates and other related data studies to understand developments regarding the County's tree canopy and their potential impact on the County's ability to meet its tree canopy goals.
4. Engage with LDS Forest Conservation Branch to monitor tree preservation and planting requirements of the Fairfax County Code and the Public Facilities Manual and to track how the county is performing with tree preservation and planting.
5. Monitor the County's Tree Preservation and Planting Fund (TPPF) and support increased transparency of its funding and allocation, and public awareness of and access to the fund.
6. Follow actions under consideration by County agencies, and provide comments as appropriate regarding impact on the urban forest.
7. Engage with County staff on the design, installation, and maintenance of natural landscapes pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' Natural Landscaping Policy.
8. Provide the BOS with recommendations on state legislation that impacts the urban forest.
9. Provide the BOS with recommendations on the proposed annual County budget and its impact on the urban forest.
10. Work on identifying low-cost and no-cost options along with public-private partnerships that can assist residents in planting additional trees to increase the tree canopy, per the Fairfax Green Initiatives Joint Board Matter

Outreach and Partnerships

11. Prioritize conducting outreach and education to the County on the benefits of trees and natural landscaping and threats to the urban forest.
12. Recognize outstanding citizen, non-profit, and corporate efforts in support of the county's urban forest through the Friends of Trees Award program.
13. Encourage efforts throughout the county to battle invasive vines and plants that threaten our urban forest.
14. Encourage and report on tree-planting programs that support the Tree Action Plan, CECAP, and Resilient Fairfax.
15. Represent the BOS in the Fairfax County Trees Community of Practice (COP), participate in its Steering Committee to promote its goals, and report on COP tree planting survey results as identified in the Tree Action Plan.

16. Work on developing or expanding partnerships with County agencies, Boards, Authorities and Commissions (BACs), non-profits, schools, volunteer organizations, and other entities to further the mission of the Tree Commission.
17. Monitor the County's ongoing efforts to manage its deer population and impact on the urban forest.