



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET™

Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission

A Commission of the City of Kirkwood Missouri
*Supporting, Promoting and Encouraging the Preservation and
Enhancement of Kirkwood's Urban Forest*

2010 Annual Report

For calendar year ending December 31, 2010

Submitted to the Kirkwood City Council and City Administration

Submitted: April 2011

I. **Membership:** (term expiration dates noted for each member)

- A. The calendar year opened with members: **Roger Vonder Bruegge**, Chair (exp 6/13), **Dave Endres**, Vice-Chair (exp 06/11), **Maggie Duwe**, Secretary (exp 6/13), **Michelle Storgion**, (exp 6/12), **Susan Renard** (exp 06/11), **Priscilla Ward** (exp 6/12), and **Alan Hautly** (exp 6/13).
- B. The second half of the calendar year Maggie Duwe left to become a member of the Human Rights Commission.

KUFC Activity leadership included:

- **Junior Treekeepers Program:** Priscilla Ward and Michelle Storgion
- **Education and Outreach:** Dave Endres
- **Planning and Zoning Liaison:** Roger Vonder Bruegge
- **Kirkwood Treekeepers/ Public Tree Inventory:** Susan Renard
- **Tree City USA/Growth Award Submittals:** Staff Liaison Ragland
- **KUFC Annual Report:** Staff Liaison Ragland
- **Kirkwood DRAFT Tree Code/Tree Manual:** Roger Vonder Bruegge
- **Event Participation - Greentree Festival (September) & Kirkwood Festival of Food and Flowers (May):** Michelle Storgion

Liaison Representation: .

Mayor Art McDonnell replaced Joe Godi as City Council liaison.

Kirkwood Assistant Chief Administrative Officer **Georgia Ragland** served as staff liaison.

- II. **Tree City USA and Arbor Day Growth Award:** Staff Liaison Georgia Ragland prepared Kirkwood's municipal applications for Tree City USA. .
- III. **Kirkwood's Arbor Day Ceremonial Tree Planting:** A Burr Oak was planted on October 30 in front of Mudd's Grove, the home of the Kirkwood Historical Society. The ceremony was attended by the **KUFC members**, community citizens and community leaders including **Art McDonnell**, Kirkwood Mayor. The event was photographed by Kirkwood Public Information Officer **Beth Von Behren**
- IV. **Requests for Kirkwood public tree removals:** Trees located within Kirkwood public street right of way are the property of the City of Kirkwood. Tree removal requests come before the Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission for review and action recommendation. In 2010, the KUFC reviewed the following:
- A. **January, 2010: 314 N. Van Buren**-petitioner requested removal of one Pear tree due to hardship in siting a home on a narrow lot.

RECOMMENDED approval with petitioner to plant a 2-2 ½ inch caliper tree from the Recommended Tree List.

B. **September, 2010: 118-100 W. Adams and 249 N. Kirkwood Road**-petitioner requested removal of trees and grates adjacent to Adams Place claiming the trees were in decline and roots were raising grates to be a trip hazard:

ACTION was delayed until petitioner could attend a meeting.

C. **November, 2010: 300 S. Kirkwood Road**-petitioner requested removal of street tree in front of Kirkwood Glass as the tree is posing a trip hazard since roots are breaking up the asphalt.

ACTION was delayed until petitioner could attend a meeting.

D. **November, 2010: 559 Brookhaven Court**-petitioner requested removal of silver maple due to its undesirable species and split trunk. Petitioner proposes to replace it with a red oak with 3.5 inches diameter.

ACTION was delayed until petitioner could attend a meeting.

E. **December, 2010: 403 E. Jefferson**-petitioner requested removal of maple that was partially on ROW and partially on private property due to its poor condition, location under power lines, and how it impacted proposal to build on the property.

RECOMMENDED approval of removal and petitioner's plan to replace with a dwarf species.

V. **Kirkwood Street Tree Inventory:** The KUFC has discussed during the past several years the need for conducting a complete review of the methods and data compilation protocols for assisting future street tree inventory efforts. An Aerial Survey was done in 2009 and went live in October. The KUFC made a proposal to council but no action was taken.

VI. **Kirkwood Junior Treekeepers:**

A. KUFC members **Priscilla Ward, and Michelle Storgion** solicited financial support for the program from various local gardeners clubs, community service organizations and individuals. Our primary donors are 25-Gardeners Garden Club, Rowena-Clark Garden Club, Kirkwood Kiwanis Club, and Kirkwood Lion's Club. Specific donations received included: **\$1,050.00-25 Gardeners Garden Club, and \$100 from Rowena-Clark Garden Club.**

B. Materials for classes were distributed to St. Peter School, St. Gerard Magella School and Tillman Elementary. 100 fourth graders and 75 third graders participated in the program.

C. The Jr. Treekeepers presented a float at the **Greentree Festival Parade** with the theme "Trees: Keeping Kirkwood Green for 50 Years!". Jr. Treekeeper students rode on the float and the instructors walked alongside and helped hand out candy.

D. As part of **Kirkwood's Arbor Day observance**, River Birch and Swamp White Oak tree seedlings were distributed to 1400 elementary school students in April.

E. The KUFC Advocate Award was presented to **Paul Loida** (for 2009).

VII. **Greentree Festival:** The KUFC members assisted with crafting Kirkwood's urban forestry float for the **Greentree Festival Parade**. The float, assemblage was coordinated by **Michelle Storgion**. The KUFC members volunteered to staff the **Kirkwood Board and Commission booth** to talk with residents about trees.

VIII. **City of Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission communications:** The city redesigned its website and KUFC has an updated page on it. Staff also helped produce a new brochure about the commission and its efforts which is being included in newcomer packets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Vonder Bruegge

2010 Chair, Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission