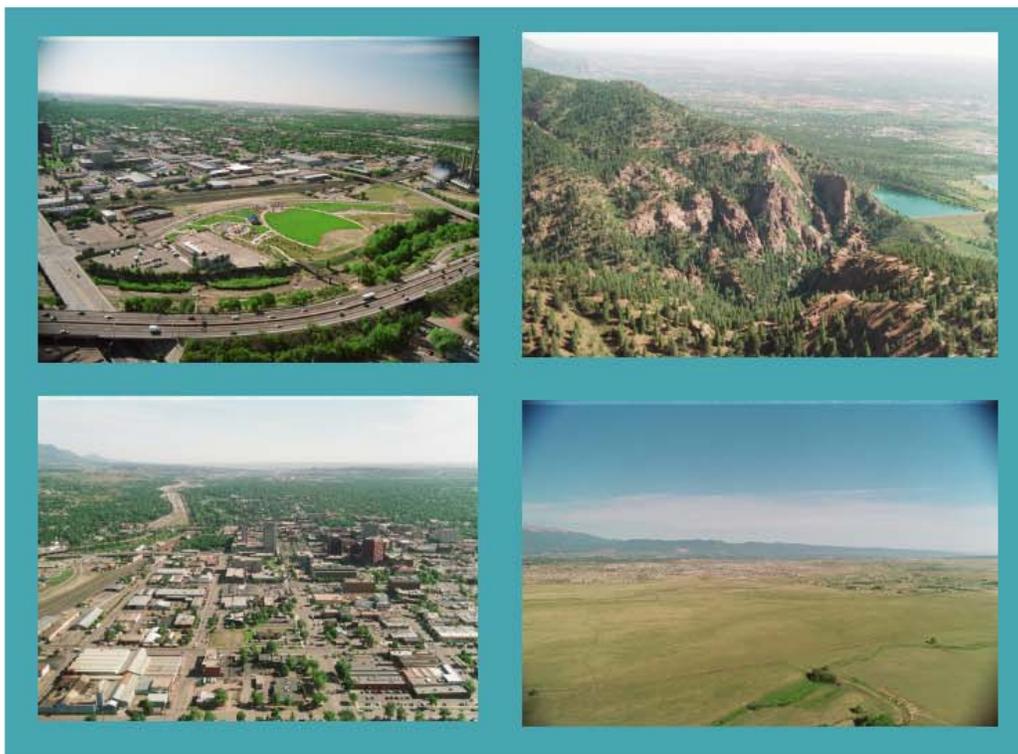




**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
FORESTRY DIVISION**

FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN



Managing Our Urban Forest Since 1911



Tree City USA

**CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS
FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prepared by

City Forestry Division Staff

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Forestry and Forestry Management Plan

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Letter from the City Forester

July 23, 2008

To the Citizens of Colorado Springs:

The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Forestry Division is pleased to present this Forestry Management Plan as a guide for the future operations of City Forestry in Colorado Springs. This plan will address recommendations for implementation in the time period of 2008 — 2012.

As new subdivisions increase the size of our maintenance areas, and removals and maintenance of the aging urban forest demand more operational staff, our challenge will be to set priorities and explore funding sources. This plan covers the historical and contemporary aspects of our urban forest.

We wish to thank those of you that are participating in the process of developing this plan. We encourage comments and suggestions during this implementation phase.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jim McGannon in black ink.

Jim McGannon, Former City Forester

Handwritten signature of Paul Smith in black ink.

Paul Smith, Current City Forester

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
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Colorado Springs' Urban Forest

I. INTRODUCTION

The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Forestry Division has drafted the **2008-2012 Forestry Management Plan**. This plan includes public information meetings, presentations, and staff input. The draft plan will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for approval.

II. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

A. Implementation of Forestry Mission

The purpose of this Forestry Management Plan is to implement the Forestry Mission Statement by addressing best management practices toward sustainability of our City's urban forest. This plan should follow the recommended strategies outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan. (*See Appendix A.*)

Forestry Mission Statement: To manage our urban forest in a healthy, safe, and sustainable state, which maintains our original forest legacy, manages risk, and increases the canopy coverage for shade, stormwater retention and property value.



Oregoncommunitytrees.org

Colorado Springs' urban forest is a diverse patchwork of vegetation, a mosaic of green infrastructure that contributes directly to the livability of our community. The urban forest provides many environmental, economic, and social benefits. These benefits include wildlife habitat, clean and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, improve air quality, reduce energy and infrastructure costs, add to property values, invigorate business districts, and provide a sense of place and community. Ultimately an urban forest consists of people and trees. Broad participation in its stewardship is needed to ensure its sustainability.

B. Goals of the Forestry Management Plan

The overriding goals of the Urban Forestry Management Plan and the Division of Forestry focus on preserving, maintaining, and managing the urban forest to ultimately benefit the residents of Colorado Springs. This plan outlines recommendations, projections, and procedures to achieve these goals. A healthy urban forest contributes to the economic vitality of the city, provides environmental stability, and provides a better quality of life. Care of the urban forest by Forestry staff, contractors, citizens, and volunteers is necessary to maintain and enhance the quality of the urban forest. All residents are entitled to the benefits of a healthy urban forest.



Urban growth approaching Marksheffel Road on the west side of Banning Lewis Ranch, 2006

The main actions to attain these goals are:

- To educate the citizens about the mission, history, purpose and role of city forestry in Colorado Springs.
- To efficiently manage the publicly owned urban forest to provide a better quality of life for our citizens and visitors.
- To provide the planting and maintenance of trees within public parks, open spaces and rights-of-way to ensure the health and sustainability of the City’s urban forest.
- To maintain and improve the quality of the urban forest in Colorado Springs by applying best management practices.
- To maximize the environmental benefits of the public and privately owned urban forest, while enhancing both landscape and property values.
- To preserve and maintain city open spaces and parks, streams and natural drainage ways, and other natural resources in and around the city.

C. Public Input from Staff and Citizens

Thank you for the valuable input for this plan which we received from Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services staff, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members and Colorado Springs’ citizens. We asked them which of the following are the most important topics to address in an Urban Forest Management Plan:

- **City policies and regulations regarding trees**
- **City tree maintenance**
- **Forest health / pests and diseases**
- **Hazard tree identification and mitigation**
- **Overall tree canopy coverage**
- **Street scapes and street planting initiatives**
- **Tree preservation**
- **Trees and utilities**
- **Trees in parks and open space areas**
- **Others?**

The public was invited to submit comments on this plan in writing or in person. If you wish to send comments or to be on our mailing list you may call or send information to the addresses below:

**City Forestry Division
1401 Recreation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80905-1075**

**Phone: 719-385-5942
Fax: 719-385-6567
Web: www.springsgov.com /
Parks, Recreation & Cultural
Services / Forestry /
Forestry Management Plan**

III. RESOURCES AND ELEMENTS OF THE URBAN FOREST

One of the purposes of the Forestry Management Plan is to assess the history, resources and various elements of Colorado Springs’ urban forest.

This guideline and communication tool will be used for management decisions, budgeting, and planning. It also provides the basis for tree maintenance, care, and programming.

A. Colorado Springs Urban Forestry History

“City of Trees”

Colorado Springs City founder, General William Jackson Palmer, could not envision a city springing up without trees. Located on an arid plateau, Colorado Springs was completely devoid of trees when established in 1872. The original town site was covered with yucca and other perennial plants and grasses.

The first park, Acacia (North) Park, located within Nevada Avenue, Tejon Street, Platte Avenue and Bijou Street, was included in the original town site plat of Colorado Springs in 1871.

Large shade trees, a soft carpet of grass, walking paths, benches, lighting and a pavilion for musicians made Acacia Park a favorite destination for citizens.

As the building of Colorado Springs began, Palmer’s vision of tree-lined streets grew stronger and more urgent. He and other officers of the Colorado Springs Company constructed the 11½-mile El Paso Canal which was used for over 80 years. The El Paso Canal began one-half mile west of Old Colorado City near 33rd Street and Fountain Creek. In addition to street trees, residential lawns, and gardens, the Canal’s waters fed the four ponds in Monument Valley Park and irrigated park sites, the Court House lawn, Evergreen Cemetery, all orchards and curb and center parkways along streets.

Once water was available in 1872, Palmer quickly brought in 600 cottonwoods from the Arkansas Valley. At his own expense, a forester was hired and trees were planted along downtown and residential streets. In early 1873, the town’s first annual report described the city as “*a thriving colony of about 300 houses, 1,200 inhabitants, and many thousand trees, irrigating canals, parks, streets laid out, and other extensive improvements.*” In all, General Palmer gave more than 2,000 acres of parks, bridle and foot paths, scenic drives and roadways planted with trees to Colorado Springs.

In 1910, City Council created a Department of Forestry, a tree ordinance and a City Forester position. It was the first such department west of the Mississippi River.

The position of City Forester, and thereby, the Department of Forestry, originated upon passage of ordinance #818 on August 3, 1910. However, a forester was not appointed until March 19, 1911, at which time Mr. Fred P. McKown became the first City Forester; a post he held for the next 47 years until his retirement on December 28, 1958.



Palmer’s Survey Crew at site of first stake, 1871



Parks Employees in early Acacia Park, circa 1890’s



Above: Cottonwood Trees were planted along Colorado Springs’ streets in 1872



Fred McKown, First City Forester, served for almost 50 years

Briefly, the new forester’s principal duties were the spraying, inspection, trimming, planting and removal of trees, as well as the issuance of permits. Through the subsequent years, the primary concerns of the City Forester have not changed significantly, although the magnitude of the tree population and species variety along with actual knowledge requirement has increased to a large degree.

For example, in his first annual report to the city government, Mr. McKown noted that he had inventoried 1,229 street trees. This compares today with over 100,000+ street and park trees. In addition, thousands of acres of regional park and open space forests are now the City Forester’s responsibility. Upon his retirement, Mr. McKown recalled that when he took office, a large majority of trees in the city were either boxelder or cottonwood. He further noted a trend toward planting silver maple, American elm and green ash. Thereafter and in the 1950’s, American linden and Norway maple gained popularity. Today, over 30 different species of trees are commonly planted throughout the city.

The status of the Forestry Division has undergone various alterations over the course of time. Initially, it was under the authority of the Department of Public Works. A statement from Mr. McKown’s first report: *“This Department (Forestry) has taken over from the Street Department everything pertaining to street trees.”* This was the case until 1950, when records of budget appropriations show the Forestry Department under the authority of the Recreation Division. In 1956, when the Parks Division and Recreation Division merged, the Forestry Department gained Division standing in its own right.

The corporate limits of the city have grown since 1911, as have the populations of people and trees. Similarly, an increase in the funds necessary to maintain the trees and the quality environment has grown. Records show that Mr. McKown’s budgetary requirements for 1916 totaled \$4,048.40 for Forestry. In 2006, a Division Budget in excess of \$1.0 million funds operations, maintenance and salaries for City Forestry.



Above: First Forestry Employee—William Lennox, in the center wearing the white hat. Lennox, a successful businessman, earned his first dollars in Colorado Springs by planting trees for the town. In one day he dug holes for fifty trees along Cascade Avenue north of Pikes Peak. At 10 cents a hole, he earned five dollars for a days’ work. Perhaps the first revenue collected by the community came from an ordinance designed to protect the new trees from damage by having horses tied to them.



Left: Trees need water. Without irrigation, only cactus, yucca, and native grasses could survive in the thin, parched top soil. Within a month of the towns founding, the contract for the El Paso canal was signed. From a dam on Fountain Creek, water flowed through open ditches to Colorado Springs, where lateral ditches like these on the left irrigated the median trees, circa 1872.



Above: First Forestry Truck



Above: Early view of Cutler Hall, Colorado College, 1889-1890

Below: Aerial view of Colorado College, 2005



There were no street tree planting programs from the 1940's to the 1960's. It was left up to home owners to continue the City's tradition of beautifying streets and new neighborhoods. Public concern in the 1970's renewed interest in the urban forest and budgets, manpower and the City's tree ordinance grew rapidly to meet citizen demands. A variety of new tree programs were initiated as incentives for home owners to plant more trees. In 1977 the City achieved the designation of "Tree City USA", a title it has maintained every year since 1977.

Nurturing the growth of trees in Colorado Springs has always been an ideal, but often a challenge. In the 1990's an epidemic of Dutch Elm Disease swept through town, further diminishing the original urban forest and promoting a new focus on public education and involvement. In spite of these setbacks, the position of City Forester and the Forestry Division exist to manage the urban forest for the citizens of Colorado Springs. Today the Colorado Springs urban forest has grown to more than 100,000+ street right-of-way trees and 18,500+ park and median trees, 5,125 acres of Regional Parks and 5,023 acres of Open Spaces in Colorado Springs.



Above: 5,125 acres of Regional Park and Open Space tree including Red Rock Canyon Open Space and (Right) Garden of the Gods Park are included in the 2006 City Forestry inventory

B. Current Inventory

- 100,000+ Street right-of-ways Trees;
- 18,500+ Parks and Medians Trees;
- 5,125 acres of Regional Parks;
- 5,023 acres of Open Spaces;
- This level of protection, maintenance and management costs just over \$3.00 per capita.



C. Managing the Urban Forest*

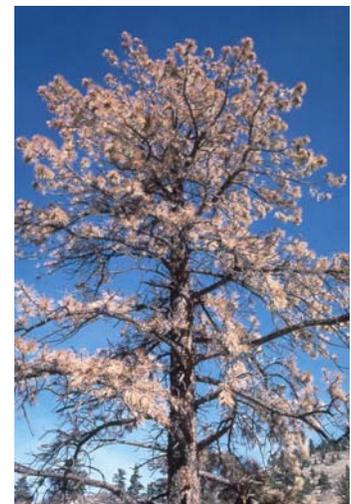
City Code - Forestry Ordinance: (See Appendix B.)

Regulates the removal, spraying, pruning and planting of approved trees in the right-of-way. It authorizes City Forestry to remove, spray, or prune trees located in the right-of-way or city parks. Crews schedule their work throughout the year in designated management areas. When a property owner wishes to prune, spray, cut roots or remove a street tree a City Forester’s Permit is required. This ordinance also allows for inspection and condemnation of private trees to manage serious insects, diseases or hazardous conditions.

- **Right-of-Way Maintenance Ordinance:** The rights-of-way generally exist along the curb of all property adjacent to a street. Exact rights-of-way measurements are found in property deeds and/or the City Engineer’s Office.
- **Hard Surfacing:** A permit obtained through the City Forester’s Office is required for installation of materials such as asphalt or concrete on City rights-of-way. This is required to preserve the health of parkway trees.
- **New Home Street Tree Ordinance:** Allows for the planting of one (or multiple trees, as space allows) street tree per lot along public street frontages in new subdivisions. We are currently working on a plan for New Home Tree Program’s future.
- **Corner Visibility Ordinance:** This ordinance requires that there be no obstruction on corner lots within a 55' triangular area. This includes any vegetation (including shrubbery) taller than 3'. For more information, call the Traffic Engineering Office.
- **Tree Service Licensing Ordinance:** This ordinance requires licensing of any company involved in the business of pruning and removal of trees, 15' or taller. Check Forestry web page for an up-to-date list of licensed tree service companies at www.springsgov.com.

Insects and Disease:

City Forestry is dedicated to the health of the urban forest and strives to monitor insect and disease (I/D) populations in the community’s trees. While most I/D activity is largely benign, there are two insects that may require aggressive action, even condemnation and removal of host trees. Populations of mountain pine beetle (MPB) in ponderosa pine, and elm bark beetle (a known vector of Dutch Elm Disease, D.E.D.) in American elm, are carefully monitored in the Spring.



Above: Mountain Pine Beetle is ravaging Colorado

Left: Dutch Elm Disease symptoms

*See Appendix E., *Forestry Maintenance Areas*

D. Current Services and Programs Offered by Colorado Springs Forestry*

Planting:

Street Rights-of-way:

- **New Home Tree Ordinance** – New homeowners may be eligible to obtain a certificate toward the purchase of a tree for planting along their street rights-of-way/parkways.
- **Street Tree Replacement Planting Program** – City homeowners may be eligible for a tree for planting along the rights-of-way/parkways (as funding allows).

Parkland, Open Spaces, and Medians:

- A tree replacement program is conducted for trees lost to vandalism, insect/disease, and other causes.
- Trees are planted in new parks.
- Older parks receive trees.
- **Tree Tribute Program** – Citizens can arrange a tree planting to honor or memorialize friends and family members (fee required).



Tree Removal:

- Public trees that are a hazard, dead, diseased or cause a visual obstruction of vehicular/pedestrian traffic will be removed along street rights-of-way/parkways, and on parkland.
- Replacement trees will be scheduled as funding allows.
- Trees on private property that are hazardous or infected/infested with Dutch Elm Disease or mountain pine beetle will be condemned and removed by the property owner.



Above: Forestry Crew removing diseased median tree; grinding wood into free mulch for the public

Below: D.E.D. killed American elm trees were used for Forestry’s Bio-Mass Utilization Program



Tree Pruning:

- Trees in the rights-of-way/parkways and parkland are on a scheduled pruning cycle. This helps reduce storm damage, gives sidewalk and street clearance, eliminates traffic hazards, and improves their general health.
- We will interrupt the pruning schedule if there is an immediate need, such as a hazard.

Tree Protection: (see City Code, Appendix B.)

- Where construction or excavation is taking place within 20' of a public tree, certain root/branch pruning or auguring may be required.

Tree Service Licensing:

- Companies who perform tree work (15' or taller) in Colorado Springs must be licensed by the City. The City Forester administers a competency test. Once the test is passed, they are then referred to the City Clerk to complete the licensing process.

*As Funding Allows (see Appendix C. on page 34)

D. Current Services and Programs Offered by Colorado Springs Forestry* (Continued)

Information and Education:

- Urban forestry information is available to all citizens through scheduled presentations, brochures, handouts, news releases, and public tree inspections, and the city web site: www.springsgov.com / Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services / Forestry.

Inventory:

- Street trees are recorded on a computerized database. City Forestry strives to keep the inventory up to date.
- Planting permits are required for planting in parkways.
- Most park trees are on a Geographic Information System (G.I.S.) map database.

Tree Insect, Disease and Pest Management:

- Serious insect and disease problems on public trees are promptly inspected for possible treatment.
- Plant Health Care and Integrated Pest Management Methods are used in every phase of the Urban Forest Management plan.
- Foresters monitor all areas of the city to locate insect and disease outbreaks.
- Anticipate management strategies for future insect/disease issues (i.e. Emerald Ash Borer).

Preservation and Protection:

- Chapter 4 of the City Code (See Appendix B.) outlines the responsibilities for management of the City’s Urban Forest.

Open Spaces and Regional Park Trees:

- City Forestry Division is a support Department to the Fire Department for the City Wildfire Mitigation Plan.
- The management of the Regional Parks and Forest will take third priority after Street and Park responsibilities have been implemented. This management priority will depend on funding and staff availability. Crew in TOPS funded property will assist in implementation of forest management practices.
- Insect and disease monitoring.

Private Trees:

- The Forestry Division will continue to educate the public on proper tree care via *Urban Tree Care* Booklets, *Notable Tree* books, Urban Forestry and Landscape Symposium, Web page, news releases, and presentations.
- The Forestry Division will continue to regulate Dutch Elm Disease, mountain pine beetle, hazard trees, and infectious diseases as outlined by City Ordinance and the Forestry Rules and Regulations.
- The Forestry Rules and Regulations will dictate the quality of work performed by tree services on private property.



Above: Free mulch is given away to citizens at various sites throughout the city



Ash and American elm wood are used to produce flooring by a local lumber company instead of being ground up into mulch



D.E.D. Testing on elm tree by Staff Forester and Crew member

*As Funding Allows (See Appendix C.)

IV. MAJOR PROGRAMS OF MANAGEMENT

A. Street Right-of-ways (Street Trees)*

City Forestry provides street tree maintenance services including pruning, removal, insect/disease management, tree protection/preservation (see Appendix B. Ordinance), and planting. These services are provided as funding allows.

- ***Street Tree Pruning Cycle:*** Street Trees are placed on a prune cycle that ranges between 10 and 15 years, see our website for more details.
- ***Tree Removal:*** As trees die, are damaged, succumb to insects and disease, and other causes, City Forestry removes the tree and replants as funding and conditions allow.
- ***Tree Planting:*** When trees are removed, Forestry staff determines if conditions will allow for new tree survival.
- ***Insect/Disease Control:*** Pests/Diseases that threaten the health of the tree or the overall urban forest are given highest priority.

* A free Permit is required before any maintenance is performed on street trees.



Right: Nevada Avenue
Street Trees

B. Street Tree Planting Plan**

Approved Street Tree Species: 4' - 6' PARKWAY AND PARKWAYS WITH POWER LINES:

Where space is limited due to power lines or small parkways, choose species such as Japanese Tree Lilac, Ornamental Maples, Goldenrain Tree, and varieties of Hawthorn.

Approved Street Tree Species: 6' + PARKWAY:

Oak, *Ash, Honeylocust, Linden, Maple, Hackberry, Kentucky Coffeetree, and Western Catalpa.

*Susceptible to Ash Borer, plant in moderation.

** See your neighborhood below for more recommendations.

CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOODS

Area Description

The central neighborhoods of Colorado Springs have a traditional neighborhood layout on a grid system. Most parkways in the central region of the city are located between the street and sidewalk. In neighborhoods where parkways are larger than 4' - 6', and overhead power lines do not exist, large shade trees should be planted.



1900 Block of Wood Avenue

NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOODS

Area Description:

The Northeast section of Colorado Springs is a relatively new area and therefore a very young urban forest. A majority of the street trees planted in the parkway have been planted through the City's New Home Tree program. To date, the New Home Tree Program has planted over 30,000 trees within the city.

Wind in this area of the city will be a limiting factor when planting certain species. The wind can further desiccate a tree in an already arid environment, therefore only the most resilient species should be planted. Poor soils will also be a problem for trees in this region of the city. Most of the parkways are fill dirt from the road excavation during development. Adding organic matter and mulching the drip zone is recommended in these neighborhoods.



Pine Glade Drive in Pine Creek Subdivision

NORTHWEST/SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS



Rossmere Street in Mountain Shadows

Area Description:

The Northwest neighborhoods of Colorado Springs are located in hillside areas. Parkways are both attached and detached sidewalks. Unlike the central section of Colorado Springs, the roads are laid out to mimic the hillside topography and meander into cul-de-sacs. In most of these areas no overhead power lines exist, so large trees can be planted where space allows.

SOUTHEAST NEIGHBORHOODS



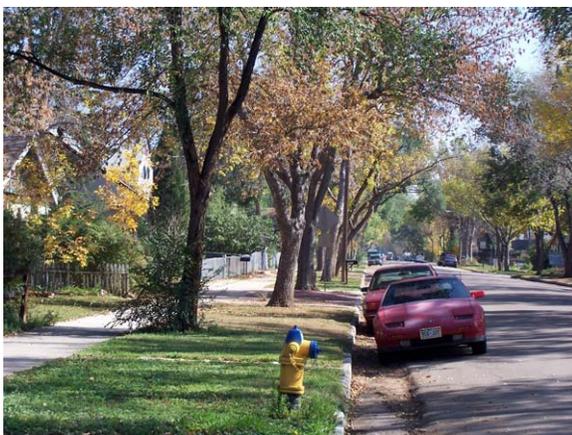
Server Drive Street Trees

Area Description:

The Southeast section of the city is a mix of young trees and an older urban forest. Planting projects should be focused on increasing the street tree populations. New subdivisions, including Soaring Eagles and Sand Creek, have the New Home Tree Program to assist in tree planting. The challenge for the older subdivisions not eligible for the New Home Tree program will be finding funding for street tree planting.

Most of the southeast subdivisions have utilities buried in the ground. Large shade trees should be planted along rights-of-way greater than 6' wide. Small trees to be planted in parkways 4' - 6' wide.

WEST SIDE NEIGHBORHOODS



Pikes Peak Avenue on the West Side

Area Description:

The West neighborhoods of Colorado Springs have a traditional neighborhood layout on a grid system. This area is located on the west side of I-25 from Fillmore south to Highway 24. Most parkway trees in the west region of the city are located in parkways as pictured here.

The West Side is one of the oldest neighborhoods in the city. It is common to have overhead power lines running parallel to the parkways. Only small trees will be allowed underneath power lines. The West Side parkway population is primarily Siberian elms. Wind storms are particularly troublesome on the West Side due to the species composition. Consideration

should be given to removing Siberian elms where possible and replacing them with more suitable species.

C. Park Trees

Department and Forestry Needs

- Geographic — City-wide and by equal division of Park Districts.
- Loss of Canopy — *See Appendix E. (Forest Canopy Map)*
- Design and Development Priorities — New parks and open space areas, and as funding allows.
- Annual Scheduled Maintenance — planting, watering, removals, inspections, etc.
Oldest work orders receive priority.

Prioritizing Annual Park and Median Tree Planting Plans

- Public Expectations — by neighborhood or other requests.

D. The Special Improvement Maintenance Districts (SIMDs)

Special Improvement Maintenance Districts (SIMDs) efficiently provide enhanced landscapes through a dedicated, courteous and professional staff. Over the past twenty years, seven Special Improvement Maintenance Districts (SIMDs) have been formed in the Colorado Springs area. They provide maintenance for landscape improvements along specific streets and trails within the city. The districts were established by either the City of Colorado Springs Community Development Department, or by various residential developers. The purpose was to improve the appearance of streetscapes within these districts by adding irrigated turf, trees, shrubs, signage, lighting and other landscape improvements. Management of the SIMDs is the responsibility of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. The SIMDs are: Briargate, Nor’wood, Stetson Hills, Woodstone, Colorado Avenue, Gateway, Platte Avenue and the Old Colorado City Security and Maintenance District. These areas include over 300 acres of streetscapes, open space and trails.

The purpose of the SIMD Maintenance Unit is to maintain, and in some cases, renovate landscape improvements. By City Ordinance, the SIMDs “shall provide landscape maintenance of selected trails, medians and right-of-ways”.

The SIMD Forestry staff, consisting of one maintenance technician and one hourly helper, are responsible for the care of over 1,800 trees. Maintenance tasks include planting, watering, pruning for structure and clearance, removals and stumping for all the eight SIMD districts and completing work orders for all caretakers and management.

Future SIMD Forestry needs: larger truck and chipper; two permanent maintenance technicians and one more arborist.



Staff Forester and volunteers planting apple trees in Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site’s Orchard on Arbor Day 2006



Above: Planting new trees on median



Above: Forestry Crew planting a Northern Red Oak Tribute Tree in a neighborhood park

Below: Forestry Crew planting a sports complex tree replacement



E. Forest Management

Phase 1: North Cheyenne Cañon Park

- **North Cheyenne Cañon Management Plan**
Implementation: to improve the health of the North Cheyenne Cañon and Stratton Open Space Urban Forest, we continue to implement the Forest Management Plan for the park. Additionally, we have applied for fire grant funds to increase the number of acres we can treat in 2007.

Current Projects include:

- Over 50 acres of dead oak brush was removed in Garden of the Gods in 2005 with another 20 completed in 2006
- Red Rock Canyon and Blodgett Peak Open Space are also in the planning stages

Future Projects to include:

- Blodgett Peak
- Garden of the Gods
- Red Rock Canyon

Present Funding Sources:

- Grants, General Fund, TOPS and Lottery

Future Funding Sources:

- Lottery? TOPS? General Fund?



Wildlife in North Cheyenne Cañon in the mulched area after the Mesa Picnic Area Demonstration Site was completed



Above left: 2006 North Cheyenne Cañon Treatment Acres
 Below: Mesa Picnic Area Demonstration Site, before and after photos



MAJOR PROGRAMS OF MANAGEMENT — FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest Management, Continued

G.I.S. Inventory of Manageable Acreage and Properties:



Blodgett Peak Open Space

ACRES					Percent of Total Acres			
Slope	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other
0%-15%	2	0	7	5	1	0	4	
16%-30%	15	0	27	6	9	0	16	
> 30%	53	0	49	4	31	0	29	
Totals:	70	0	84	15	41	0	50	9
<i>Grand Totals:</i>	<i>169</i>				<i>100.00</i>			
17 Acres/Conifer x \$2,500 per acre = \$42,500								
34 Acres/Shrub x \$1,000 per acre = \$34,000								
Total: \$76,500								



North Cheyenne Cañon Park

ACRES					Percent of Total Acres			
Slope	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other
0%-15%	52	19	15	21	4	1	1	
16%-30%	121	38	32	13	10	3	2	
> 30%	648	157	89	71	51	12	7	
Totals:	822	214	135	105	64	17	11	8
<i>Grand Totals:</i>	<i>1276</i>				<i>100.00</i>			
173 Acres/Conifer x \$2,500 per acre = \$432,500								
57 Acres/Mix x \$2,500 per acre = \$142,500								
47 Acres/Shrub x \$1,000 per acre = \$47,000								
Total: \$622,000								



Stratton Open Space

ACRES					Percent of Total Acres			
Slope	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other
0%-15%	26	9	37	49	8	3	11	
16%-30%	35	21	40	19	11	7	12	
> 30%	38	18	20	8	12	6	6	
Totals:	99	48	96	76	31	15	30	24
<i>Grand Totals:</i>	<i>319</i>				<i>100.00</i>			
61 Acres/Conifer x \$2,500 per acre = \$152,500								
3 Acres/Mix x \$2,500 per acre = \$75,000								
77 Acres/Shrub x \$1,000 per acre = \$77,000								
Total: \$304,500								

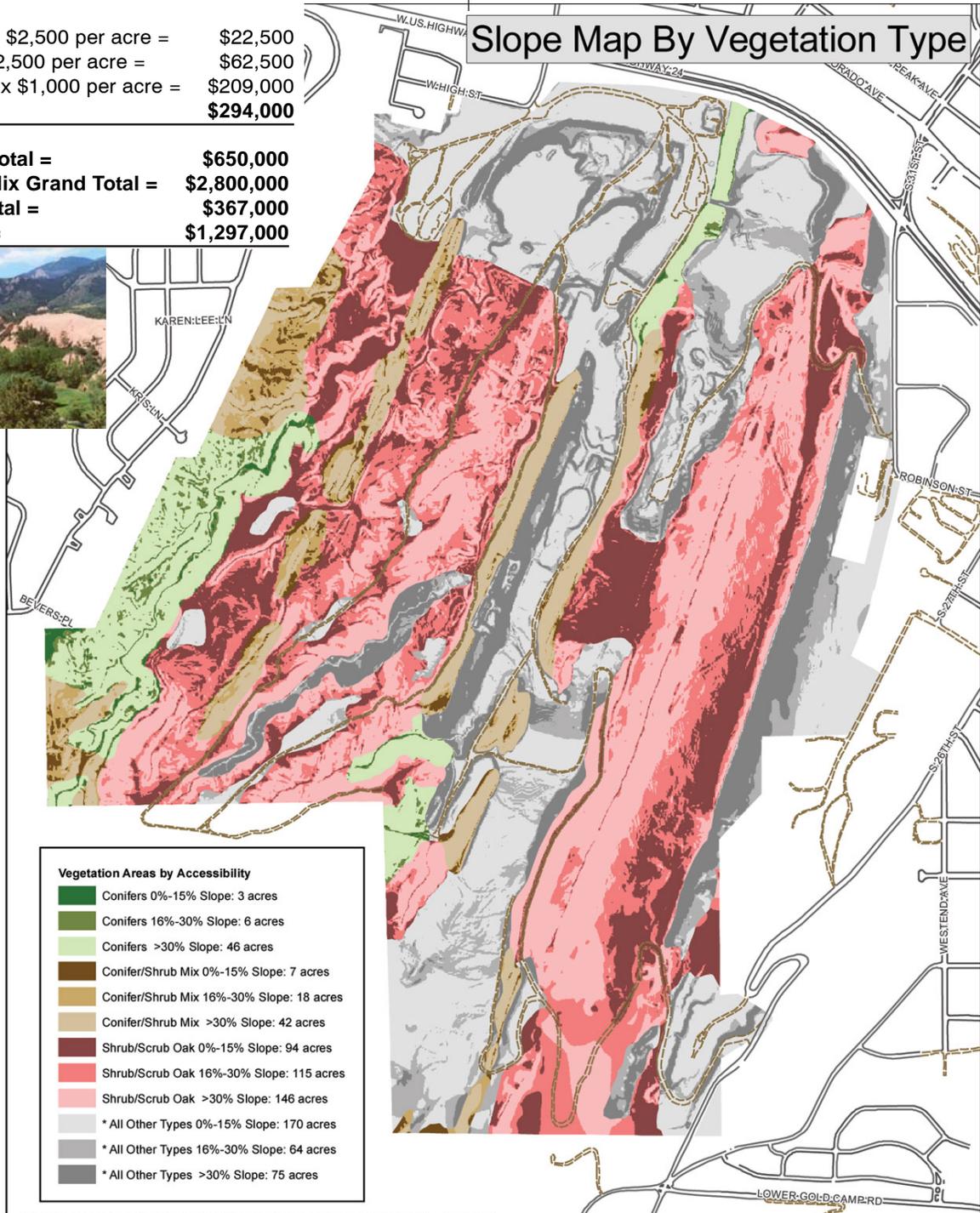
MAJOR PROGRAMS OF MANAGEMENT — FOREST MANAGEMENT

Red Rock Canyon Open Space

Slope	ACRES				Percent of Total Acres			
	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other	Conifer	Conifer/ Shrub Mix	Shrub	All Other
0%-15%	3	7	94	170	0	1	12	
16%-30%	6	18	115	64	1	2	15	
> 30%	46	42	146	75	6	5	19	
Totals:	55	67	354	309	7	9	45	39
Grand Totals:	786				100.00			

9 Acres/Conifer x \$2,500 per acre = \$22,500
 25 Acres/Mix x \$2,500 per acre = \$62,500
 209 Acres/Shrub x \$1,000 per acre = \$209,000
Total: \$294,000

Conifer Grand Total = \$650,000
Conifer/Shrub Mix Grand Total = \$2,800,000
Shrub Grand Total = \$367,000
GRAND TOTAL= \$1,297,000



V. PROGRAMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- Advocacy Group Interest?
- Tree City USA Committee (Arbor Day and Advocacy Group)
- Palmer Park Tree Demonstration Area
- Others?



Pleasant Valley neighbors planting trees at 2006 Arbor Day Earth Day

Below Left: Site Map of Existing Palmer Park Tree Demonstration Area

Right: Proposed Palmer Park Tree Demonstration Area



VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary of Recommendations Statement

It will take continued commitment and cooperation among all of Colorado Springs' citizens to make today's vision of the urban environment into tomorrow's reality, creating a thriving and sustainable urban forest. This plan explores funding possibilities as well as best management practices to maintain efficient services and resources. These recommendations must stay in keeping with our Mission Statement.



Above: Equipment and Forestry Facilities, 2006

Maintenance Issues and Needs

- **Contract Services:** This service supplements existing Forestry operation efforts.
- **Prune Cycle:** High priority to fund for reduction of the prune cycle.
- **Information System:** Urban Forestry Management Information System (U.F.M.I.S.) Fund support needs for database; integrate ArcGIS with database. Integrate U.F.M.I.S. with U.S.D.A. Forest Service's I-Tree (Urban Forest Effects Model - U.F.O.R.E.) for Urban Forest dollar benefit calculation.
- **Facilities:** High priority to partner with Department and other City staff for additional satellite crew facilities.
- **Staffing:** Budget for a Park Crew that is focused on Parks, Open Space and Regional Park Forestry Management. (Started "TOPS" Crew, 7-1-2007)
- **Funding Sources:** Presently the General Fund provides the main portion of the Forestry Division Funding. As Division responsibilities expand with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department's growing inventory of lands and resources, the Forestry Division will be exploring additional funding opportunities (i.e. Trails, Open Space and Parks - T.O.P.S.; Lottery, and Grants).

Strategy for Maintenance and Management Efforts

Others?

VII. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Time line (2008 - 2012)

Action Steps: The following steps will be taken to effectively proceed with the Management Plan:

- Stay in focus with the Forestry Mission Statement.
- Follow direction of the City Comprehensive Plan (*See Appendix A*).
- Participate in Regional Efforts (i.e. Denver-Based Institute for Environmental Solutions).
- Collaborate and leverage with other City/State/Federal Programs (i.e. State Fire Mitigation Grants; Federal Insect/Disease Monitoring Efforts; and Public Works-Stormwater Enterprise).
- Tree Canopy Study (i.e. Geographic Information Systems Imaging).
- Identify future needs through City Budget Process.
- Prioritize right-of-way plantings in accordance with allocated funding from the Capital Account.
- Annually analyze and assess the Forestry Division's capability to deliver a minimum service level.



Left: This Drainage Tree Removal was funded in cooperation with the City Streets Division

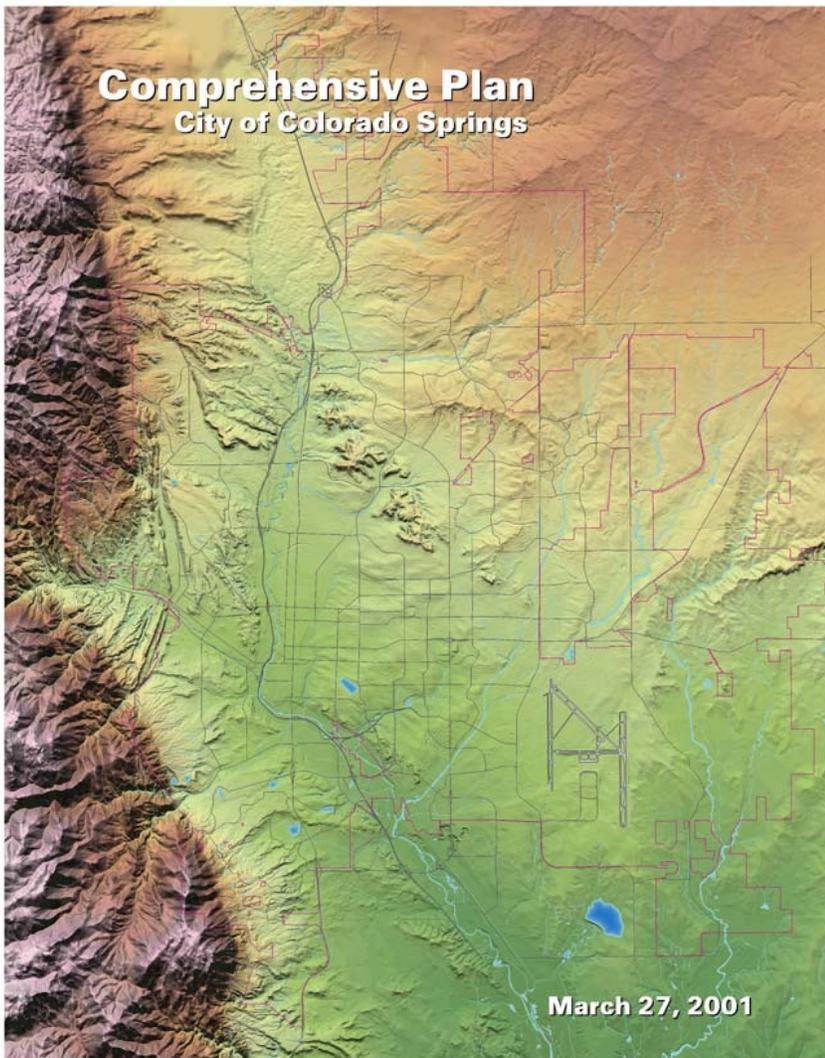
VIII. APPENDICES

Appendix A.

City of Colorado Springs' Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is used to guide the physical growth of the City to the year 2020. In doing so, it serves to provide a long-range vision, as a tool for making decisions as to how that vision should be achieved, and as a specific program of action for reaching stated objectives. As a long-range vision, the Plan sets forth the values we want to realize as the city changes over the next 20 years and ties those values to the physical development and shaping of the community. It also presents an official policy framework and mapped context for making incremental decisions regarding land development issues. Finally, the Plan outlines the strategies and steps the community can follow to make it a reality.

Comprehensive Plan Policies for Colorado Springs' Urban Forest:



- **Policy N.E. 203: Manage and Enhance the Urban Forest:**
 Manage the city's urban forest to ensure an abundance of healthy and attractive trees, including parklands and street trees. Recognize that the diversity of tree species provides many benefits, including improving air quality, reducing noise levels, providing wildlife habitat, and adding to the aesthetics and overall quality of life in the community. Preserve, promote, and enlarge the urban forest to enhance air quality, wildlife habitat, and community aesthetics and overall quality of life; abate noise; and reduce flood damage. Manage potential fuel [woody debris] problems and development practices to reduce forest fire risk.
- **Strategy N.E. 203a: Enhance Community Awareness:**
 Enhance community awareness about the importance of the urban forest and the positive impact trees have upon the environment. Develop a Wildfire Management Program to address impacts of the wild land/urban interface.

- **Strategy N.E. 203b: Public Landscaping:**
Preserve and protect trees and other landscaping on public property. Provide adequate funding to assure safe, well-maintained and healthy trees and shrubs on public property. Do not allow landscaping to obscure traffic signs or signals.
- **Strategy N.E. 203c: Promote and Maintain Tree Planting:** Promote public and private tree planting, replacement and preservation programs to sustain and expand the tree canopy coverage. Support private organizations that promote tree planting in both native areas and along public rights-of-way.
- **Strategy N.E. 203d: Identify Opportunities for Cooperative Projects:**
Work with City Forestry of the Parks and Recreation Division and other government entities to identify opportunities for cooperative projects to expand and maintain the urban forest. Strive for collaborative efforts to achieve the goals outlined in the City’s Landscape Ordinance.
- **Policy N.E. 204: Protect Hillsides and Ridgelines:**
Improve hillside and ridgeline development to avoid negative aesthetic and environmental consequences to the immediate and surrounding area. Do not degrade the views and vistas to and from public areas.
- **Strategy N.E. 204a: Monitor the City’s Hillside Ordinance:**
Monitor the provisions of the Hillside Ordinance to protect the environmental conditions of hillside areas and adjust such provisions as appropriate so that the hillsides and ridgelines are protected.

For more information on the City of Colorado Springs Comprehensive Plan, click on <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=678>

To view maps associated with this Plan go to the Comprehensive Plan Map Gallery at <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=822>



Appendix B. City Code (City Forestry Ordinance)

- **4.4.101: TREES ON PUBLIC WAYS OR PROPERTY:**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to plant, prune, control insects and diseases, remove, destroy, cut, deface or in any way injure any tree or shrub upon a public way of the City without the approval of the City Forester.
- B. Trees, shrubs, vines and evergreens planted in public rights of way shall be in conformity with an official list approved by the City Forester. The City Forester shall consider in preparing an official list the growth habits, mature size, disease resistance or other factors which minimize maintenance costs and nuisances and conform to other provisions of the ordinances of the City. Special consideration shall be given to possible interference with utility lines above plantings. Plantings not in conformity with the approved list shall be removed by the owner at the request of the City Forester.
- C. The City Forester shall determine the distance between trees to be planted on public rights of way to provide for and conform to the mature growth of the species involved. (Ord. 4716; 1968 Code §§10-33.2, 10-35; Ord. 82-54; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.102: INSPECTION:**

The City Forester is authorized to inspect trees, shrubs, plants, vines, logs or branches and every other type of plant material on all private and public property to ascertain the condition of the plant material in relation to disease and insects detrimental to the growth, health and life of the urban forest and the particular plant material, to discover incidence of disease, and take appropriate action to preserve and restore the growth, health and life of the plant material by spraying, removing, pruning or other remedial action. The owner or agent of the property shall be given written notice to spray, remove, prune or take any other necessary remedial action with regard to the infested plant material within a specified period of time if in the City Forester's professional judgment the conditions are or will become injurious to other private or public plant material ⁸⁰. (Ord. 4716; 1968 Code §§10-26, 10-33.1; Ord. 82-54; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.103: DUTY TO REPLACE:**

- A. In the event that a tree or shrub on City property or in a City right of way is removed, damaged or otherwise destroyed by any person, that person shall be liable to the City for the appraised value of the tree or shrub based upon International Society of Arboriculture appraisal standards.
- B. All monies received in restitution for damage to a public tree shall be deposited into a special Tree City-USA fund. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-155; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.104: DUTY TO PRUNE:**

The owner of any house, building or property within the City shall not permit the branches of any shade, ornamental or other tree to project over any street, avenue or sidewalk, in front of or alongside of the house, building or property, lower than eight feet (8') from the surface of the sidewalk and fourteen feet (14') over the surface of the alley or street. In estimating these heights, the City Forester shall consider the variation of height due to normal rain, snow, sleet and foliage conditions. (Ord. 4716; 1968 Code §10-33.6; Ord. 77-190; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.105: MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY:**

- A. Duty Of Owner To Maintain: It shall be the duty and obligation of every person in the City to keep, care for and maintain the area between the property line and the curb line fronting or adjoining the property owned by that person. This area shall be maintained in an aesthetically pleasing manner in either drought tolerant plant material, grass or other plantings, stone aggregate, decorative rocks or like materials or in combination with or without plantings. Vegetation shall be watered and fertilized to provide optimum growing conditions.
- B. Trees:
 - 1. Any trees planted shall be on the approved list of trees as established by the City Forester.
 - 2. Within the rights-of-way, the City shall provide maintenance (insect and disease control, pruning and removal) of trees only. Prior to any maintenance, the City shall attempt to notify contiguous property owners. The City shall not, however, be liable for failure to give notice.
- C. Hard Surfacing: In unusual situations where drainage or traffic problems exist, or in commercial zones or properties where public buildings or uses are involved, hard surfacing such as concrete, terrazzo, brick, flagstone, asphalt or other impervious substances may be authorized by written permit at the discretion of the City Forester. In the event hard surfacing materials are authorized in conjunction with tree plantings, the owner shall construct appropriate tree wells as determined by the City Forester.
- D. Comply With Other Provisions: Any shrubs or other plantings and the use of other materials shall comply with regulations concerning traffic safety and other provisions of this Code or related rules or regulations.
- E. Appeal: Any person aggrieved by the decision of the City Forester may appeal that decision to the Manager who may affirm, reverse or modify the City Forester's decision. (Ord. 3416; 1968 Code §§10-119, 10-120, 10-121, 10-122; Ord. 78-142; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.106: TREE PRUNING FOR BUILDING MOVERS:**

- A. If, in the process of moving any building or other object along the streets, alleys or public ways of the City, it is necessary to prune any trees, the trimming shall be done at the City Forester's request and direction, and the cost of labor, material and equipment shall be paid by the person requiring the pruning. Branches over three inches (3") in diameter may not be removed unless the City Forester determines removal of the limb will not impair the aesthetic value, health or well-being of the tree. If, in the process of moving any building, machine or other object, any tree, shrub or other planting is damaged, destroyed or removed, replacement or repair shall be borne by the person moving or causing the moving of the building or other object. Payment for the moving damage caused by the City must be made within ten (10) days after billing. The City Forester may require a bond, deposit or other security in advance of the building move to assure compliance with this Code.
- B. If, in the process of moving any building, machinery or other object along the streets, alleys or public ways of the City, the City Forester determines that it is necessary to remove any branch over three inches (3") in diameter or any major portion of any tree, or branch or a portion of a tree becomes broken or damaged and must be removed as a result of the moving, the person doing or requesting the moving shall pay to the City an amount determined by the City Forester or

Manager as compensation for the loss of the branch or major portion of the tree removed plus a service charge for all labor and materials used in connection with the removal. All measurements to determine the size of the branches shall be made by the City. When, in the process of moving any building or other object, it is necessary to remove a tree from the streets, alleys or other public ways of the City, the value of the tree shall be paid by the person requiring its removal and the compensation received shall be used to replace the tree with a planting of comparable size and value. The determination of the value of the tree shall be made by the City Forester who shall consider the tree's age, variety and condition and current nursery estimates when arriving at a value for the tree removed. (Ord. 4716; 1968 Code §§10-34, 10-34.1; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.107: USE OF EQUIPMENT:**

It shall be the duty of any person using tools on trees or shrubs to disinfect those tools properly and immediately after any work done on any individual tree or shrub. It shall be unlawful to fail to disinfect tools used on trees or shrubs. (1968 Code §10-35.1; Ord. 74-115; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.201: RIGHT OF ENTRY:**

- A. Where the City Forester has reasonable cause to believe that there may exist on any public or private premises, located within the City, any infested, diseased, dead or nuisance trees and shrubs, the City Forester may enter upon the property at any reasonable hour for the purpose of inspecting, abating, removing or otherwise preventing any threatening or hazardous condition endangering other public or private trees and shrubs, or the public health, safety and welfare.
- B. In the event that the owner or occupant of any premises located within the City refuses entry by the City Forester, the City Forester may apply for an entry and inspection warrant to any judge of the Municipal Court. The warrant application shall identify the premises to be inspected, the purpose for which entry is desired, and shall state facts giving rise to the belief that a threatening or hazardous condition exists on the premises which endangers other trees and shrubs within the City, or the public health, safety and welfare. Any warrant issued shall comply with the Colorado Rules of Municipal Court and shall command the owner or occupant to permit entry by the City Forester for the purpose of inspection. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.202: THE CONTROL OF DISEASED, INFESTED, DANGEROUS OR NUISANCE TREES AND SHRUBS:**

- A. All diseased, infested, dangerous or nuisance trees and shrubs are declared to be a threat and a hazard to trees and shrubs in the City, and may constitute a safety hazard to the public health and welfare. If the trees, shrubs or parts thereof, are found to exist, the owner of the property shall be served with a notice and order by the City Forester to take the necessary remedial action including insect and disease control, pruning and if necessary, the removal of trees, and shrubs in whole or part within a specified period of time.
- B. It shall be unlawful to possess or transport into or within the City all or any part of trees or shrubs infected with the *Ceratocystis ulmi* fungus. The wood, branches and roots of infected trees or shrubs may be transported to a safe place for burial under a minimum of two feet (2') of earth within ten (10) days following discovery of the infection, or to other sites under conditions approved

by the City Forester for processing and subsequent elimination of the disease hazard.

- C. Trees or shrubs of the genus *Ulmus* in a dead or dying condition that may serve as a breeding place for the smaller European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*) are hereby declared to be a threat and hazard to all elm trees in the City. Transportation into or within the City or possession within the City of elm bark beetle infested trees or shrubs except for immediate burial or processing in a manner approved by the City Forester, shall be unlawful unless the bark has been completely removed.
- D. It shall be unlawful to possess or transport into or within the City all or any part of a tree infested with the mountain pine beetle, *Dendroctonus ponderosae*. The wood of an infested tree may be transported to a safe place for burial under a minimum of two feet (2') of earth following discovery of the infestation, or to other sites under conditions approved by the City Forester for processing and subsequent elimination of the insect hazard.
- E. It shall be the duty of the City Forester to order the owner or agent of the owner of any premises in the City containing any dead trees or overhanging boughs dangerous to life, limb or property to remove the same within a reasonable time. In the event the owner or agent of the owner fails to follow the requirements of the notice and order, it shall be the duty of the City Forester to remove or destroy the trees or boughs or otherwise correct the offending condition at the expense of the owner of the affected property. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.203: ABATEMENT PROCEDURES:**

- A. Whenever the City Forester has reasonable cause to believe that there exists on property located within the City any diseased, infested, dangerous or nuisance trees or shrubs which are a threat and hazard to other trees and shrubs in the City, or to the public health, safety and welfare, the City Forester may commence proceedings to abate the threatening or hazardous condition.
- B. The City Forester shall commence abatement proceedings by issuing a notice and order to the owner or occupant of any property upon which the City Forester has reasonable cause to believe that a threatening or hazardous condition exists. The written notice and order shall describe the condition existing on the property giving rise to the issuance of the notice and order and specify a reasonable period of time within which the condition must be abated or otherwise corrected. The notice and order must also state that an appeal is available provided a written application is made to the Manager within ten (10) days of service, posting or receipt of the notice and order. Service of the notice and order upon the owner or occupant may be made personally, by posting in a conspicuous place on the property, by first class, certified U.S. mail, sent to the owner's or occupant's last known address. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.204: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ORDER TO ABATE:**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with any notice and order issued pursuant to this part. In the event that any order is not complied with in a reasonable time specified, the City Forester, after notice to the owner or agent of the owner, may request that the condition be corrected by the removal, pruning, spraying, or other approved treatment of the affected shrub or tree. The procedures outlined in the City's Sales and Use Tax Code for the

collection of the costs and expenses shall apply independently and in addition to the penalty provided by the Code for violation of any provision of this chapter.

- B. In the event that the owner or agent of the owner fails to pay the costs and expenses of removal, spraying, pruning, correction or abatement of the condition giving rise to the issuance of the order to abate within thirty (30) days after billing, a lien may be assessed against the property for costs in accord with the City's Sales and Use Tax Code. The lien created shall be superior and prior to all other liens excepting liens for general and special taxes. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.205: EMERGENCY ABATEMENT ORDER:**

- A. Whenever the City Forester determines that an emergency exists which requires immediate action to protect the public health, safety or welfare, or the health of the urban forest, the City Forester may, without prior notice or hearing, issue an emergency abatement order stating that the emergency exists and requiring necessary action be taken to meet the emergency. Notwithstanding any portion of this article to the contrary, a City Forester emergency abatement order shall be effective immediately.
- B. The emergency abatement order shall be in writing, state the location of the property upon which the condition exists, state with reasonable specificity the nature of the existing condition and be sworn to under oath.
- C. Any person to whom an emergency abatement order is issued shall comply with the order immediately and it shall be unlawful to fail or refuse to comply.
- D. Should the person receiving an emergency abatement order fail or refuse to comply with the order, the City Forester may order, without prior notice to the owner or occupant of the property, that the condition be abated by removal, insect and disease control, pruning or other approved treatment of the affected tree or shrub. Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of 4.4.204 of this part shall apply to emergency removal, insect and disease control, pruning or other abatement. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

- **4.4.206: APPEALS:**

- A. The owner or occupant of property receiving a notice and order or emergency abatement order may appeal the City Forester's decision or action to the Manager, provided a written appeal is filed within ten (10) days of service, posting or mailing of the notice and order or emergency abatement order. The Manager shall conduct a hearing on the appeal within thirty (30) days of the filing of the appeal.
- B. At the hearing, the appellant and the City may be represented by an attorney, may present evidence, and may cross-examine witnesses. The hearing shall be recorded electronically or otherwise. The Manager shall determine whether there is competent evidence to support the City Forester's decision. The Manager may affirm, reverse or modify the Forester's decision.
- C. The Manager's decision shall constitute final agency action, and may only be reviewed by the District Court pursuant to CRCP 106(a)(4). there shall be no stay of execution of the Manager's decision pending review by the District Court, except by court order. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

• **4.4.207: ADDITIONAL REMEDIES:**

The remedies provided in this article shall be cumulative and in addition to any other remedies available to the City Forester. Nothing in this article shall be construed to preclude the City Forester from seeking other remedies in addition to, or in lieu of, the remedies granted above. (Ord. 82-54; Ord. 88-265; Ord. 01-42)

• **4.4.302: DEFINITIONS:**

- CORNER LOT: A lot located at the intersection of two (2) or more intersecting streets with frontage on both streets.
- HOMEOWNER: The person(s) owning or occupying a lot as a primary residence.
- LOT FRONTAGE: That area of a lot which abuts a public or private right of way.
- NEIGHBORHOOD: An area surrounding a lot, generally within the same postal zip code.
- PUD: Planned unit development.
- PARKWAY: The area between a street curb and a detached sidewalk.
- RIGHT OF WAY: That area adjacent to a public or private street occupied or intended to be occupied by a street, crosswalk, railroad, utility easement, shade tree or other amenity.
- STREET TREE: A tree located within a right of way, parkway or street tree setback along a public street right of way.
- STREET TREE SETBACK: An area extending from an attached sidewalk a distance five (5) to ten feet (10') into the right of way or onto private property. (Ord. 01-42; Ord. 03-109)

The City Code is available on-line at:

<http://66.113.195.234/CO/Colorado%20Springs/index.htm>



Appendix C. City Forestry Budget

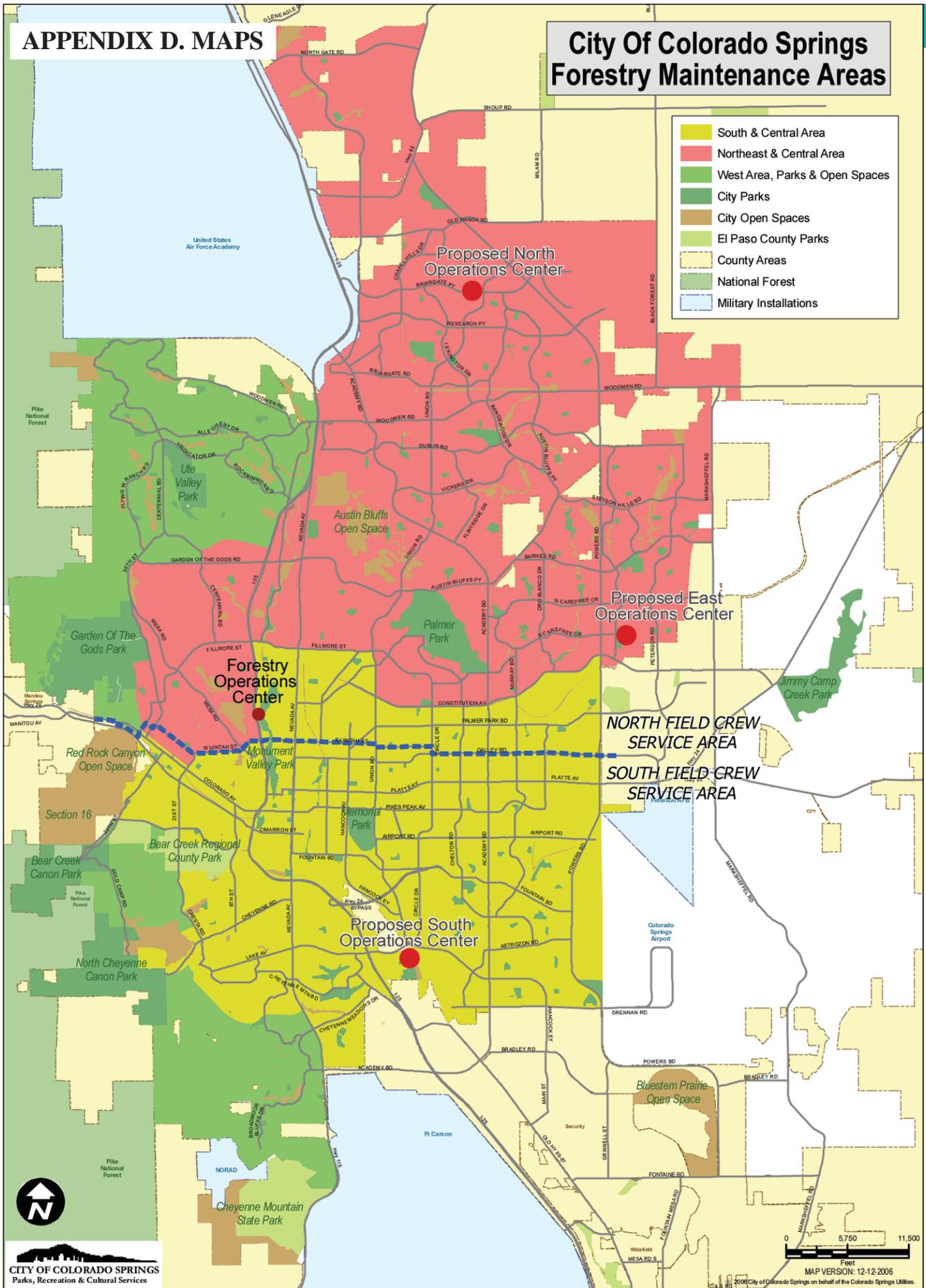
Available on-line at: <http://www.springsgov.com/units/budget/2006/2007Forestry.pdf>

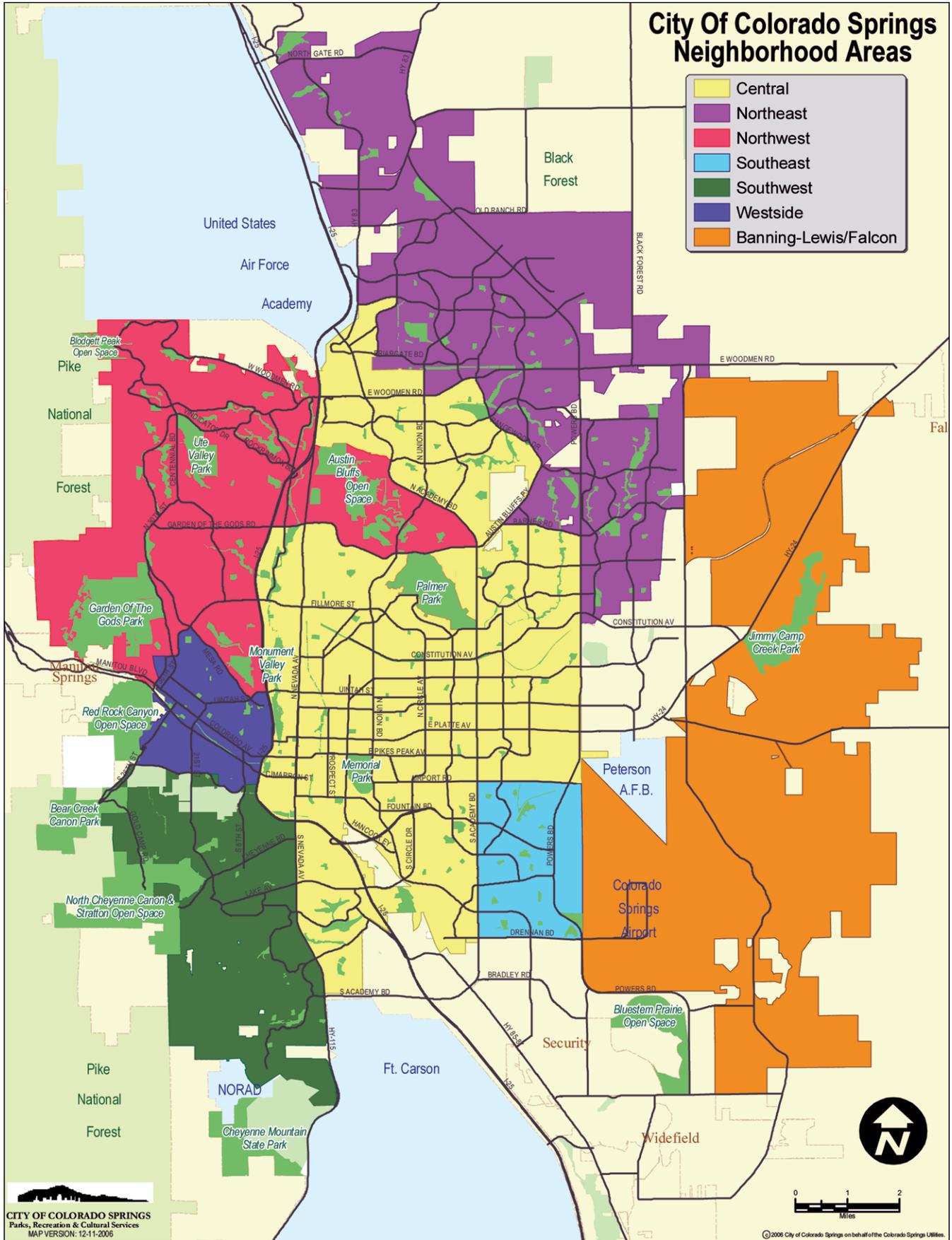
Money doesn't grow on trees... Below, as funding allows, new trees are planted to replace those killed by vandalism, winds, drought, insects and disease or vehicles



APPENDIX D. MAPS

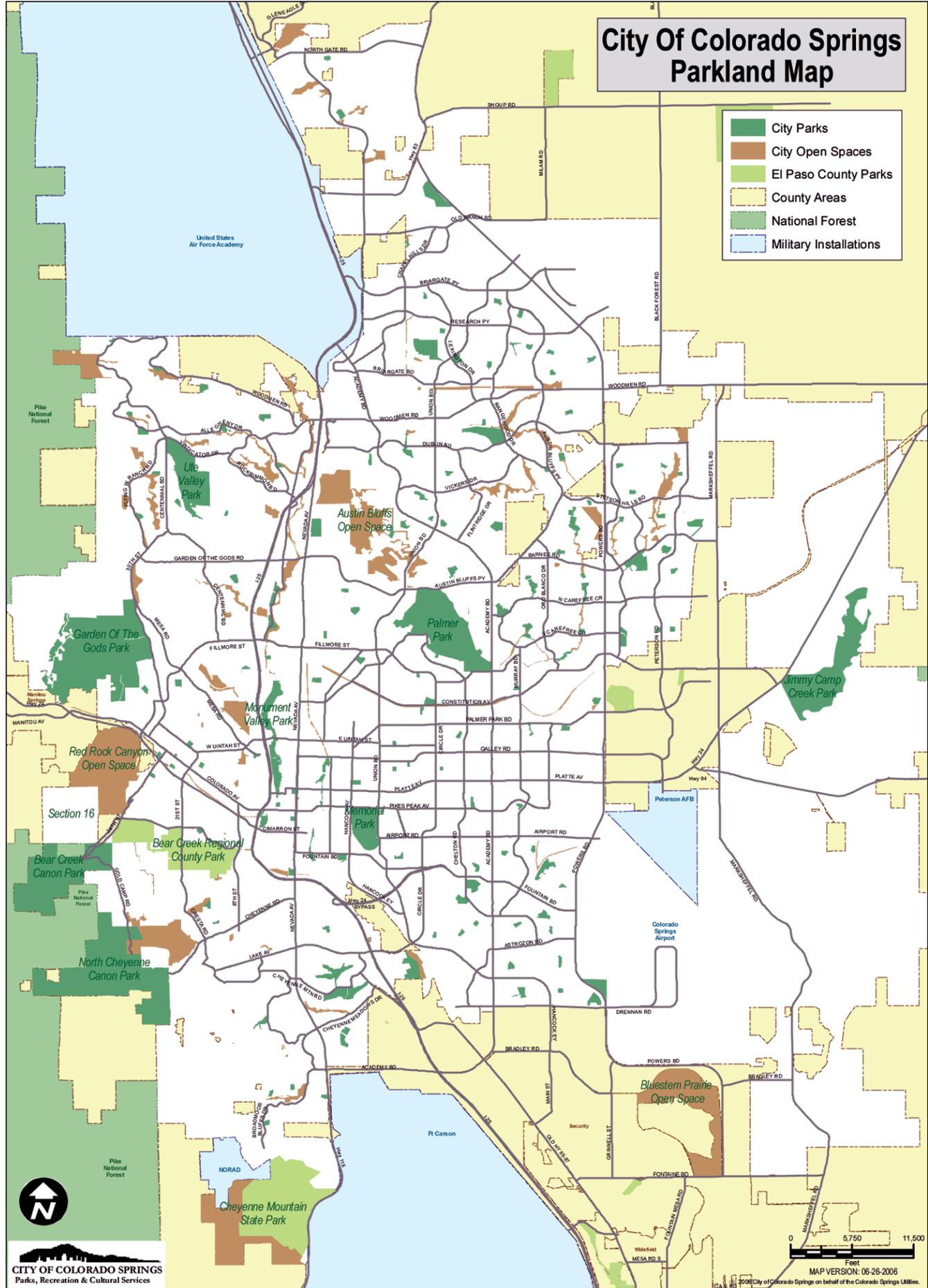
City Of Colorado Springs
Forestry Maintenance Areas





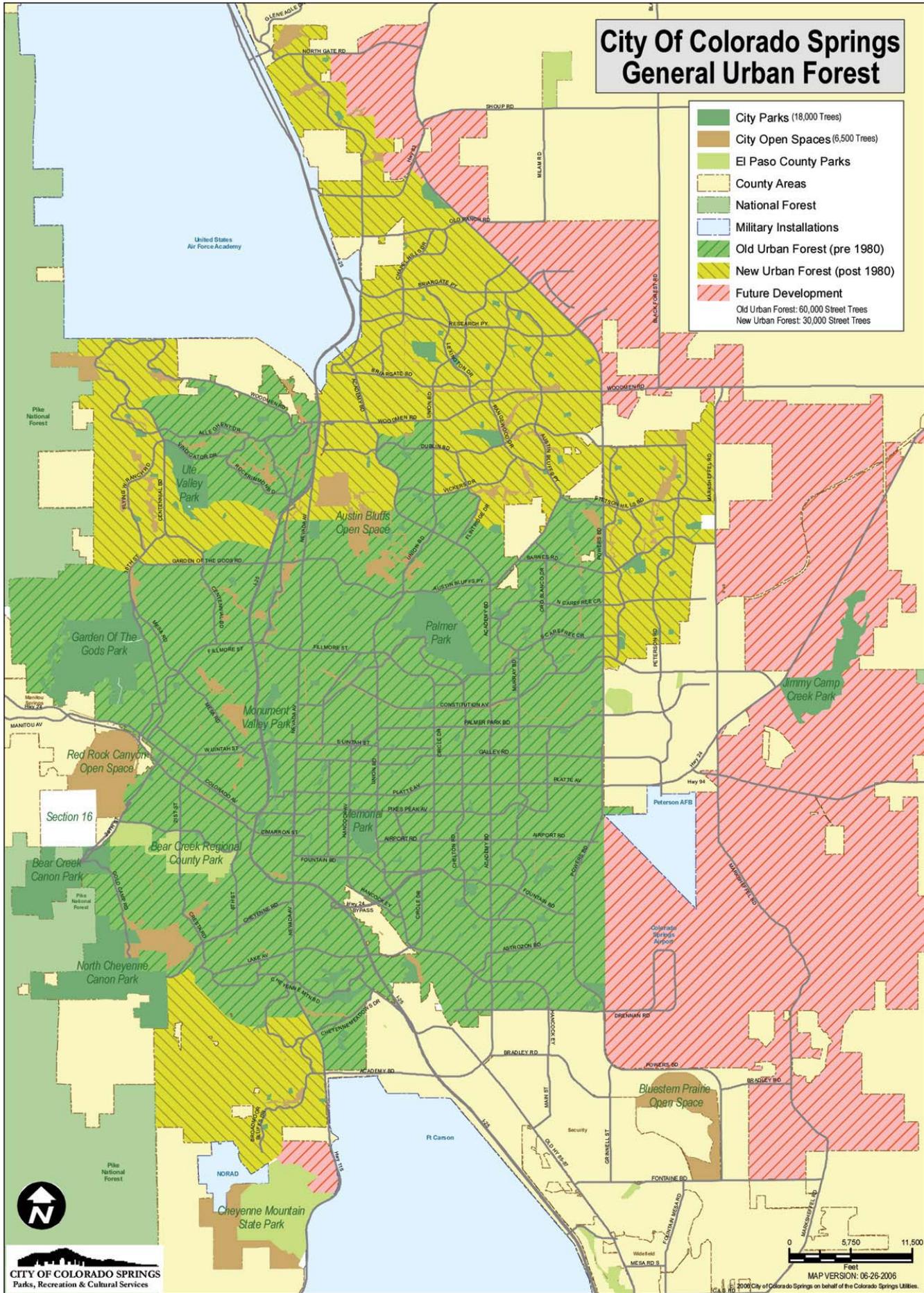
City of Colorado Springs Parkland Map

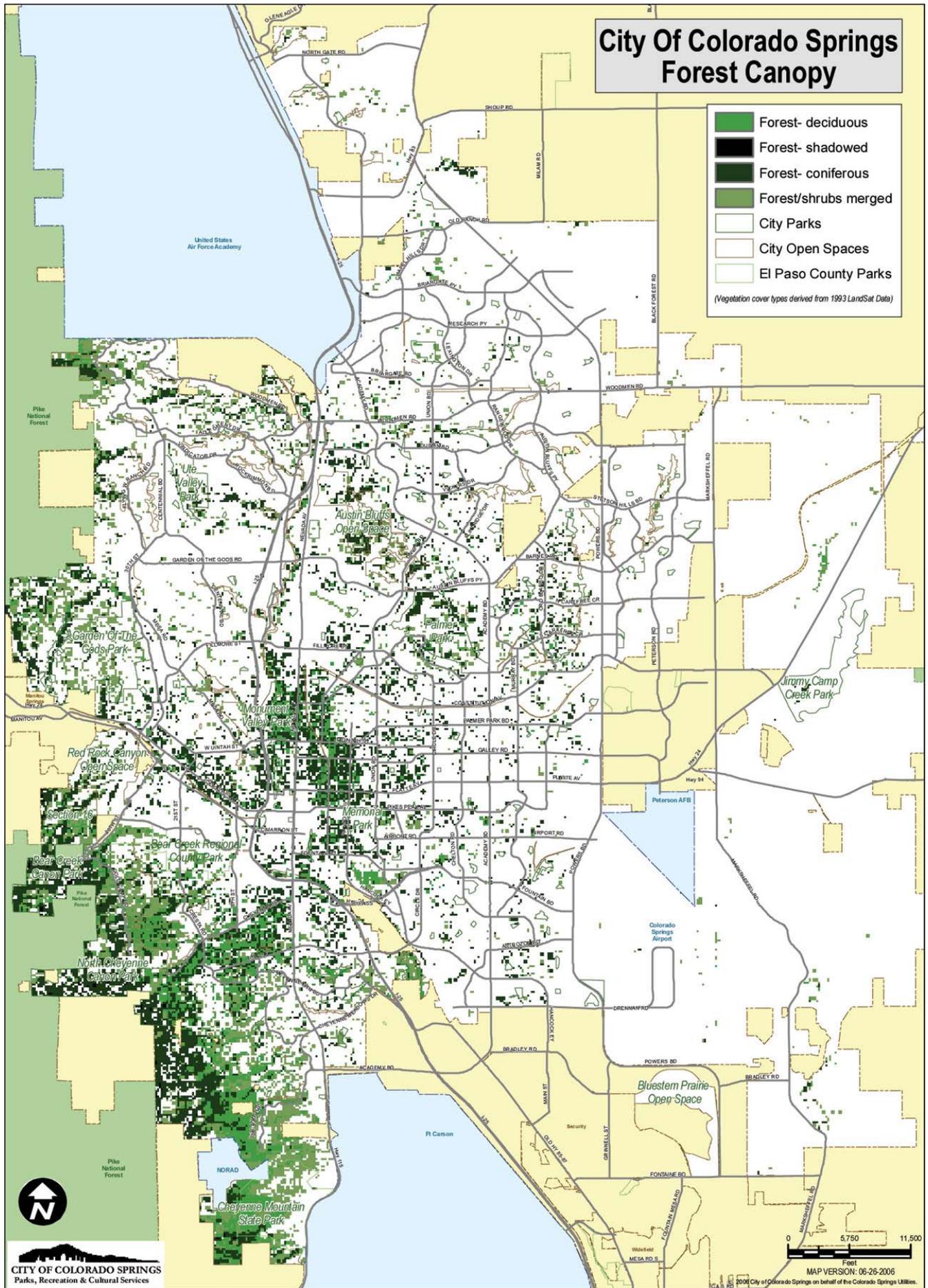
- City Parks
- City Open Spaces
- El Paso County Parks
- County Areas
- National Forest
- Military Installations



City Of Colorado Springs General Urban Forest

- City Parks (18,000 Trees)
 - City Open Spaces (6,500 Trees)
 - El Paso County Parks
 - County Areas
 - National Forest
 - Military Installations
 - Old Urban Forest (pre 1980)
 - New Urban Forest (post 1980)
 - Future Development
- Old Urban Forest: 60,000 Street Trees
New Urban Forest: 30,000 Street Trees





Benefits of Trees and a Healthy Urban Forest

- ✿ Trees supply oxygen.
- ✿ Trees absorb carbon dioxide.
- ✿ Trees are natural air conditioners, lowering air temperature by evaporating water in their leaves.
- ✿ Trees reduce noise pollution by acting as sound barriers.
- ✿ Trees trap and filter out dust and pollen.
- ✿ Trees provide shelter from direct sunlight.
- ✿ Tree roots stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.
- ✿ Trees camouflage unsightly views and provide a visual break for highways, sidewalks, and lawns.
- ✿ Trees provide residential privacy.
- ✿ Trees provide food and shelter for wildlife.
- ✿ Trees, properly located, can significantly reduce home heating and cooling costs.



City Forestry Staff, 2006



CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

We Create Community