



Destructive Tree Practices

Forestry Division Prevention Programs

 Each year more trees are killed or severely damaged from human related causes than from biotic causes such as plant diseases and pests. The Forestry Division has identified three of the most prevalent kinds of human related tree damage in St. Louis as lawnmower damage, construction damage and tree topping. Fortunately, these types of damage are preventable when people are educated to properly care for trees and avoid these destructive practices. Therefore, the Forestry Division has developed destructive tree practices prevention programs because the entire community benefits when the occurrence of destructive tree practices is reduced and a healthier community forest is created. 

Lawnmower Damage Prevention Program



Put A Stop To
Lawnmower Damage

This program was created to inform the public and City employees about the destructive consequences of lawnmower damage to City owned street and park trees. Informational bulletins and a poster containing lawnmower prevention guidelines were created by the Forestry Division and distributed. This program also initiated an ongoing damage prevention and awareness training program for Parks Division staff that maintain turf.

Missouri Community Forestry Council
**2001 Communitree
Award Winner**

Construction Damage Prevention Program

Tree
Preservation
Ahead

This program was created to inform the public, contractors who do work for the City and other City agencies about the hazards of construction related damage to trees. A construction damage awareness poster and tree preservation specifications were created by the Forestry Division and this information has been widely distributed to the public, city contractors and other City agencies to highlight and prevent construction damage.

Missouri Community Forestry Council
**2002 Communitree
Award Winner**

Anti-Tree Topping Program



This program was created to inform the public the destructive practice of tree topping. An anti-tree topping bulletin was created by the Forestry Division and is currently being distributed to City residents who have had trees topped. This bulletin is also being distributed in neighborhoods where topped tree have been found in an effort to educate residents in the area about the dangers of tree topping and thus prevent its spread. The bulletin also reminds residents that topping City owned trees is illegal.

Missouri Community Forestry Council
**2002 Communitree
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City of St. Louis Forestry Division
Community Forestry Education and Outreach



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