

LEWISTON-AUBURN COMMUNITY FOREST PROGRAM & BOARD

I. Statement of creation and establishment

To enhance, preserve, protect and maintain the community forest in Lewiston and Auburn, this policy creates and establishes The Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board to develop and implement a Community Forest Program. A healthy community forest promotes the economic, environmental and aesthetic values contributing to the quality of life in the Cities.

II. Number of members

There will be nine voting members on the Board, with a minimum of four members from each city. There will be six ex-officio members as defined in section III.

III. Qualifications of members

Members will be residents of Lewiston or Auburn, or own land in either city. They will be people who are willing to work and are committed to a healthy community forest. Six ex-officio members shall be each City's Director of Parks/Recreation, or their designees; a member of each City's Planning Board or their designees; and each City's Arborist.

IV. Term of office, succession and provision for staggered terms

Terms of voting members will be three years and may be reappointed by the appropriate Mayor. The terms will be staggered to provide for continuity of the Program and the Board's activities. One third of the initial Board members will have terms of one, two or three years to establish the rotation of one third of the membership each year.

V. Provision for vacancies

When vacancies occur, the Board shall advertise and recruit potential new members in order to submit applications to the appropriate Mayor, who shall review the applications and appoint the new member(s).

VI. Compensation

All members of the Board shall serve without compensation.

VII. Scope of responsibility

The terms and provisions of this policy shall apply to all trees, plants and shrubs on public property, including all property owned, leased or occupied by the City of Auburn or the City of Lewiston. Other property will be dealt with on an advisory and/or educational basis.

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VIII. Duties and responsibilities

The Lewiston-Auburn Community Forest Board shall develop and implement a Community Forest Program that enhances, preserves, protects and maintains the community forest.

Primary activities are to:

- ◆ Advocate for the community forest
- ◆ Develop a plan for and provide advice on the management of the public sector portion of the community forest
- ◆ Educate the communities about the community forest and how to care for it
- ◆ Raise funds, including grants, and establish a Community Forest Trust
- ◆ Develop and advise on policy changes for approval by the City Councils
- ◆ Advise and consult on community forest issues and projects
- ◆ Communicate and coordinate with City staff, Planning Boards, and other community programs to avoid duplication of efforts and to combine resources to meet goals.

IX. Operational provisions

The Board shall elect officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Except for the Chair, officers shall have renewable one-year terms. The Chair will have a two-year term and the position will be held alternately by a member from Lewiston and a member from Auburn.

X. Date of passage

February 22, 2000