

## **STREET/FORESTRY DIVISION**

The Street Forestry Division maintains more than 86 miles of roadway. Responsibilities include: maintenance of streets, curbs, signs and pavement markings, snow and ice management, the sidewalk improvement program, contracted street line striping and pavement crack sealing programs, street sweeping, parking meter maintenance, parking lot and street light maintenance in the CBD and other areas, and support for special events such as the Taste of Glen Ellyn in May, the Fourth of July Parade, and the Holiday Walk downtown on the Friday evening after Thanksgiving.

The Street Forestry Division maintains more than 14,500 trees on parkways and on Village-owned green space; supervises landscape maintenance at numerous locations; provides informational talks to garden clubs and grade schools; participates with volunteers in neighborhood beautification projects; and enforces the Tree Preservation Ordinance. The Division's responsibilities include: planting, pruning, removing, cabling, inspecting for insect and disease problems, updating of the tree inventory on an annual basis and annual Arbor Day celebration.

The Village's forestry program includes: Parkway reforestation (removal/replacement and Commonwealth Edison Franchise); updating and enforcing forestry ordinances; annual winter pruning of roughly 2,800 trees using a contractor and in-house labor (approximately 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the parkway trees are pruned each year); service request pruning; insect and disease inspection of parkway trees including Dutch Elm, gypsy moth and Oak Wilt disease inspections; updating of approximately 20% of the parkway tree population annually through a computerized tree inventory; sign and site clearance inspection and pruning; and stump grinding of removed trees.

### **Street Forestry Accomplishments for FY 2004/05**

1. Received the Tree City USA award for the 21st year in a row.
2. Pruned 1440 trees in Zone D during the winter pruning program.
3. Began the restoration work in the Ada Harmon wildflower preserve at the north end of Taylor Avenue.
4. Developed a new Tree Preservation Tracking Program, which will aid in detailing trees lost due to construction of homes.
5. Central Business District improvements – The calendar year 2004 improvements included the completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a three-year program to replace the benches in the CBD, the addition of 6 hanging flower baskets, and the completion of the painting of the streetlight poles and trash receptacles. Staff also repainted and rebuilt approximately 60 streetlight fixtures. Flowers were planted and maintained in the Central Business District, including the addition of more perennials in an effort to minimize the maintenance costs and the number of annual flowers planted each season.
6. Coordinated with the Economic Development Corporation the installation of 70 street light pole banners in the Central Business District and 65 banners along the Roosevelt Road

corridor. This work was done twice with two different banner themes.

7. Pavement maintenance programs – Approximately 200,000 square yards of asphalt pavement was treated with rejuvenators to prolong the life of the pavement. Crack sealing was completed in the amount of 190,000 lineal feet on asphalt pavement surfaces, and approximately 700 square yards of concrete pavement patching was completed. Private contractors completed the aforementioned work.
8. Staff installed 300 new signs and posts in the street reconstruction and street rehabilitation project areas, along with the replacement of 350 signs and posts throughout the Village as part of a sign improvement program.
9. Staff completed major patching work on Summerdale and Parkside Avenues, where 800 tons of asphalt was placed. \$20,000 was budgeted for this work and the work was completed in a timely fashion and under budget.

### **Street Forestry Goals for FY 2005/06**

1. Central Business District improvements - Staff will work with the Economic Development Corporation to install a new banner bracket system, along with 60 new street light pole banners. Complete the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the three-year program to replace the benches in the CBD. Staff will continue working on the flower-planting program that will include the use of more perennials in an effort to reduce maintenance costs.
2. Review program costs for all Street Forestry work areas including analysis of contractual alternatives, staff time allocation, and alternative service delivery options. This review will be pursued in light of the financial pressure faced by the General Fund due to reduced revenue over the past three years.
3. Pavement maintenance programs emphasis – Twenty-three streets were reconstructed during calendar year 2004 as part of the Street and Storm Sewer Improvement Program. The large number of rebuilt streets has increased the amount of preventive maintenance work required to assure that the life expectancy of the new streets. This work includes asphalt surface treatments and crack sealing. A major focus of the Street Forestry Division for 2005 is the completion of both of these projects at an optimal time in the construction season this work will be done by private contractors.
4. Staff will focus on a program to bring all traffic signs into compliance with the current State of Illinois traffic sign code. Work includes installing new signposts and sign faces on Village of Glen Ellyn streets. Work has been completed on most major streets. The goal this year is to complete installation on all recently improved streets.
5. New landscaping will be installed on Pennsylvania Avenue from the western Village limits to Western Avenue. The Union Pacific Railroad, in conjunction with the Village, removed all the trees and brush along the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue last year accommodate the new landscaping

6. Traffic signal upgrade – Through a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation and in conjunction with the DuPage County Division of Transportation, staff will oversee the upgrade of 5 traffic signals within the Village. The upgrade will consist of changing the incandescent light bulbs to a more energy efficient L.E.D. (light emitting diode). This upgrade will reduce future energy and maintenance costs.