



# Tree News

April 2025

## Approved: Elm Wood Disposal Initiative

On March 26, 2025, City Council approved all recommendations in a report providing an update on the elm wood disposal initiative. The report approved expansion of the 2024 initiative to include commercial customers and loads of elm wood exceeding 1000 kg in 2025. Detailed recommendations approved by Council include:

1. The 2025 proper elm wood disposal plan be approved;
2. The Administration prepare the 2026/2027 business plan and budget without revenues for entrance and tipping fees for all loads of elm wood, along with any other operating or capital requirements to support DED prevention, for City Council's consideration;
3. The establishment of capital project DED Response, in the amount of \$100,000, be funded from the Urban Forestry and Pest Management Capital Reserve; and,
4. The City Solicitor's Office be requested to amend Bylaw No. 9844, *The Waste Bylaw, 2022*, as outlined in the March 4, 2025, report of the Utilities and Environment Division



### Learn More:

<https://pub-saskatoon.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=842a8291-cd65-4cae-ba54-ca5f69a684da&Agenda=Merged&lang=English&Item=45&Tab=attachments>

A big thank you to the City staff for continuing to move this issue forward and to all of our volunteers who have been advocating over the past four years for this issue in councillor coffee conversations, letters to council, etc. Special thanks to Quill Shieff of Porcupine Tree Care who brought this issue to our attention in 2021.

## The new SOS Tree Tour Booklet is now available

Stop by our booth at Lawson Heights Mall April 26th and pick one up. Special thanks to Caroline Dinter and her committee for expanding and enhancing the booklet to encompass more of our beautiful City.



## Volunteers Needed

April 19th Saturday, Dutch Growers

SOS Trees will have an information booth at Dutch Growers Spring Open House. Volunteers are needed to man the booth and distribute the new Tree Tour booklet. If you can help between 10:00-12:30 or 12:30-3:00 email us at [trees@sostrees.ca](mailto:trees@sostrees.ca).

April 26th, Saturday, Lawson Heights Mall

SOS Trees will have an information booth at the Lawson Heights Mall April 26th. In conjunction with the Malls week of sustainability and Earthday the mall will be distributing 200 seedlings in partnership with Trees Canada. Volunteers are needed to man the booth and distribute the new Tree Tour booklet. If you can help between 10:00-12:30 or 12:30-3:00 email us at [trees@sostrees.ca](mailto:trees@sostrees.ca).

## Earth Action Day – Rally for a Sustainable Saskatchewan!

In the face of growing challenges, it's time to come together and demand a sustainable, equitable, and green future for Saskatchewan. **Earth Action Day** is a call to action for affordable, reliable, and renewable energy, fair treatment of workers, and bold climate policies that leave no one behind and unite us as a community and country.

**Bring your signs!**

**Date:** Saturday, April 26

**Time:** 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

**Location:** University Bridge (Start at Sask. Cres. East & Clarence Ave. N.)

**Speakers:** Kinsmen Park at 2:00 PM

**Bring your signs, your voices, and your passion.  
Let's stand united for a sustainable Saskatchewan!**

## Information You Can Use

From our friends at [EcoFriendly West](#) and others.

*Treekeepers* by Lauren E. Oakes “is about the scientists, citizens, and leaders who are seeking to re-create what was lost in the degradation of our world’s forests and striving to retain and revive the lingering green.”

“It should be clear to more people now that ‘a trillion trees’ isn’t a trillion new trees. It is keeping trees, growing trees, planting trees, letting them regenerate on their own, and creating the conditions to support their natural recovery.”

<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/lauren-e-oakes/treekeepers/>

*Falling in love with plants in the winter* Housing versus trees is a false choice; swap pavement for trees instead. “If we convert eight parking spaces into trees, build planted curb bulbs and roundabouts with trees, then each intersection can become 17 new trees.” [\[Planetizen\]](#)

<https://ecofriendlywest.ca/falling-in-love-with-plants-in-winter/>

### [Why City Trees Are Good Medicine](#)

It's time to abandon the hard-edged urban landscape, says Kathleen Wolf. Trees, shrubs and plants not only help the environment, they also make us feel — and behave — better.

<https://magazine.washington.edu/feature/shade-crusade-why-city-trees-are-good-medicine/>

## **Volunteer Thank You:**

Thank you to all of our Gardenscape volunteers, raising the public awareness of Dutch Elm Disease isn't always easy. Thank You!

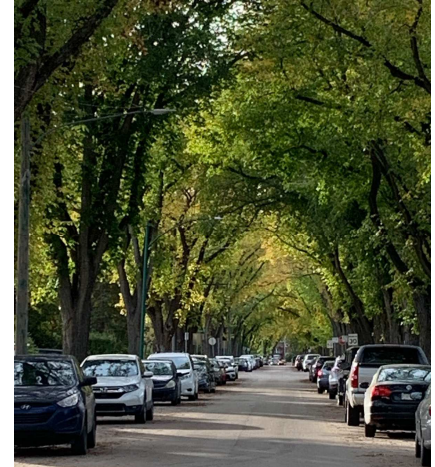
It is time to get involved. Whichever of these opportunities interests you, let us know by emailing [SOS Trees Coalition](mailto:SOS Trees Coalition) . We look forward to working with you.

### **Public Policy Committee**

The public Policy Committee is wrapping up individual meetings with newly elected City Councillors. We have a number of municipal advocacy points as well as provincial points to work toward. Join us, let's move the policies to protect and expand our urban forest.

### **Arbor Week May 25-31, 2025**

The committee is currently recruiting sponsors for the 2025 Arbor Week, if your business would like to participate please email the [SOS Trees Coalition](mailto:SOS Trees Coalition) for more information.



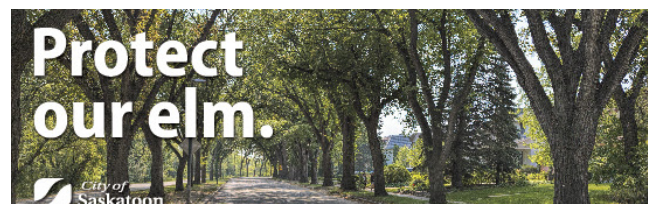
## **Dutch Elm Disease Reminder**

Help protect our beautiful elm trees and historic canopies by:

1. Not storing or burning elm wood
2. Disposing of elm wood at the Saskatoon Landfill (it's free for residential loads!)
3. Never pruning elms during the April 1 – August 31 ban
4. If you spot unhealthy elms or suspicious wood, report it by submitting a photo online:

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/housing-property/city-owned-trees/tree-diseases-pests/dutch-elm-disease#dedform>

Learn more at [saskatoon.ca/dutchelmdisease](https://www.saskatoon.ca/dutchelmdisease).





## We Need You. Get involved! Stand up for our trees & join SOS Trees Coalition Today

SOS Trees Coalition is on the move and we have increased our efforts working with the City of Saskatoon to protect our trees. In addition to Arbor Week, our largest public education event, we are advocating for tree protection and increased City tree planting and monitoring of Saskatoon's Urban Forestry Management Plan. Every member and donor is crucial as we build our coalition. Please take a moment today and sign up for your [Membership](#) and/or donation today. Thank you!

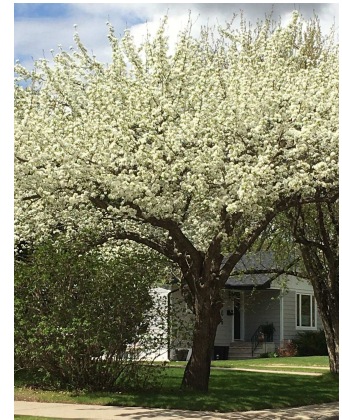
**DONATE NOW**  
powered by  
**canadahelps.org**

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/12757>

Memberships can also be purchased by printing out & sending our membership form: <https://sostrees.ca/pdf/SOS-Trees-MembershipForm-2022.pdf>. Payment can be mailed or sent to us via [e-transfer](#).

## Create Your Tree Legacy

A planned gift may be one of the most impactful ways that you can support the trees in Saskatoon. A planned gift, life insurance, annuity, etc. to SOS Trees Coalition will make a difference. A great example is the gift left by Joan Browne. The Joan Browne fund has been a supporter of Arbor Week tree planting activities and other educational programs. We are very thankful for the forethought that Joan Browne had and her vision of Saskatoon with a healthy urban forest. For more information on how you can include SOS Trees Coalition in your estate planning email us at [trees@sostrees.ca](mailto:trees@sostrees.ca).



### SPONSORS



### PARTNERS



SOS Trees Coalition is pleased to offer this electronic newsletter to our members and supporters who have an interest in trees in Saskatoon. Through sharing information we can all be more consistently informed and therefore become better advocates for our urban forest and the individual trees that make life so much more enjoyable. If you do not want to receive this newsletter or to share your comments with us regarding our publication please email us at [trees@sostrees.ca](mailto:trees@sostrees.ca). You can also follow us on Facebook at SOS Trees Coalition <https://www.facebook.com/SOSTreesCoalition>.

Membership and contributions to SOS Trees Coalition support the protection and fostering of stewardship of Saskatoon's urban forest. To become a member or supporter go to: [membership](#) or you can mail directly to: [1618 9th Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK S7K3A1](#). SOS Trees Coalition is a registered charity.