

TOWN OF HARTFORD

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

171 Bridge Street

White River Junction, Vermont 05001

(802)295-9353 www.hartford-vt.org



Town of Hartford Vt, Tree Warden

Description:

Title 24 Vermont Statutes Annotated. § 871 states that the selectboard shall appoint a tree warden from among the legally qualified voters of the town who shall serve until a successor is appointed and certified by the town clerk who shall record the same.

Responsibilities:

Shade and ornamental trees within the limits of public rights of way are under the control of the tree warden. The tree warden may plan and implement a town shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public ways and places by planting new trees and shrubs; by maintaining the health, appearance and safety of existing trees through feeding, pruning and protecting them from noxious insect pests and diseases; and by removing diseased, dying or dead trees which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs. V.S.A. § 2502. A municipality may appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the tree warden or, if one is not appointed, by the selectboard. 24 V.S.A. § 2503.

- Research of ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) best practices for tree maintenance, hazard tree evaluation, safety and power line conflict.
- Research of trees subject to urban stresses including proximity to high traffic environments and road salt exposure in Northern New England public right of way corridors.
- Work with Vermont Dept. of Parks, Forests & Recreation including state entomologists (insect specialists) regarding both invasive threats and beneficial insects.
- Work with Hartford Parks & Rec and Hartford Public Works in tree management issues.
- Respond to homeowner concerns regarding tree health, safety, pruning and plantings.
- Conduct annual winter tree identification walks and assist Tree Board members in tree identification.
- Enable specimen and memorial tree plantings on public property.
- Develop response mechanism for Hartford to mitigate the threat of Emerald Ash Borer (This work, conducted with Tree Board members and other volunteers)
- Develop hazard tree evaluation protocol.
- Assist development and edits of Hartford's Tree Policy.
- Enhance public awareness of the need for early maintenance on public plantings via educational efforts in Hartford and neighboring school systems, public and private meetings, press releases and interviews.