

CITY OF YUBA CITY
STAFF REPORT

Date: December 15, 2009
To: Honorable Mayor & Members of the City Council
From: Parks and Recreation Department
Presentation By: Gary Marler, Public Works Superintendent

Summary

Subject: Submission of re-certification application for Tree City USA Designation
Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City to submit an application for re-certification to the National Arbor Day Foundation for consideration of the City continuing its designation as a Tree City USA community.

Fiscal Impact: Selection as a Tree City USA community is based, in part, on the annual expenditure for tree-related programs and services within a community (i.e. tree crew manpower costs, tree purchases, equipment, etc.).

Background:

The City staff is requesting that the City Council authorize the submission of and application for re-certification to the National Arbor Day Foundation for consideration of Yuba City maintaining its designation as a Tree City USA community.

For the past ten years, the City of Yuba City has earned the designation of Tree City USA community based upon: 1) having an annual Arbor Day observance; 2) spend at least \$2.00 per capita on tree-related programs; 3) have a tree ordinance, and; 4) have a tree advisory board, which is the Parks & Recreation Commission. This designation says a lot about the quality of life and planning standards of a community.

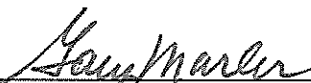
The City's efforts to expand and maintain its urban forest continues on and the City staff would like to assure that the organization's efforts continue to be recognized. As such, we are requesting that the City Council again adopt a Resolution authorizing the City to submit an application for re-certification to the National Arbor Day Foundation in Nebraska City, Nebraska, for consideration of the City continuing its designation as a Tree City USA community. Communities who have received the designation must submit an application for re-certification on an annual basis for continuity with their Tree City USA designation.

Fiscal Impact: Selection as a Tree City USA community is based, in part, on the annual expenditure for tree-related programs and services within a community (i.e. tree crew manpower costs, tree purchases, equipment, etc.).

Alternatives: Not applicable


Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City to submit an application for re-certification to the National Arbor Day Foundation for consideration of the City continuing its designation as a Tree City USA community.

Prepared By:



Gary Marler
Public Works Superintendent

Submitted By:




Steven R. Jepsen
City Manager


Reviewed By:

Department Head

Finance

City Attorney





RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUBA CITY
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE
NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION FOR CONSIDERATION OF
YUBA CITY BEING DESIGNATED A TREE CITY USA COMMUNITY.**

WHEREAS, trees play an important role in the quality of life of a community in providing needed shade and cooling, aesthetic beauty, and increased property values; and

WHEREAS, the planting of trees today allows us to pass along a legacy of community and environmental awareness to future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City has made a significant policy statement regarding the important role trees play in the development and redevelopment of public and private property within the City, as exhibited by the Town Center project, the requirement for landscape maintenance districts, 50% shade requirement on all parking lots, including access areas within 15 years of the tree being planted, and the continued introduction of upcoming residential developments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yuba City was designated a Tree City USA community for 1999 through 2008 by the National Arbor Day Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Tree City USA communities must submit an application for re-certification on an annual basis to maintain their designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Yuba City does hereby authorize the City staff to submit an application for re-certification to the National Arbor Day Foundation for their consideration of Yuba City continuing to be designated as a Tree City USA community for the year 2009.

The foregoing Resolution of the City Council of the City of Yuba City was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 15th day of December, 2009.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Kash Gill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Terrel Locke, City Clerk

TREE CITY USA Application for Recertification

Mail completed application with requested attachments to your state forester no later than December 31.
The TREE CITY USA award is in recognition of work completed by the community during the calendar year.

Please provide information for the year ending.

(Some states require information in addition to the requested on this application. Check with your state foresters.)

As Mayor of the community of Yuba City
(Title - Mayor or other city official)

I herewith make application for this community to be officially recertified as a Tree City USA for _____, having achieved the standards set forth by The National Arbor Day Foundation as noted below. (year)

Standard 1: A Tree Board or Department

List board members, and meeting dates for the past year; or name of city department and manager.

Charles Anderson, Michele Blake, Gary Hurlbut, Clarine Musfelt, and Vaughn Minnix P & R Commission meets the 3rd Wed. of ea. month

Standard 2: A Community Tree Ordinance

Check One: Our ordinance as last submitted is unchanged and still in effect.
 Our ordinance has been changed. The new version is attached.

Standard 3: A Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita

Total community forestry expenditures \$ 187,679
Community populations 62,083

Attach annual work plan outlining the work carried out during the past year. Attach breakdown of community forestry expenditures.

Standard 4: An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

Date observance was held March 9, 2009

Attach program of activities and/or news coverage. Attach Arbor Day proclamation.

Mayor

Signature	Title	Date

Please type or print the following:

Mayor or equivalent:

Name: Kash Gill
Title: Mayor
Address: 1201 Civic Center Blvd.
Yuba City, CA 95993
City, State, Zip:
Phone #: (530) 822-4601
Email: _____

City Forestry Contact:

Name: Ty Whitcomb
Title: Senior Arborist
Address: 1201 Civic Center Blvd.
Yuba City, CA 959953
City, State, Zip:
Phone #: (530) 822-4647
Email: twhitcom@yubacity.net

NOTE: Application will not be processed without Standard 3 and 4 attachments.

Certification

(To Be Completed By The State Forester)

(Community)

The above named community has made formal application to this office. I am pleased to advise you that we reviewed the application and have concluded that, based on the information contained herein, said community is eligible to be recertified as a Tree City USA, for the _____ calendar year, having in my opinion met the four standards of achievement in urban forestry.

Signed _____
State Forester Date

Person in State Forester's Office who should receive recognition material:

Name: _____	UPS Address: _____
Title: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Agency: _____	PH #: _____ Email: _____

Standard #3: Forestry Program with Annual Budget of at least \$2 Per Capita

1. The City of Yuba City's total community forestry expenditures for calendar year 2009 are \$187,679. This cost is broken down as follows:

A.	Tree Crew	
	Senior Arborist (39.93/hour)	\$ 72,753
	Park Maint. Wkr. I (33.01/hour)	\$ 29,400 (6 months)
	Park Maint. Wkr. II (39.93/hour)	\$ 65,426
B.	Tree Related Expenditures (Includes purchase of new trees, planting materials, Maintenance and replacement of equipment)	\$ 12,500
C.	Arborist Training and Materials	\$ 1,100
D.	Purchase of Replacement Street Trees	\$ 4,500
E.	Arbor Day Celebration	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	Total urban forestry expenditures for 2009	\$187,679

2. Yuba City's current population is 62,083. Based upon the required \$2.00 per capita, Yuba City should be spending \$124,166 on its urban forestry programs. This compares to \$187,679 that Yuba City actually spent on urban forestry related programs, training, materials and services.

3. The following is a copy of our annual work plan that outlines tree-related work carried out during calendar year 2009.

- o Held annual Arbor Day observance as outline in Standard #4.
- o The organization and implementation for Arbor Day 2010 is already underway with local media distribution to over 26,000 homes. The Yuba City Parks and Recreation Department is coordinating the distribution of tree and Arbor Day educational materials to any local school, grades K-5 that are interested. The curriculum includes games, geographical information on varying tree types, individual peat pellets and seeds, individual seedling trees for students, informational activities on the different uses of trees as well as history of Arbor Day. The classroom curriculum led up to school assembly on March 9, 2009. With the help of Yuba City's certified Arborist and Tree Crew, participants will receive an overview of Arbor Day as well as learn about the special equipment Yuba City's Tree Crew uses daily on the job. To officially celebrate Yuba City as a Tree City, USA we will plant a tree to honor the continued tradition of celebrating Arbor Day.

Standard #4: Annual Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

On February 2, 1999 the City Council of Yuba City unanimously adopted Resolution No. 99-006 which established an annual Arbor Day observance to occur on March 7th each year.

The Arbor Day 2009 observance included:

- o The Yuba City Parks and Recreation Department's 2009 Arbor Day Program was designed to help raise community awareness about the significance of trees and their impact on our environment. Curriculum binders consisting of activities in science, math, arts/crafts, music and much more were distributed to local educators to use in their classroom in mid-February. March 9th, 2009 - when Arbor Day was celebrated nationwide – staff from the Parks and Recreation Department visited a specific school site and provided an educational assembly that focused on the history of Arbor Day as well as trees found in our local area and their common everyday uses. The Parks & Recreation Department planted a tree at this school site, as well.