

NeighborWoods Course Outline



Session One

Introduction to NeighborWoods and Urban Forestry

Heritage Tree Program

Urban Forestry Commission

Learn the goals of the NeighborWoods program and hear the mission of the Urban Forestry program.

Field Trip One

Working in the Urban Forest

Go outside and participate in a tree planting with local non-profit Friends of Trees. Learn proper planting technique and working with volunteers and community members.

Session Two

Friends of Trees

Trees & Utilities

City Codes & Permits

Learn how to build community through tree planting with a local non profit, and how you can get involved. Discuss evaluating the right tree for the right place by evaluating key characteristics of the proposed site and the potential for modifications to that site, including the importance of codes and permits, and what they mean. This session also looks at maintaining trees and utilities.

Session Three

Tree ID

Tree Preservation

This session kicks off the first opportunity for mastering three identification using hands-on learning strategies. Discuss the importance of the right tree in the right place and preserving existing trees.

Field Trip 2

Tree Troubleshooting Tour: Pruning

Join a workshop and walking tour with an industry professional to see examples of good and bad pruning on neighborhood trees and the long term impact on tree health and structure. Learn the basics of pruning: why trees need to be pruned, proper technique, tools and examples of good and bad pruning. There will be ample time for questions as well as a hands-on demonstration.

Session 4

Pests and Diseases & Watershed Friendly Landscapes

Find out the most common pests and diseases that strike trees in the Pacific Northwest and what to do about them. Learn how to field public questions when they ask “*what is wrong with my tree?*” Learn how to landscape with natural systems to support the integrity of our watersheds, so nothing goes to waste.

Session 5

An Inside Look at Trees

This intensive session discusses the basic biological functions of a tree: the role of the roots, trunk, bark and leaves in sustaining a tree’s life.

Session 6

Successful Outreach & Volunteer Strategies

Project Discussion

Wrap up

Discuss project ideas with current and former Stewards to spark some new ideas and get your project off the ground.