

**Red Lodge Parks, Trees and Recreation Board**  
**Tree Committee Report**  
**December 2016**

1. Tree Trimming/Burn Piles: Double Ditch Park has been trimmed and thinned by contractor Mike Taylor. Visibility of dogs has improved and healthier tree growth will occur. The debris have been burned. Burn permits for trimmed trees at Coal Miners Park and along the Rocky Fork Trail at the airport property have not been completed.

2. Two of the four tree grates that we have ordered from Back Alley Metals have been installed. One has been placed next to the Clay Center and the other has been placed near Junction 7. BAM will have the other two installed in the near future. Two tree guards can be ordered for the new trees by Junction 7. We had planned to use existing tree guards that were at the Public Works shop, but they were used along Broadway between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Streets.

2. **FY 2017 Urban Forestry Grant:** Staff submitted the 2017 grant application and asked for \$4,900 in grant funds. Parks Board matching funds are an estimated cost of \$10,640 and donated in-kind hours from staff and Parks Board are estimated at \$2,150. We are seeking funds to hire a student forester/contractor to update our tree inventory and input the data into a writable GIS system that can be updated every year. A written report that can be added to our Urban Forest Management Plan would also be included. With the data and report we can update the 2009 Urban Forest Management. Of the \$10,640 Parks Board match, \$8,160 of the money is allocated for budgeted items such as spraying for pine weevil, tree fertilization and the tree cost share program.

Respectfully submitted by James Caniglia

**Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)**  
**2016 Urban Forestry Grant Application – City of Red Lodge**

Submitted by James Caniglia

The City of Red Lodge was a proud partner in the Urban Forestry cost-share tree program for the fourth time in as many years and it has been successful endeavor for us. We planted 25 trees a year in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 15 trees in 2016. The trees program has been very successful and will have a tremendous impact on the visual appearance of our streets and the health of our ecosystem. We have budgeted for the program again next year at a reduced level of 10 trees to keep the popular program afloat. For 2017, we hope to receive UFC funds to update our tree inventory. The program was advertised in the local paper (attached), by word of mouth and social media. The Red Lodge Parks Board and City staff administered the program.

All 15 of the trees planted this year are now residing in residential neighborhoods and placed in boulevards along City streets. Many of trees were added to City blocks that had few, if any boulevard trees. The following trees were planted as part of the program this year: (3) Tilia Boulevard Linden, (4) Sryinga Signature Lilac, (3) Skyline Honeylocust, (2) Betula Dakota Pinnacle Birch, (2) Crategus Crimson Cloud, (2) Sorbus Oakleaf Mountain Ash and, (2) Sorbus American Mountain Ash.

Contractor Mike Taylor planted the trees at a cost of \$130 per tree. The contractor was responsible for contacting landowners, utility locates, digging holes, tree placement, staking and fencing trees, and submitting a list of where every type of tree was placed.

Additionally, purchased five steel tree guards for urban trees through the program and additional four tree guards outside of the program. In 2015 we received funding to fertilize 110 trees and we because of the positive effect of fertilization, we fertilized in 2016 with \$2,000 in Parks Board funds. Additionally, we spent \$1,295 to address pine weevil concerns at two of our parks.

