



Green Print

2025

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Introduction

The City of Naples is a beautiful community located on the Gulf of Mexico. Residents and elected officials take great pride in the integration of natural and built environments that provide for an appealing quality of life. Having a diverse and well managed urban forest adds greatly to preserving small town character, environmental sensitivity, and an extraordinary quality of life; all part of the City's initiatives and priorities in the 2021 Vision Document.

The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Naples states, "Naples is a premier city that offers a high quality of life exemplified by cleanliness, safety, well-maintained homes and businesses, distinctive architecture, tree-lined streets, landscaped medians, a high level of municipal services, environmental corridors, pristine beaches, and tropical climate." A critical element goal is to "Make Naples the green jewel of southwest Florida", the Urban Forest and its management is a large part of meeting this goal.

The 2025 Green Print provides an overview of the care, preservation, pruning, planting, removal, or disposition of City trees and palms. It provides data concerning work performed to the urban forest during FY2024-2025 (October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025) and outlines the work to be completed during FY2025-2026 (October 1, 2025-September 30, 2025). This plan assists in helping the City of Naples continue their commitment to environmental stewardship, best practices, and public safety.

The city continuously works to maintain a resilient urban forest. Naples strives to plant native species of both trees and palms. Maintaining diversity in the tree population is a key consideration for final planting recommendations. Research shows that urban forests should maintain diversity in species to mitigate the opportunities for catastrophic disease or pest infestation that could significantly alter the character and quality of the existing tree canopy. The city works diligently to ensure the local tree population is diverse and to avoid the dominance and vulnerabilities of monocultures. Trees introduced into the built environments of Florida's urban communities are not always comprised of native species. Therefore, non-invasive, tropical exotics have a role when enhancing the City's character and tree-minded community.

State of the Urban Forest

Inventory

The Urban Forest stands at 20,323 inventoried, managed sites. There are 149 different species represented.

Tree Category	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Of 2025 Total
<i>Vacant</i>	88	134	99		
<i>Palm Trees</i>	14,045	13,794	13,719	13,635	67.09%
<i>Understory Trees</i>	1041	969	981	841	4.14%
<i>Majorstory Trees</i>	6,057	5,907	5,942	5,847	28.77%

Tree Location	2022	2023	2024	2025
<i>Median and Island Trees</i>	2,799	2,721	2,712	2,605
<i>Park Trees</i>	4,550	4,393	4,379	4,568
<i>ROW Trees</i>	13,794	13,690	13,551	13,150

Top 10 Species	Count	% Of 2025 Total
Cuban Royal Palm	5176	25.47%
Coconut Palm	3164	15.57%
Palmetto (Sabal/Cabbage Palm)	2477	12.19%
Mahogany	1750	8.61%
Southern Live Oak	914	4.50%
Foxtail Palm	727	3.58%
Cuban Laurel	668	3.29%
Shady Lady Black Olive	479	2.36%
Solitaire Palm	415	2.04%
Montgomery Palm	411	2.02%

Tree City USA



28 Years

Maintaining a tree board or department

Having a community tree ordinance

Spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry

Celebrating Arbor Day



18 Years

Building the team

Measuring trees & forests

Planning the work

Performing the work

The community framework



**TREE
CITIES**

OF THE WORLD™

6 Years

Establish Responsibility

Set the Rules

Know What You Have

Allocate the Resources

Celebrate Achievements

Arbor Day

The City of Naples celebrated Arbor Day on Saturday, June 7, 2025, with our re-branded Naples Tree Festival. The goal of the event is to take a moment to celebrate trees and our environment. Our local environmental partners joined us providing information about environmental causes and/or their organization. Many who live in Naples and Collier County do not know of some of the great groups that we have right here to support and visit.

The 2025 event was our best yet with attendance was over 300. The city gave away some great “swag” sponsored by local businesses. Perhaps the best addition to this year’s event was our fishing clinic for kids. This clinic was offered in partnership with the Marine Industries of Collier County and offered a chance for kids to learn the basics of fishing in our Florida waters.

Arbor Day 2026 will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2026, at Baker Park.







City of Naples

TERESA LEE HEITMANN
MAYOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees are a solution to combat climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

WHEREAS, the City of Naples will be recognized for the 27th year as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices, and

WHEREAS, the City of Naples has been awarded the prestigious Tree City USA Growth Award for 17 consecutive years, and

WHEREAS, the City of Naples has been recognized for 5 years as a Tree Cities of the World, including being part of the 2019 inaugural class, and

WHEREAS, the City of Naples celebrates Arbor Day 2025 by hosting the Naples Tree Fest on June 7th, 2025,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Teresa Lee Heitmann, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Naples, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 25th, as

ARBOR DAY

in the City of Naples and urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 16th day of April 2025.



Teresa Lee Heitmann
Teresa Lee Heitmann

Mayor

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Fiscal Year 2024-25 – Accomplishments

Pruning – Hardwoods

The trim cycle was completed in FY25. A total of 3,353 trees were trimmed.

Species or Location	Estimated Time Frame
Street Trees	October - March
Cuban Laurel	Complete
Southern Live Oak	Complete
Rustyleaf Fig	Complete
Gumbo-Limbo	Complete
Green Buttonwood	Complete
Bay Rum	Complete
Vera Tree	Complete
Cuban Pink Trumpet Tree	Complete
Silver Trumpet Tree	Complete
East Palatka Holly	Complete
Bottlebrush	Complete
Silver Buttonwood	Complete
Parks	April to May
Baker Park	Complete
Cambier Park	Complete
River Park	Complete
Cambridge Perry Park	Complete
Naples Landings	Complete
Seagate Linear Park	Complete
Broad Ave S Park	Complete
Rodgers Park	Complete
Alligator Lake East/West	PW Project
Bow Line Park	Complete
City Hall (8th & 8th Lot)	Complete
Fire Training Center	Complete
Medians	June to July
GSBN - North End	Complete
Park Shore Dr	Complete
Mooring Line Dr	Complete
Harbour Dr	Complete
Goodlette -Frank Rd	Complete
US 41	Complete
Misc cul-de-sac - North	Complete
5th Ave S (Annual)	August
	Complete
Tropical Flowering (Annual)	September
Royal Poinciana	Complete
Copperpod	Complete
Hong Kong Orchid Tree	Complete
Queen Crape Myrtle	Complete
Golden Shower Tree	Complete
Wild Tamarind	Complete

Pruning – Palms

The trim cycle was completed in FY25. A total of 7,375 palms were trimmed.

Species	Estimated Start Date	Status
Coconut palms	1-Oct	Complete
Canary Island & Medjool Date Palms	15-Dec	Complete
Coconut palms	1-Apr	Complete
Cabbage palms	15-Jun	Complete

Removals

There were 92 trees and palms removed.

Species	Count to Date
Hardwoods	38
Palms	54
Total	92

Invasive Exotic Tree Management

The removal of 2 Bishopwood trees from the US41/Tamiami Trail medians were completed this year. This represents the last of the invasive exotic species identified in our 2019 Tree Inventory.

Tree Fill-in 2025

The Tree Fill-in planting expended \$171,770 and planted 68 trees and palms City-wide. The planting focused on canopy trees to improve the canopy coverage along city rights-of-way.



Designated Street Trees Program

Staff continued to work with the Homeowners Associations to select species based on Right Tree, Right Place while reducing palm species. There were two streets needing new species adopted this past fiscal year. The first street was 11th Circle North off of 26th Avenue North. This street had previously been planted with Live Oak. The oak trees are large and cause issues with the driveways due to the lot sizes for homes. The replacement species is the Verawood tree (*Bulnesia arborea*). The second street was Mooring Line Drive. This street had previously been planted with Satinleaf trees. The Satinleaf was a new tree to the city when planted along Mooring Line Dr. This species has not met our standards and thus needs to be changed. The replacement species is the Pink Tabebuia (*Tabebuia pallida*).

Fiscal Year 2025-26 – Work Plan

Hardwoods Pruning

Species or Location	Estimated Time Frame	Status
Street Trees	October - March	
Mahogany		
Riviera Dr		
Black Olive		
Shady Lady		
Stoppers		
Satinleaf		
Parks	April to May	
Lowdermilk Park		
Fleischmann Park		
Anthony Park		
Sandpiper Park		
Goodlette Linear Park		
Orchid Linear Park		
Seagate School Park		
City Operation Center		
Medians	June to July	
Central Ave		
Banyan Blvd		
Gulf Shore Blvd N (Lowdermilk)		
Golden Gate Parkway		
Misc cul-de-sac - South		
5th Ave S (Annual)	August	
Tropical Flowering (Annual)	September	
Royal Poinciana		
Copperpod		
Hong Kong Orchid Tree		
Queen Crape Myrtle		
Golden Shower Tree		
Wild Tamarind		

Palms Pruning

Species	Estimated Start Date	Status
Coconut palms	1-Oct	
Canary Island & Medjool Date palms	15-Dec	
Coconut palms	1-Apr	
Cabbage palms	15-Jun	

Tree Fill-in 2026

The Tree Fill-in 2026 planting project is funded at \$300,000 as a Capital Improvement Project. This funding allows for the planting of vacant sites from natural attrition and storms with a focus on increased shade with the planting of canopy trees.