

# MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert  
Commission Chair

**Regular Meeting**  
~Agenda~

David Schott  
Staff Liaison

tree@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7098

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/557/Tree-Commission>

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**Tuesday**  
**January 6, 2026**

**5:00 PM**

**Mayors Conference Room**  
**206 E 3rd Street**

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## WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REGULAR AGENDA

**1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission December 2, 2026, Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert**

Presentation of minutes for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff with further directions.

**2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 15 minutes)**

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

**3. Consideration of the 2026 Arbor Day Celebration Trees (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert – David Schott**

Staff will provide an update of the coordination efforts with the University of Idaho (UI) for the upcoming Arbor Day celebration. As part of our conversations with the UI, the Tree Commission will discuss the Arbor Day trees for consideration by the UI in the location agreed upon. The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) and Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (SCASLA) suggested quaking aspen. The intent is to start a line of trees at the back of the pollinator garden to help block the view of the highway with hopes of continuing to plant a Campus USA tree each year. Since these trees grow rather quickly, they hope that each tree they plant will show growth from year to year when planted in a line. The proposed idea does fit the theme "Trees for Future Generations."

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve the 2027 Arbor Day tree(s); or take other action as deemed appropriate.

**4. Consideration of the FY2026 Annual Tree Commission Budget (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott**

Each year the Tree Commission discusses and approves their annual budget for inclusion in the City budget request. The Tree Commission will review the FY2026 budget and discuss the upcoming FY2027 budget request.

**ACTION:** Approve the 2027 budget request; or take other such action deemed appropriate.

**5. Consideration of the 2025 Tree Commission Officers (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert**

Each year the Tree Commission elects a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for each calendar year. The Tree Commission will elect members within the Tree Commission for these positions for 2026. The 2025 officers were: Ellis Eifert, Chair; David Rauk, Vice Chair; Mary Jo Hamilton, Secretary.

**ACTION:** Elect the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions.

**UPDATES/REPORTS**

1. **Tree Cookie Workshop - All**

**UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS**

1. **Next Tree Commission Meeting: February 3, 2026**

**ADJOURN**

**NOTICE:** It is the policy of the City of Moscow that all City-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to all people. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability under the ADA, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator by phone at (208) 883-7600, TDD (208) 883-7019, or by email at [adacoordinator@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:adacoordinator@ci.moscow.id.us) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation. The City of Moscow is committed to ensuring that all reasonable accommodation requests are fulfilled.

# MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert  
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting  
~Minutes~

David Schott  
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Tuesday  
December 2, 2025

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room  
206 E 3rd Street

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**The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.**

**PRESENT:** Ellis Eifert (Chair); David Rauk (Vice Chair); Mary Jo Hamilton; Jeanne Leffingwell; Pam Brunsfield

**STAFF:** David Schott (Staff Liaison)

**WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission November 4, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert**

Presentation of minutes for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff with further direction.

Mary Jo moved to approve the minutes as presented. Pam seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Motion carried.

**2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes).**

None.

**3. Consideration of the Tree Service Pruning Education Presentation (ACTION ITEM) – David Rauk**

David Rauk has spearheaded the development of a draft “Proper Tree Pruning for Shade and Ornamental Trees” as an educational tool for our current and future tree contractors licensed to do tree work within the city for a fee.

The commission will discuss the draft content of the educational material as presented. If approved, staff will polish and finalize the educational pruning materials.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve the draft content of the tree contractor educational materials; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

David R. presented a draft document he created using materials from International Society of Arboriculture. Once the draft is approved, City staff will finalize.

Mary Jo moves to approve the draft as presented; Pam seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Motion carried.

**4. Consideration of the Spring 2027 Arbor Day Seedlings (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert – David Schott**

The Tree Commission will discuss options for the 2027 Arbor Day celebration. The commission gives away tree seedlings at the first Farmers Market each year as part of Arbor Day.

The Pitkin Nursery has responded to the Tree Commission’s request for Red Flowering Current, Incense Cedar, Native Mountain Ash, and European Beech. They should have the Incense Cedar, Mountain Ash, and European Beech but are unable to get seeds for Red Flowering Current.

The nursery has suggested Sticky Current as an alternative for the Red Flowering Current. They also have other species not in the current catalog: Buckhorn Cascara, Black Elderberry, English Walnut, and Sugar Pine.

The commission will discuss alternatives for the Red Flowering Current.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve the seedling list for the 2027 Arbor Day celebration; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Pam provided some information against choosing Sticky Current. Some discussion.

Ben moves to approve Buckhorn Cascara as alternative. Jeanne seconded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Abstain: Motion carried.

**UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS**

**1. Moscow Garden Club of Latah County Presentation – David Rauk**

David says the projector did not work, so he could not present his PowerPoint. He still shared information and the Club enjoyed it.

David says the updates to the general knowledge exam are complete and he is working on updating the study guide.

**ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM**

