

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>

Tuesday
August 4, 2026

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission, June 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 Upcoming Citizen and Commission Survey (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

The Tree Commission will discuss and develop two survey questions for inclusion in the 2026 Citizen and Commission Survey. The survey is anticipated to be distributed in October. Survey questions from commissions are due by August 30, 2026.

All prior surveys can be found here:

2023 Commission Survey:

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/DocumentCenter/View/31873/2023-Commission-Survey-Report>

2017 Commission Survey:

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/DocumentCenter/View/8833/2017-Commission-Survey-Report?bidId=>

Citizen Surveys:

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/Archive.aspx?AMID=36>

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the two survey questions; or take other such action deemed appropriate.

4. Consideration of the Tree City USA Growth Award Categories (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert / David Rauk

The Tree Commission reviewed and discussed the current categories of the Arbor Day Foundations Tree City USA Growth Award at their July 1 and August 25, 2025, meetings. This was followed by a discussion at the June 2, 2026, meeting.

Reviewing these categories is an effort to generate future ideas and projects for the Tree Commission to work towards. The link will take you to the Tree City USA Growth Award under “Download Activity List.” <https://www.arborday.org/our-work/tree-city-usa/growth-award>

Ideas discussed at the June 2, 2026, meeting included:

- Neighborhood ambassador program
- Education: Tree care to protect from wind damage
 - Deep rooted trees: noted in street tree planting guide
- Education: trees and shrubs to benefit pollinators
- Education: Moscow School District opportunities
- Natural area management plans
- Trees of the future guide with changing climate
- Embracing social media for tree information and education
- Tree inventory update
- Work with Arts Manager for tree art type project(s)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Identify and approve future Tree Commission projects; or take other such actions as deemed appropriate.

UPDATES/REPORTS

1. Update: FY2027 Tree Commission Budget Request – David Schott

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Tree Commission Meeting: September 1, 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 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
Staff Liaison

tree@ci.moscow.id.us

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

Tuesday
June 2, 2026

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

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

PRESENT: Ellis Eifert (Chair); Jeanne Leffingwell; Mary Jo Hamilton; Pam Brunsfield; Mark Heinlein; Gina Taruscio

STAFF: David Schott (Staff Liaison)

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Welcome Gina Taruscio to the Tree Commission

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Approval of Moscow Tree Commission, April 7, 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.

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

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

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 Tree City USA Growth Award Categories (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert / David Rauk**

The Tree Commission reviewed and discussed the current categories of the Arbor Day Foundations Tree City USA Growth Award at their July 1 and August 25, 2025, meetings. Reviewing these categories is an effort to generate future ideas and projects for the Tree Commission to work towards. The commission will identify and create a short list of project ideas to work on in the future. The link will take you to the Tree City

USA Growth Award under “Download Activity List.” <https://www.arborday.org/our-work/tree-city-usa/growth-award>

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Identify and approve future Tree Commission projects; or take other such actions as deemed appropriate.

- Group discussed the changing climate and weather patterns in Moscow and how that is affecting the older, established trees.
- Started talks on a Trees of the Future concept. A guide to caring for trees with a changing climate.
- Possibly working with the City on creating routine social media posts for greater reach.
- Working on having an updated tree inventory, and more public outreach opportunities were other ideas that were discussed.

UPDATES/REPORTS

1. 2026 Arbor Day – All

Changed up the celebration this year by working with the University of Idaho rather than elementary schools; which went very well.

Changes for next year: would start the planning for Arbor Day long before the actual celebration.

2. May 2 Farmers Market – All

Discussed how the tabling went, seedling giveaways and overall traffic to the table.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Tree Commission Meeting: July 7, 2026

ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM

