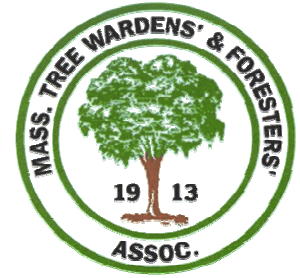


# What do TREE WARDENS Do?



*A Tree Warden is a person who cares for shade trees on public town lands such as parks, town commons, public streets, schools, and town forests.*

**Since the late 1890's**, according to our General Laws, all cities and towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must have a Tree Warden to care for trees on public property.

**The duties of a Tree Warden include** but are not limited to

- Pruning trees on streets and in parks
- Taking down trees damaged by storms or disease
- Planting new trees

**Count the number** of miles of streets in a city or town, or the number of shade trees in a city block, and you will understand a little of the scope of a Tree Warden's job!

**Today, the job of Tree Warden requires qualified training** in arboriculture, the science of tree care. The job is physically challenging as well. On a day-to-day basis, a Tree Warden must plan, organize, control and be accountable for all authorized activities in the community forest.

**There is a great deal of management responsibility** in being a Tree Warden. Tree Wardens design, draft and maintain master plans for tree placement and care along thousands of miles of community streets and on other public lands. This includes working closely with Road Agents or Planning Boards. Tree Wardens must evaluate trees and provide preventive tree maintenance programs and hazardous tree removal. They are responsible for oversight of utility arboricultural operations and outside contractors, for making timely inspections, and often for monitoring many projects at once. In a high-tech world, the Tree Warden must ensure public safety and the safety of town tree workers, procure training, maintain records, prepare budget presentations and bid proposals, run public meetings, and even write grants.

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***Massachusetts Tree Wardens & Foresters Association***

*Since 1913...The Protection and Preservation of Trees*

*The oldest tree organization in the USA.*

# What do TREE WARDENS Do?



**Bearing an important public trust**, today's Tree Warden often works with other government and private organizations committed to the preservation of natural resources, community image, and the development of community forestry programs.

Tree Wardens also implement public service environmental programs with both public officials and non-profit volunteer entities such as beautification committees, garden clubs, environmental groups and youth organizations such as Girl and Boy Scouts.

**Tree Wardens provide leadership and motivation for citizens to learn about and grow the natural environment.** They communicate with the general public, government departments, and outside organizations to investigate and resolve a broad range of citizen concerns. Property values and the quality of life in a community are often greatly influenced by the work of the Tree Warden.

**One of the most satisfying tasks of the Tree Warden's job happens at Arbor Day**, usually the last Friday of April in Massachusetts. Tree Wardens coordinate and implement Arbor Day observances, providing field-related educational services to School Departments and the general public. This may include seeking funds from private and commercial sources for support of the educational efforts. Tree Wardens also conduct continuing research in forest management and actively correspond and meet with other municipal officials and associations related to their field of work.

**Today's Tree Warden strives to maintain the highest standards of professional arboricultural conduct** and to increase the stature of the community's tree program. The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association (MTWFA) is part of that process. The MTWFA assists Tree Wardens by providing ongoing opportunities for training, education and networking. To find out more about how public trees are being cared for, or how to get involved in planting and caring for trees, call your local city or town Tree Warden, or contact:



## Massachusetts Tree Wardens & Foresters Association

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*Organized for the Protection and Preservation of Trees • March 27, 1913 • Dr. George E. Stone, Founder*