

Tree Preservation and Protection through Ordinances

GREGG HOVE AND ERIC MACBETH

City of Eagan, Minnesota

ABSTRACT

With its iconic “Lone Oak Tree” and 25 years as a “Tree City USA” community, the City of Eagan has an enduring commitment to preserve and protect its tree resources. Twenty percent of the city is parkland, and trees and woodlands are integral features of residential and commercial districts. Eagan also has a 21-year tradition of protecting and managing its many surface water resources, which cover almost 10 percent of the city as lakes, wetlands, and stormwater basins.

Using Eagan as one example, this presentation will provide ideas for preservation and protection of existing trees and woodlands and will show how to ensure new development supports healthy tree growth. It will describe the thought process used in creating a tree preservation ordinance and how the city has incorporated tree and woodland preservation into local ordinances, policies, and procedures. It will also summarize how Eagan’s Forestry and Water Resources programs support each other.