



The Urbana Free Library

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Urbana Arbor Division  
Records, 1932-1979

Collection 330

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Tina Cowsert and Donica Martin, September 2019

**Creator/Corporate name:** Urbana (Ill.). Arbor Division

**Inclusive Dates:** 1932-1979, bulk 1932 and 1976-1979

**Physical Description:** 1 box (1.25 linear ft.)

**Language:** English

**Provenance:**

The City of Urbana Arbor Division materials were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives by Mike Brunk, retired city arborist, in May 2019.

**Access:**

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

**Biographical/Historical Note:**

The Urbana Tree Commission was established on August 16, 1976. The Cooperative "Share-the-Cost" Tree Planting Program from 1976 was created for "a city that will be a greener and more pleasant place in which to live." The Tree Commission is composed of 10 commissioners, 7 of which are appointed by the mayor with approval of the city council who have demonstrated knowledge of plants and trees. The remaining 3 commissioners are the director of public works, director of parks and recreation, and the city arborist. The Tree Commission's duties are to adopt rules of procedure, advise the City Arborist regarding amendments to the arboricultural specifications manual, policies concerning selection, planting, maintenance and removal of trees, determine allocation of funds to the arbor division, establishment of educational and informational programs, development of policies and procedures regarding the arborist's duties, issuance of permits, to hear disputes, and development of a program optimizing tree, shrub and other plant resources within the city. The Urbana Tree Commission website is: <https://www.urbanaininois.us/boards/tree-commission>

The City of Urbana also provides guidance for citizens regarding emergency care guides for trees as well as tree protection during construction. More information can be found: <https://www.urbanaininois.us/departments/public-works/about-public-works/arbor>

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains two Street-Tree Mapping Field books from around 1932 and one green ring binder containing original documents of the Urbana Cooperative Tree Planting Program from 1975-1979. Street-Tree Mapping book #2 documents the tree number, species, diameter, condition, and street map location for all trees between 2/26/1932 and 4/10/1932 on streets from the East side of Mathews, east to and including Coler, and from Nevada Street north to and including Springfield Ave. A map is glued to the front inside cover. A folded up piece of paper with tree information from Mathews Street is tucked in the front of the book. Street Tree-Mapping book #7 documents the tree number,



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species, diameter, condition, and street map location for all trees between 2/20/1932 and 4/2/1932 for streets from Anderson east to the city limits. A map is glued to the front inside cover.

The Green Ring Binder contains information on the “The Cooperative Share-the-Cost Tree Planting Program” from Urbana, Illinois in 1976. The binder also contains tabbed sections on program information and signed contract agreements with Urbana citizens, agencies, groups and neighborhoods from 1976 through fall of 1979.

**Arrangement:**

Items are arranged in one oversized box according to size.

**Subject Terms:**

Arborists  
Dendrology  
Tree planting  
Trees  
Urbana (Ill.). Arbor Division  
Urbana (Ill.). City Arborist

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

Tree mapping field book, February 26, 1932-April 10, 1932  
Tree mapping field book, February 20, 1932-April 2, 1932  
Green binder, Urbana Cooperative Tree Planting Program, 1975-1979