

Standard Department Narrative Form

Department Name: **Tree Warden**

Department Number 299

Purpose of Department/Mission

Department Staffing

- One part-time elected Tree Warden who is paid a monthly stipend.
- The work of planting, trimming, cutting down, chipping and stump grinding is done by DPW employees unless town equipment will not handle a specific job.

Mandated Services

- MGL Chapter 87 Section 2.
The tree warden of a town may appoint and remove deputy tree wardens. He and they shall receive such compensation as the town determines or, in default thereof, as the selectmen allow. He shall have the care and control of all public shade trees, shrubs and growths in the town, except those within a state highway, and those in public parks or open places under the jurisdiction of the park commissioners, and shall have care and control of the latter, if so requested in writing by the park commissioners, and shall enforce all the provisions of law for the preservation of such trees, shrubs and growths. He shall expend all money appropriated for the setting out and maintenance of such trees, shrubs and growths, and no tree shall be planted within a public way without the approval of the tree warden, and in towns until a location therefor has been obtained from the selectmen or road commissioners. He may make regulations for the care and preservation of public shade trees and establish fines and forfeitures of not more than twenty dollars in any one case for violation thereof; which, when posted in one or more public places, and, in towns, when approved by the selectmen, shall have the effect of town by-laws.

Other Programs/Services Provided

- The Tree Warden holds hearings as necessary for the purpose of ????
- General duties include trimming branches from public ways, cutting down dead trees, chipping and grinding the resultant limbs and stumps, and planting trees in public ways.
- In general, this work is done by DPW employees. If a tree is too tall or too large for town equipment to handle, the work is done by various local companies.

Revenues Generated

- Memorial Tree gifts are received by the Town from funeral homes. These amounts are set aside and used to purchase trees.