

Hiawatha tree inventory report presented

(KNZA)--A report on Hiawatha's tree inventory was presented to the City Commission this week.

District Community Forester Kim Bomberger said data was collected last September on trees at the City Lake, the city's four parks and along street rights-of-way. It had been 15 to 20 years since the last inventory was done.

Bomberger said data was collected on nearly 1,800 hundred trees consisting of 56 different species.

63 percent of the city's tree population was rated in poor condition, with a majority of the inventory being older, larger trees.

She said maple's comprise 60 percent of the inventory population, with the sugar maple making up 37 percent and silver maple 16 percent.

Bomberger noted its generally recommended that a species should not be more than 10 percent of the inventory population.

Bomberger suggested planting no more maples outside of strategic and highly visible areas, to prevent the opportunity for disease or infestation from destroying a large percentage of trees at one time.

She also recommended that the city take back management of the trees along city streets.

Many Signals Communications