City of Westland
Wayne County, Michigan

Presented By:
Thomas Wilson, Director
Department of Public Service

2001
2002
2003
2004
2005-2006

City Statistics

- 86,000 Residents
- 27,000 Households
- 200 Miles of Road
- 20.4 Acres (City Limits)
Emerald Ash Bore Statistics

- 18,000 ROW Trees
- 3,217 Ash Trees Removed (21%)

Problems

- Project Always Changing
- Trees Died Faster Than Expected
  - Trees would have no leaves when 20% or more of the top of tree was dead the previous year
- Residents Reluctant for Tree Removal
  - Had to wait for NO LEAVES!
- Not Enough Resources
  - Personnel
  - Equipment
  - Time
Planning

- Create Budget for Tree Removal
- Collect & Maintain Tree Inventory
  - Determine extent of problem
- Train Personnel
  - Tree removal (*Not Just Trimming*)
- Change Tree Ordinance
  - Plant a diverse tree population
- Start to Purchase Proper Equipment
  - Large chippers, Trucks, Loader equipment
- Open Saw Shop

Managing

- Everything Goes Through One Foreman
  - All Complaints
  - All Scheduling
- Assign Sufficient Personnel
  - Westland used 8 employees per day
    - Average of 4.5 trees removed daily
- Remove Trees – Stumping After
- Contract Work Out
  - Use lots of 100 Trees
    - Small contractors – Competitive bidding
  - Winter time work
- Update Inventory
City Employees Removed 2,000 Trees
• Average - $621.00 per tree
• Total Cost - $2,000,000

Costs

Funding
• Road Funds
• Federal-State Grants
• Tree Fund
  – Developers
• Federal Block Funds (CDBG)
• Putting off Tree Trimming Projects
• Equipment Funds
  – Purchase Tree Removal Equipment
Residential Impact

• Increased Water Bill
  – Increase lawn watering due to lack of shade
    • Estimated increase – 33%

• Increased Energy Costs
  – Rise in air conditioning costs
    • Loss of shaded areas around home
  – Rise in heating costs
    • Increase wind path in winter

Public Awareness

United States Department of Agriculture
www.emeraldashborer.info
Questions

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