



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – OCT. 25, 2012

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### **COVINGTON TO DEVELOP STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TREES**

Covington, WA – The City of Covington is preparing a strategic plan for trees. Yes, trees. Trees are very important assets to a community and as Covington's population has grown 40 percent over the past 15 years, so has the number of trees being planted on new arterials, along neighborhood streets and in parks. By obtaining a \$10,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, the City is developing what's known as an Urban Forestry Strategic Plan.

Not only do trees provide shade and shelter for animals, they help absorb storm water, cool the ground and streams, and improve property values. However, trees also have maintenance costs, replacement costs and can be a liability as they age or if they are damaged. This plan will help provide clearer direction to city departments and cost effective management of public trees.

The public is encouraged to attend an open house on Wednesday, Nov. 7 to preview and comment on the first draft of the new plan. The open house will be held in the community room at Covington City Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Public Works Director Glenn Akramoff at [gakramoff@covingtonwa.gov](mailto:gakramoff@covingtonwa.gov) or (253) 480-2400.

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