

Chattanooga Tree Advisory Commission

Sec. 32-303. Establishment of a Tree Commission.

- (a) There shall be created a commission to be known and designated as the "Chattanooga Tree Commission" composed of nine (9) persons, who shall be residents of the City of Chattanooga or of Hamilton County. Said members shall be appointed by the mayor with approval of the Governing Body of the City and shall have at least five (5) members who are professionally trained in related fields as an Arborist, Landscape Architect, Biologist, Realtor/Developer/Home Builder or General Contractor, and an Engineer/Architect/Surveyor. The City Forester, City Landscape Inspector/Plan Reviewer and other professionals designated by the City Forester shall serve as advisors to the Commission. All members of the Commission shall serve without pay. The members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years and serve until their successors are duly appointed and approved by the City Council. Successors to those members appointed by the Mayor shall thereafter be appointed for terms of four (4) years. Vacancies caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments are made.
- (b) **Organization.** Within a reasonable time after the appointment of said Commission and approval of the members thereof, upon call of the Mayor, the Commission shall meet and organize by election of a chairman and a secretary. The Commission shall then provide adoption of rules and procedures and for holding of regular and special meetings as the Commission shall deem advisable and necessary in order to perform the duties set forth.
- (c) **Duties.**
 - (1) The Commission shall study the problems and determine the needs of the City of Chattanooga in connection with its urban forestry program and report from time to time to the Governing Body of the City as to desirable legislation concerning the tree program and related activities for the City.
 - (2) The Commission shall recommend to the Administrator of Public Works candidates for the office of City Forester.
 - (3) The Commission shall assist the properly constituted officials of the City, as well as the Governing Body and citizens of the City, in the dissemination of news and information regarding the selection, planting, and maintenance of trees within the incorporated city limits, whether they be on private or public property.
 - (4) The Commission shall provide prior notice and maintain minutes of all regular and special meetings pursuant to Tennessee law at which the subject of trees, insofar as it relates to the City, may be discussed by the members of the Commission, officers and personnel of the City and its several divisions, and all others interested in the urban forestry program.
 - (5) The Commission shall hear and decide appeals from decisions of the City Forester as set forth in Sec. 32-306. Any appeal from the actions of the Commission shall be filed in writing within thirty (30) days of the action of the Tree Commission with the secretary of the Board of Appeals and Variances of the City.