



**Tree & Storm Water Advisory Board**  
**January 8, 2025, 7:00 pm**  
**City Council Chambers, 360 N. Main Street, North Liberty, Iowa**

This meeting may be accessed live by the public in person or on the internet at [northlibertyiowa.org/live](https://northlibertyiowa.org/live), on Facebook at [facebook.com/northliberty](https://facebook.com/northliberty) or on YouTube at [youtube.com/c/northliberty](https://youtube.com/c/northliberty). Meetings are rebroadcast on cable and available on-demand on [northlibertyiowa.org](https://northlibertyiowa.org).

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
  - a. July 10, 2024
3. Public Comment
4. Tree Reports
  - a. Tree City USA 2024 application submitted and approved by the Iowa DNR Forestry.
  - b. MidAmerican 2025 *Trees Please Grant* application submitted. (Penn Meadows Park)
  - c. Report on 2024 tree plantings and removals.
  - d. Arbor Day - Proclamation read at April 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council meeting.
  - e. Arbor Day - April 25, 2025.
  - f. Other tree topics not listed.
5. Muddy Creek & Trail clean-up April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Rec Center
6. Storm Water Report
  - a. Liberty Centre Pond's edge stone outcropping repair project.
  - b. Liberty Centre Pond north point dredging.
  - c. Salt usage on sidewalks and parking lots information.
  - d. Muddy Creek Culvert cleanout project.
  - e. Middle Iowa Watershed update.
  - f. Other storm water topics not listed.
7. Old Business
8. New Business
8. Next Meeting
  - a. April 9, 2025, at 7:00pm.
9. Adjournment

# Bike Trail & Muddy Creek Clean-Up

The Tree & Storm Water Advisory Board with assistance from Boy Scout Troop 216, Cub Scout Pack 216 & 275 and the Greencastle 4-H Clover Kids will be leading this clean-up day to remove debris along Big Muddy Creek and the bike trail.



For more information, please call the Parks Department at 626-5720.  
or email [Guy Goldsmith](mailto:ggoldsmith@northlibertyiowa.org)  
[ggoldsmith@northlibertyiowa.org](mailto:ggoldsmith@northlibertyiowa.org)

Public involvement, participation and education of storm water pollution prevention and management is the goal of this event!

In observance of Keep America Beautiful Day, please join Boy Scout Troop 216, Cub Scout Pack 216 & 275, Greencastle 4-H Clover Kids, City Staff, and the Tree & Storm Water Advisory Board for this event!

**Sat., April 5, 2025**

**9:00AM**

**Meet @ Rec. Center**

**Volunteers Needed!**





# PROCLAMATION

## Arbor Day

**Whereas**, trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife; and

**Whereas**, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

**Whereas**, the City of North Liberty has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices; and

**Whereas**, each year Arbor Day is observed by the people of North Liberty, Iowa, with special attention paid to the care and planting of trees; and

**Whereas**, trees— wherever they are planted — are a source of joy and spiritual renewal;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved:** I, Chris Hoffman, Mayor of the City of North Liberty, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2025, to be

### **ARBOR DAY**

in North Liberty, Iowa, and encourage all North Liberty citizens to participate in tree planting and nurture, protect and wisely use Iowa's natural wonder of trees so that we will ensure a more beautiful city and state, promoting the well-being of this and future generations.

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**Mayor Chris Hoffman**

## **North Liberty Tree and Storm Water Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** July 10, 2024, 7:00 PM

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Abdouramane Bila.

### **Board Members Present:**

Darice Baxter, Abdouramane Bila, Michael Burrill, Kevin McGrane, Daniel Green, Guy Goldsmith (Parks Director), Mike Wolfe (Stormwater Coordinator), Brian Hamer (City Arborist).

### **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

The minutes from the April 2024 meeting were approved. Motion by Kevin McGrane, seconded by Darice Baxter. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment:**

No public comments were made.

Guy Goldsmith mentioned that inquiries occasionally arise regarding responsibility for downed trees on private property after storms. He clarified that homeowners are responsible unless it's deemed an emergency situation.

### **New Board Member Welcome:**

Abdouramane Bila welcomed new board member Daniel Green and provided an update on board member terms.

### **Appointment of 2025 Fiscal Year Board Positions:**

- **Chairperson:** Michael Burrill nominated Abdouramane Bila, who accepted the nomination. Motion carried.
- **Vice Chair:** Kevin McGrane was nominated. Motion carried.
- **Secretary:** Michael Burrill was nominated. Motion carried.

### **Updates:**

- **Tree Planting Delay:**  
Guy Goldsmith reported that the MidAmerican 2024 "Trees Please" planting at Penn Meadows Park has been delayed until fall due to wet conditions. The trees need to be planted, and a status report must be submitted by October 25th to remain compliant.
- **Tree and Landscape Maintenance:**  
Brian Hamer discussed summer maintenance activities, including watering trees under four years old, mulching, and trimming dead branches. He mentioned the removal of an Ash tree at Creekside Park due to safety concerns from a resident. No further Ash trees are scheduled for removal, as treatments for the Emerald Ash Borer are proving effective. When asked if the treatments are required annually, Brian confirmed they are. Guy

Goldsmith added that Emerald Ash Borers will continue to move through the area until their food source is depleted.

- **Stormwater Update:**

Mike Wolfe reported on updates to city permits and management plans. He also shared that the Middle Iowa Watershed Authority kickoff meeting would take place on July 11, 2024, to introduce a consultant to the community and develop a plan. Invitations were sent to around 150 citizens.

- **Fishkill at Freedom Park:**

Guy Goldsmith shared that a fishkill occurred at Freedom Park, primarily affecting grass carp, with over 100 carp dying due to lack of oxygen. He explained that fishkills are natural and help manage overpopulation. The pond will be restocked with sterile grass carp to control algae.

### **Other Business:**

- Abdouramane Bila asked Mike Wolfe about the status of the city's GIS stormwater mapping. Mike confirmed it has been completed.
- New board member Dan Green spoke about his background, sharing that he is a lifelong resident of the area, holds a bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Iowa, and works in environmental consulting at Terracon. He has lived in North Liberty for 10 years and joined the board to become more involved in the community.
- Board members Abdouramane Bila, Michael Burrill, Kevin McGrane, and Darice Baxter shared their reasons for serving on the board.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Kevin McGrane, seconded by Darice Baxter. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.