

Discussion of Chapter 40: Trees and other Vegetation

Introduction:

Revision of Ann Arbor City Code Chapter 40: Trees and Other Vegetation is intended to address issues of safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, as well as issues related to installation of alternatives to mowed turf grass that provide ground cover, flowers and habitat for pollinators and other wildlife habitat.

Goals:

- Support ecosystem services within sustainable yards and gardens,
- Reduce municipal water use,
- Minimize stormwater runoff,
- Reduce turf grass,
- Support establishing variations in vegetation on property that provide pollinator habitat,
- Support pedestrian and vehicle safety with respect to site distances at corners, hills and curves, and along yard easements,
- Demonstrate care of vegetation,
- Minimize enforcement conflict points for monitoring and enforcement, and
- Focus on education of the community.

Discussion:

- Address issues of complexity and ease of management
- Clarity
- Support for staff implementation of code
- Address Goals
- Determine elements that will benefit from code enforcement