

No. R-518. House concurrent resolution congratulating the city of Burlington on being named a 2012 Tree City U.S.A.

(H.C.R.402)

Offered by: Representatives Pearson of Burlington, Aswad of Burlington, Atkins of Winooski, Bissonnette of Winooski, Donovan of Burlington, Krowinski of Burlington, Lorber of Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Wizowaty of Burlington and Wright of Burlington

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Baruth, Fox, Lyons, Miller and Snelling

Whereas, the city of Burlington manages more than 12,000 urban trees, including 8,500 street trees, 3,500 park and cemetery trees, and 150 acres of forested parkland, and

Whereas, in 2011, the city of Burlington through its department of parks and recreation conducted many worthy activities intended to beautify the city, including the planting of 130 street, park, and cemetery trees by volunteers and contractors; removing 64 dead and hazardous trees and 59 stumps; pruning 1,385 street and park trees; fertilizing 195 street, park, and cemetery trees; cleaning and maintaining 138 tree grates in the downtown and along North Street as part of the annual work plan; and maintaining 65 beds of park shrubs and flowers, adding compost, and pruning, and

Whereas, students at three of Burlington's elementary schools participated in department-sponsored Arbor Day programs, and

Whereas, in association with the University of Vermont Extension, the city of Burlington's department of parks and recreation continued the All America Selections Flower Display Garden at Waterfront Park, and

Whereas, the department and Branch Out Burlington! planted 125 trees at the Burlington Community Nursery; sponsored the 11th annual Awesome Tree Contest and awards ceremony; and sponsored the third annual tree sale at which 185 bare-root trees were sold, and

Whereas, the Burlington department of parks and recreation has a staff of four full-time arborists under the supervision of city arborist Warren Spinner, and

Whereas, the Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, the National Association of State Foresters, and, in Vermont, the department of forests, parks and recreation sponsors the Tree City U.S.A. program, and

Whereas, the city of Burlington has met and far exceeded the criteria required for Tree City U.S.A. designation, and on May 4, 2012 at the state house, it will be presented this honor for the 18th consecutive year, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the city of Burlington on its 18th consecutive designation as a 2012 Tree City U.S.A., and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Burlington department of parks and recreation.