



Tree Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

**807 Mountain Avenue
Berthoud, Colorado 80513
Monday, July 20, 2026, at 5:30 PM**

This is an **In-Person** meeting at the location and time noted above.

This meeting will be streamed live on YouTube. The live stream is accessible by visiting www.berthoud.org/stream.

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - A. June 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- 3. Public Comment Period**
- 4. Discussion Items**
 - B. 2026/27 Cemetery planting plans
 - C. Town Park tree removal
 - D. TAC Report to the Board - Committee input
- 5. Staff Report**
- 6. Adjourn**

Next Scheduled Meeting is August 17th, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

If you require special accommodation, please contact the Town Clerk at 970-532-2643 at least 24 hours in advance.

BERTHOUD TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 2026 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order:

Rick called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M. on Monday, June 15, 2026.

2. Roll Call:

1. Richard (Rick) Kurcab – Chairman - present
 2. Daniel (Danny) Buendia – Vice-chair - present
 3. Randy Niece – Secretary – present
 4. Kathy Mitchell – present
 5. Hannah Daniels – present
 6. Paul Buckner – present
 7. Natalie Peitsmeyer – present
- Quorum – 7/7 in attendance
- Sean Murphy – Town Liaison – present
 - Paul Furnas – Town Forester & Open Space Supervisor – present

3. Approval of Minutes from May 2026 Meeting:

- A quorum was available. Kathy moved to approve notes. Danny 2nd the motion. All voice approved.

4. Public Comment or Non agenda items:

- a. Prior to the start of the meeting, a staff technician talked to committee members about town emails.
- b. Paul offered compliments to the committee for their prep and presentation at the Trustee meeting.
- c. Randy asked if there was anything the committee could do to assist Danny with getting the Arboretum contract amount to within the budget. Danny felt it was handled.
- d. The Nielsen walk path is felt to have many bare areas that could use more of the nursery trees. Paul won't plant where there is no irrigation.

5. Discussion Items per agenda:

- a. Berthoud Day 2026 Recap
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) A lot of people spoke in favor of building the Arboretum. There was a notebook signed by citizens that went with Stephanie.
 - 3) Suggestion was made to have more swag or games for next year.
 - 4) Paul thought if we had a live tree out front, it would bring more attention to the booth.
 - a) It was suggested that a contest be held to guess what kind of tree it was.
 - b) All felt the branding of the Forestry Dept. could be better to distinguish our booth.
 - 5) Sean pointed out the new Berthoud webpage to better engage with the public. More interactive. The timeline for introduction is unknown.
- b. 2027 Arbor Day Calendar
 - 1) Public comment – none
 - 2) Paul needs to make earlier effort to visit schools. March is cutting it close.
 - 3) In July, info should be provided to teachers for next year's curriculum.
 - 4) It was thought Carrie Martin elementary could be added to the eligible schools.
 - 5) Danny agreed to do the scanning of the drawings. Thought he could have it done this week.
 - 6) Natalie will set up a Survey Monkey survey to allow committee members and staff to vote on the drawings.
 - 7) Discussion about how best to vote on the drawings.

- 8) Timeline for completing the calendar
 - a) Complete survey before the next meeting.
 - b) Finalize posters and layouts by October.
 - c) Send to printer by November.
- 9) Funding is coming from Education & Outreach budget. All were in favor of approaching local business for sponsorship money. Rec Center has done this, and we can follow their model. The fundraiser's goal is \$1,000.
- c. Stressed Tree Scouting/Report
 - 1) Public comment - none
 - 2) Heritage Ridge had three Honeylocust on one property appearing to be dead. They were simply missing leaves but appeared to still be alive. Cause is still unknown.
 - 3) Ash located in Mary's Farm has strange area where no leaves are present. Paul will continue investigation into the cause.
 - 4) The Forestry dept has a new way to track where problem trees are located.
 - 5) Paul feels trees appearing bare around town may be due to longer growing season and bug cycles. He will keep the committee informed.

Action Items:

1. Sean will reach out to Carrie Martin to see if they want to participate in the calendar.
2. Paul asked that all committee members send him an email to confirm new town addresses.

6. Staff Report:

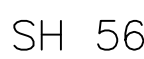
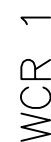
- a. Staff has been adding irrigation to 8 trees to avoid hand watering.
- b. Planting being done around the Pioneer pickleball court, bushes and trees.
- c. Paul has gotten a new hire to help out with the watering task.
- d. The cost-sharing program is wrapping up for the spring. 3 of 5 completed.
- e. Richard has gotten TRAQ certified.
- f. Brandon is starting up his tree walks.

7. Adjourn:

- Rick adjourned the meeting at 7:12 P.M. on the 15th day of June 2026.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, July 20th, 2026, at 5:30 pm.**

Signature:

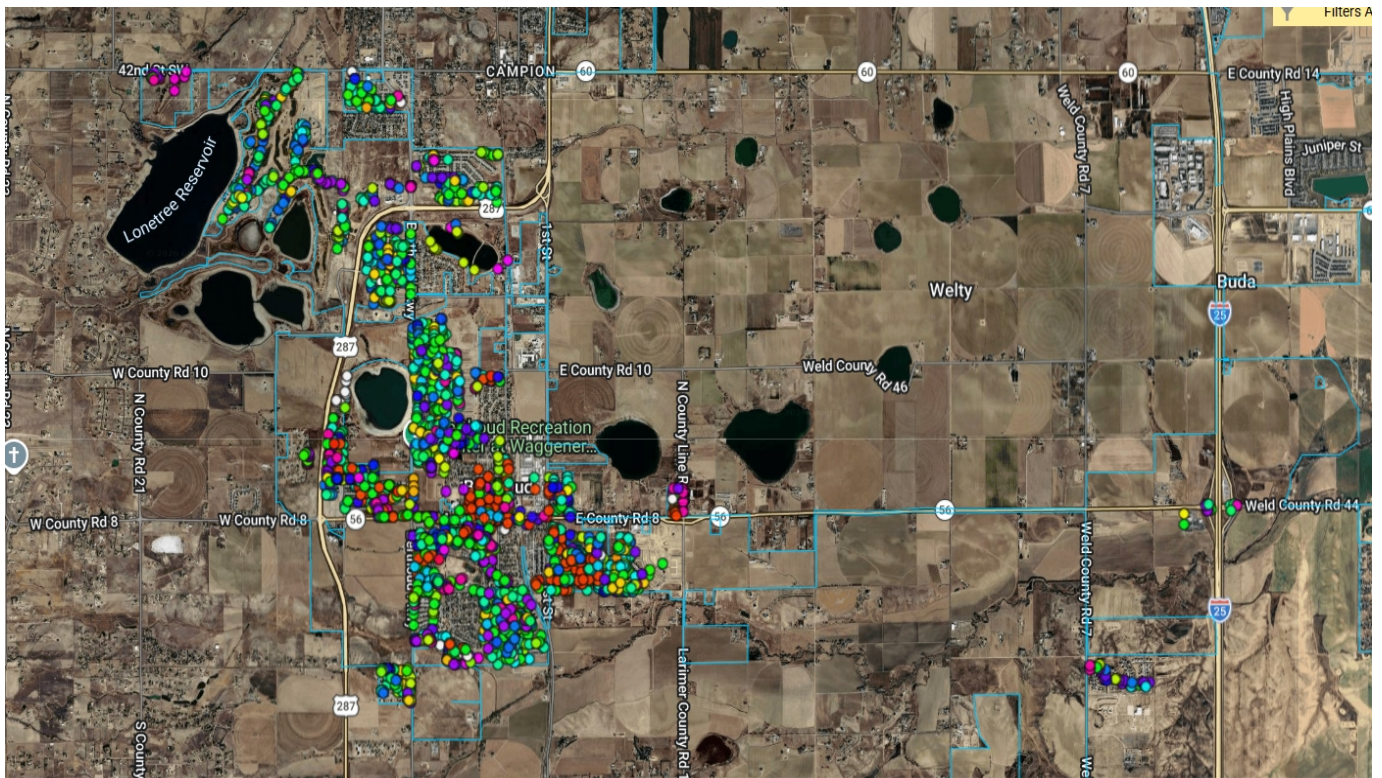


Berthoud Tree Advisory Committee (BTAC)

Annual Report for 2025-2026

For Presentation to the Board of Trustees

16 June 2026



Purpose:

The Town of Berthoud Tree Advisory Committee (BTAC) was formed in 1980.

- A resolution (2011.04 adopted March 8, 2011) by the Berthoud Board of Trustees states that “The Tree Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to staff of the Town of Berthoud concerning policies, rules, regulations and specifications...” pertaining to a multiple number of activities and issues about trees and plants in public “rights-of-ways” and other public places.
- Berthoud has a tree inventory (ROW, HOA Commons areas and public spaces) of over 12,000 trees.
- ***Berthoud has been a “Tree City USA” award member continuously since 1983.***

Membership:

BTAC was fully staffed with a few leadership and membership changes during the year. The current membership is:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - Richard Kurcab – Chair | - Paul Buckner |
| - Daniel Buendia – Vice Chair | - Natalie Peitsmeyer |
| - Randy Niece – Secretary | - Sean Murphy, Town Trustee Liaison |
| - Kathy Mitchell | - Paul Furnas, Staff Representative |
| - Hannah Daniels | |

Summary of Activities for 2025-2026

A. Community Activities:

- Arbor Day 2026 Poster Contest Calendar – 300 were printed and passed out to the public.
- Organized and staffed a “STEM Night” Forestry presentation at Ivy Stockwell Elementary School with displays and hands on activities.
- Arbor Day 2026 planting at Town Park- 7 trees were planted by community members of all ages, with a tree prize raffle and other giveaways.
- Participated with the Town Forester in staffing a Town booth during both Berthoud Day and Oktoberfest.
- The implementation by Forestry of the “Street Tree Cost Sharing Program” – which has 5 citizens participating in the first months.



B. Community Communication:

- Discussed monthly tree care tips to be published on the Forestry website.
- Collaborate with Master Gardeners to staff the booths for Arbor Day, Berthoud Day and Oktoberfest.
- Answered tree related questions, and provided educational literature at Arbor Day, Berthoud Day and Oktoberfest booths.
- Advised the Forester on a special EAB page that was added to the town website.
- - Discussed with staff regarding the Street Tree Replacement Program, including emails to all HOA's about the program.



C. Support and Advice to Staff:

- Discussions with staff on spring and fall tree planting locations and varieties.
- Assisted Forestry in identifying items to include in the “Tree City USA Growth Awards” application.
- Reviewed the EAB Plan and discussed ways to further inform the public about the plan.
- Discussed S.B. 24-005 regarding the nonfunctional turf in street strip rights-of-ways and its possible effect on the trees in those areas.
- Hosted an “America in Bloom” presentation and discussed possible collaboration with the staff and committee on projects.



D. Future Goals and Ideas:

- Decide on a tree variety and/or town tree to represent the Town of Berthoud.
- Create a handbook for BTAC members.
- Form a citizen science initiative to include the public in projects.
- Inviting the public, or groups, to committee meetings to promote community outreach.
- Create a “Champion Trees of Berthoud” program to increase public interest.

E. Recommendations to the Board:

- Clarification on whether or not the Town can require tree replacements in citizen owned right-of way street strips.
- Create a way to encourage tree replacement and maintenance in HOA common areas, greenbelts and business properties to ensure that the character of Berthoud will continue on.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the BTAC.

Richard Kurcab, BTAC chairman

