



NeighbourWoods IN BEAVERBROOK

Community Tree Stewardship



Background & Purpose

Background

- NeighbourWoods is one of the KBCA's ongoing projects
- Need to sustain and improve our urban forest
- Overall forest status was unknown (private / city)
- Recovery from loss to Emerald Ash Borer
- Large percentage of trees are mature / few younger trees
- Community interest in forest renewal
- Trees mitigate pollution / climate change

Purpose

- Establish baseline – inventory: diversity, age, condition
- Foster community stewardship and education
- Initiate strategic forest management plan

The NeighbourWoods Approach

The first step in developing and implementing ANY forest management plan is to understand the extent and condition of the urban forest in a community.

- Community-based urban forest inventory
- Residents learn to gather information about trees
- Developed for use by lay people
- U of Toronto – proven, scientific method (Dr. A. Kenny)
- Consistent, comprehensive tree assessment
- Educational, community-building & fun!

Activity Since Last AGM

- 2019 season: inventoried two clusters: Milne/Varley & Tiffany/Leacock - approximately 1100 trees
- Hosted panel discussion on tree selection & planting
- Partnered with environmental groups on greenspace protection, including an updated tree bylaw
- Worked with City of Ottawa Forestry on tree planting
- Helped other groups prepare for their tree inventories



Progress to date



Orange = Project Scope Area
Green = 2017/2018 Inventory

Blue = 2019 Inventory

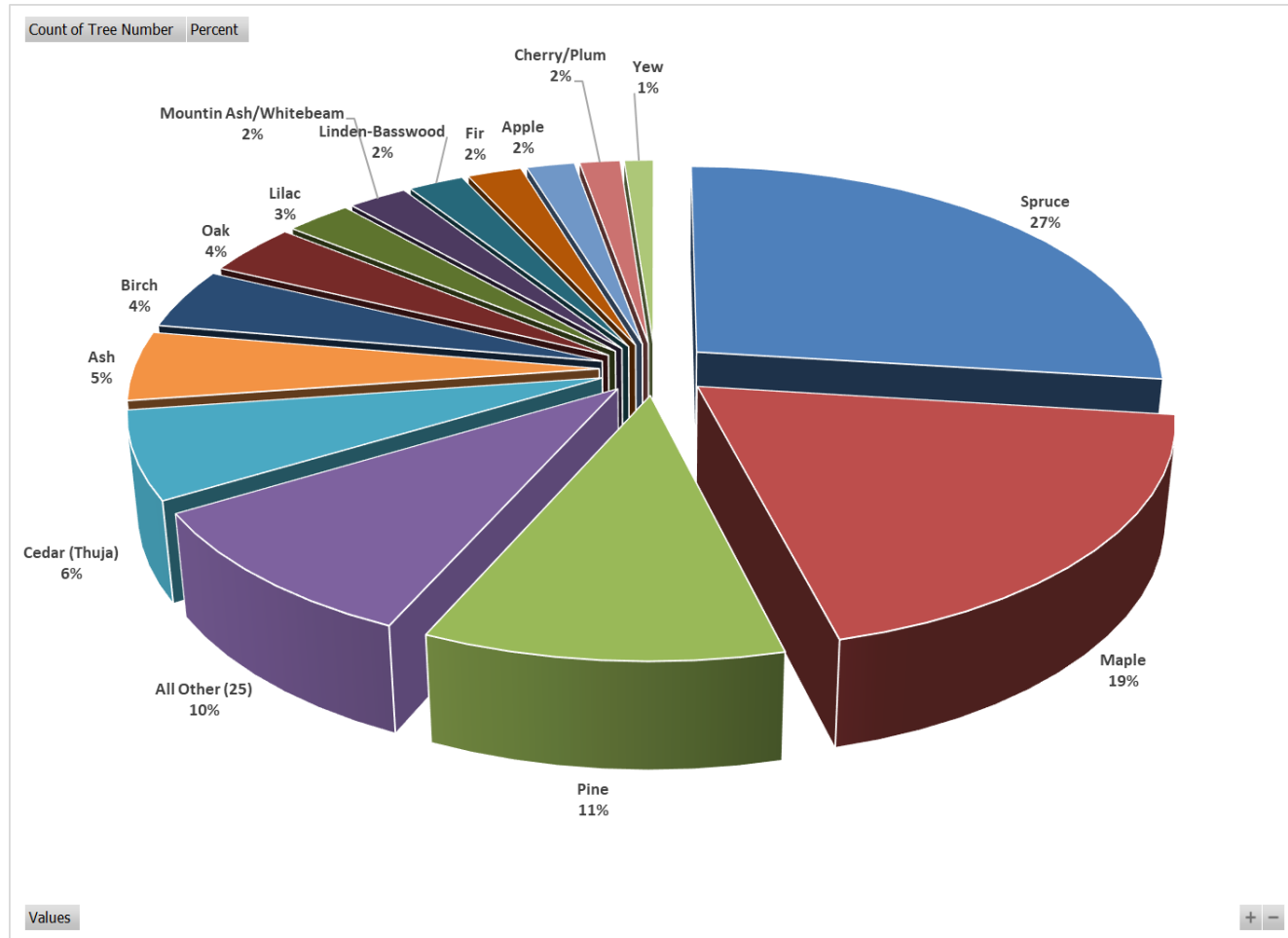


NeighbourWoods
IN BEAVERBROOK

<u>Year</u>	Houses*	Trees
2017 - 2018	153	1098
2019	<u>142</u>	<u>1087</u>
Total	295	2185
Unique Tree Species	>90	
Plantable Spots	41	

* 7 houses were excluded from inventory at owner's request

Distribution by Genus



Spruce, Maple, and Pine trees account for 57% of trees. A rule of thumb of good forest management is that no single genus should exceed 20% of the inventory.

At 27% spruce trees, particularly white spruce, are over represented in the urban forest.

2020 Season Activities

- Covid-19 constraints caused the cancellation of the annual training course and door-to-door inventory.
- A core team of volunteers is working virtually on data management / assessment, tool development and process improvements (Identification of Pests & Diseases, Dendrology aids, GPS mapping)
- Continuing community partnership with Carleton University, Environmental Science faculty
- If possible, tree assessment in parks in the fall