



WisconsinUrbanWood.org | Madison WI 53704 | 608-622-7212

Madison Parks - Wisconsin Urban Wood In-Kind Log Trade Proposal

This proposal has been developed in good faith that utilizing Madison Parks' logs will increase the social, economic, and ecological benefits of Madison's urban forests and neutralize or ameliorate departmental transportation and handling costs.

Based on ongoing discussions between Madison Parks (Parks) and Wisconsin Urban Wood (WUW), Parks recognizes that WUW member sawyers have interest in Parks' logs and WUW recognizes that municipal efforts to make these logs accessible must be either cost neutral or of benefit to the city.

This proposal recognizes urban logs have only limited market value when removed one to a few at a time from various urban settings where nails and other hardware are more likely to be encountered. At the same time, if multiple logs may be gathered by a WUW member in a single trip and if they can be loaded by city crews during their normal operations, those logs may have some marketable value to nearby WUW member sawyers.

Parks currently has marked in orange paint those ash trees for planned for removal throughout the parks system. Parks generally knows days to weeks in advance when the removals will occur and will provide notice of the removal site schedule to WUW without additional burden.

WUW may identify logs that they would like salvaged by spray-painting an additional marking (a pink W) on or about the orange mark. Those marked logs would be placed curbside consistent with existing practice, and on the subsequent scheduled pick up day the Forestry crew would coordinate with WUW to identify their approximate arrival time at sites where WUW logs are waiting. If a WUW member truck or trailer is present at the time they arrive, the log/s will be loaded onto the member truck/trailer. If no WUW member is present to claim the log/s, they will follow their normal pick-up process and proceed to their next point.

In trade for these logs, participating WUW members will provide in-kind products of use to Parks. Currently identified products include 3 urban wood conference tables and lumber in species suitable for picnic tables and similar outdoor uses, such as locust, bur oak or white oak. These are products that WUW members can produce and would otherwise need to be purchased on the commercial market by Parks.

While no financial transactions are anticipated, fair market values for these log-to-product trades are recommended as follows:

For ash and most other hardwoods an urban log value of \$150/1000 board feet in log scale will be used. For walnut, an urban log value of \$1000/1000 board feet in log scale will be used. For picnic table lumber assumed in species above a value of \$2.50 per board foot is assumed. This lumber would be rough sawn (but smooth enough to no catch clothing) and with corners eased. It would be partially air dried. Knots and some drying checks and other character consistent with urban wood will be included, but all lumber must be sound for the intended uses. Specific desired sizes will be determined on an ongoing basis. Not all wood will be from prior Parks acquisitions, but WUW members are expected to source this lumber locally. For conference tables, the current list included two at ~42x96 and one at ~48x84. These are tentatively assumed in ~1.5" urban ash with specific preference toward Parks sourced wood. The table tops have an in-kind value of \$1200 per top, plus actual cost on steel legs. Options for wood legs can be provided at rates to be determined based on the design and cost for the specific WUW member that would be producing that option. All costs assume pick up by Parks from the local WUW member shop that produces the top.

Participation by WUW members is entirely optional, based on both marking of trees by WUW members and their presence for pickup during Parks' Monday milk runs. WUW will provide a log scale tally for retrieved logs and WUW will track which members receive what quantities to apportion responsibilities to supply either park lumber or tables as those tally levels are reached. WUW notes there is a likely a 3-6 month lag between log acquisition and picnic table lumber availability and a 6-12 month delay between acquisition of a log and its availability for a conference table (due to kiln drying times).

The above coordination would be in addition to planned log auctions coordinated between Parks and Forestry, in which WUW may also play an active roll, but through which others could also bid and purchase logs, and from which purchasers would have no ongoing commitment to the City beyond payment for purchased lots. Auctions can also serve as an ongoing assessment of urban wood market value when available in larger lots.

Parks' supervisor will make final decisions about access to logs (when, where, how, who), while WUW's executive director will make final decisions regarding any partner's eligibility for participation. For all intents and purposes, this proposal will serve as a cooperative agreement and will be determined and/or revised as needed for the mutual benefit of all parties.