

Media Release



HOMER GLEN

Invasive Species Removal

Homer Glen, (For Immediate Release)

(Municipality) awarded funding to remove dead trees infected by emerald ash borer

Homer Glen, Ill. March 19, 2025 —The Village of Homer Glen was awarded a \$15,000 grant to remove invasive species throughout the natural Woodland at Lamers Park.

Funding for this project was provided by the Urban and Community Forestry Programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and USDA Forest Service Eastern Region. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. These funds are administered by The Morton Arboretum's [Chicago Region Trees Initiative \(CRTI\)](#).

"The Village inherited Lamers Park in 2022. It has an Oak and Hickory Woodland where nearly 100-year-old trees reside. It is filled with invasive species that need to be removed in order to preserve this woodland. It is a naturally regenerating woodland and the only one of its kind within a Village Park," according to Parks Director and Village Arborist Jennifer Vittori.

The funds will be applied toward contracted services, supplies (trees, soil, mulch, caging materials, safety glasses and gloves for Environment Committee volunteers), equipment rental and herbicides.

Invasive species, such as buckthorn, can cause widespread damage in local forests if left unmanaged. Grant funds will also be used to plant new trees to grow tree canopy in the community.

"Improving the distribution of trees and green spaces directly impacts the health and economic outcomes for communities," said CRTI Director Zach Wirtz. "Projects like this improve quality of life and boost the urban tree canopy's resilience to threats posed by environmental conditions, pests and diseases."

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Full event details at www.homerglenil.org

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