

RCW 76.15.020 Authority. (1) The department may establish and maintain a program in urban and community forestry to accomplish the purpose stated in RCW 76.15.007. The department may assist cities, counties, and federally recognized tribes in establishing and maintaining urban and community forestry programs and encourage appropriate and improved tree management and care.

(2) The department may advise, encourage, and assist cities, counties, tribes, and other public and private entities in the development and coordination of policies, programs, and activities for the promotion of urban and community forestry.

(3) The department may appoint a committee or council to advise the department in establishing and carrying out a program in urban and community forestry.

(4) The department may assist municipal and county tree maintenance programs by making surplus equipment available on loan where feasible for urban and community forestry programs and cooperative projects.

(5) An owner of private property may opt out of a voluntary urban and community forestry program established by a city, county, or federally recognized tribe pursuant to this chapter. The property owner opting out must provide notice to the city, county, or federally recognized tribe in either written or electronic form. [2021 c 209 s 5; 2008 c 299 s 3; 1991 c 179 s 4.]

Findings—Intent—2021 c 209: See note following RCW 76.15.005.

Short title—2008 c 299: "This act may be known and cited as the evergreen communities act." [2008 c 299 s 37.]