

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Robert C. Steiner

AN ACT RELATING TO FORESTRY; CREATING AN URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM WITHIN THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY, FIRE AND STATE LANDS; AND SPECIFYING POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DIVISION.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

ENACTS:

65A-8-1.2, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **65A-8-1.2** is enacted to read:

65A-8-1.2. Urban and community forestry program.

(1) An urban and community forestry program is created within the division.

(2) The purpose of the program is to encourage the planting and maintenance of trees within municipalities and unincorporated communities.

(3) The division may:

(a) advise and assist municipalities, counties, and other public and private entities in developing and coordinating policies, programs, and activities promoting urban and community forestry;

(b) receive federal funds for the urban and community forestry program; and

(c) provide grants to municipalities and counties for urban and community forestry programs and cooperative projects.

(4) The division shall:

(a) develop a public education program to inform tree care professionals and citizens of the hazards involved with the planting of new trees and the maintenance of existing trees near overhead power lines and highways; and

(b) develop and implement a program of public awareness to inform citizens about the benefits of planting trees in urban areas and how to maintain trees.

