

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 20 – 5:00 P.M.

## REMOTE ACCESS MEETING

### AGENDA

Please be advised that all of the Environmental Sustainability Committee members will be remotely attending this Committee meeting by electronic means, in compliance with Governor's Executive Order 2020-39, issued on May 29, 2020, that extended the suspension of certain Open Meetings Act provisions relating to in-person attendance by members of a public body. Specifically, the Governor's Order: (1) suspends the requirement in Section 2.01 that "members of a public body must be physically present;" and (2) suspends the limitations in Section 7 on when remote participation is allowed. This Executive Order is effective the duration of the current Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation. The City will be providing members of the public with various opportunities to watch or attend this meeting, as well as provide public comment at the meeting.

#### Public audience link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82252061339?pwd=ekJlVWVsNEpOZE9yMm5VSUgrZVhOQT09>

Or dial by phone at: 312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 822 5206 1339

Passcode: 1861

#### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

\_\_\_\_\_ Ald. Melanie Rummel, Chairman  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ald. Jim Preschlack  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ald. Eileen Looby Weber

#### II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (:05 – :15 per item)

- a. **UPDATE ON LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE BUCKTHORN CAMPAIGN** – Brandon Hayes, Bold Bison Communications & Consulting
- b. **RECAP OF SUMMER CURBSIDE RECYCLING AUDITS** – Dan Martin, Superintendent of Public Works

#### III. ACTION ITEMS (:10 - :15 per item)

- a. **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 18, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**
- b. **REVIEW AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO CITY COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY ENHANCEMENTS TO CIP PROJECTS FOR FY2023** – Introduced by Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager

#### IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS (:10 - :15 per item)

- a. **UPDATES ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES** – Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager

#### V. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### VI. NEXT MEETING DATE(S)

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

# Advocating for Buckthorn Eradication in the Middlefork Savanna Area



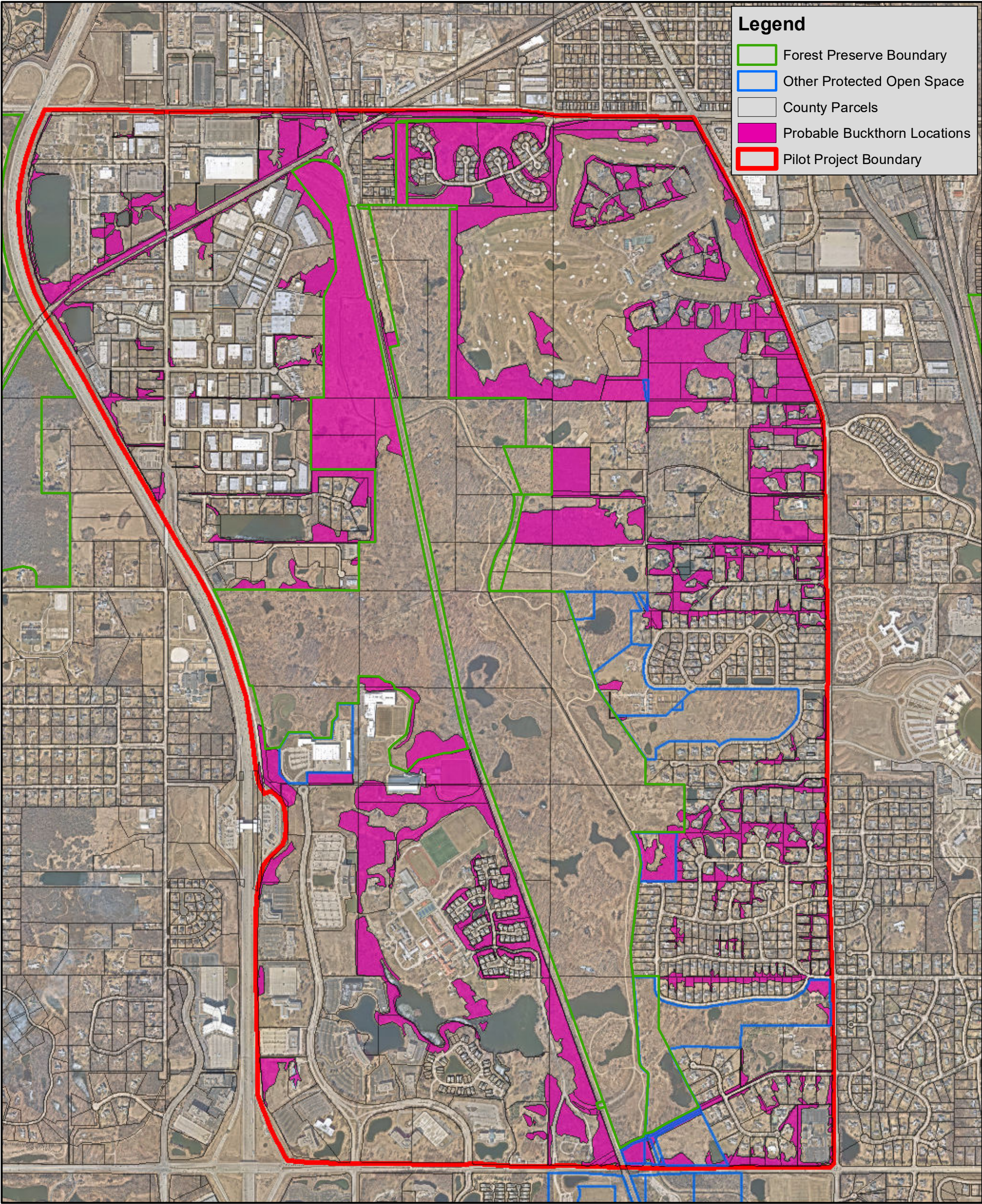
Lake County  
Forest Preserves



# Campaign Purpose

- Pilot program to test ability to eradicate buckthorn in proximity to local natural areas
- Engage landowners in the immediate goal of removal and long-term goal of monitoring to ensure eradication
- Develop strategic communications plan to encourage public to advocate for buckthorn eradication and act to remove buckthorn from their property

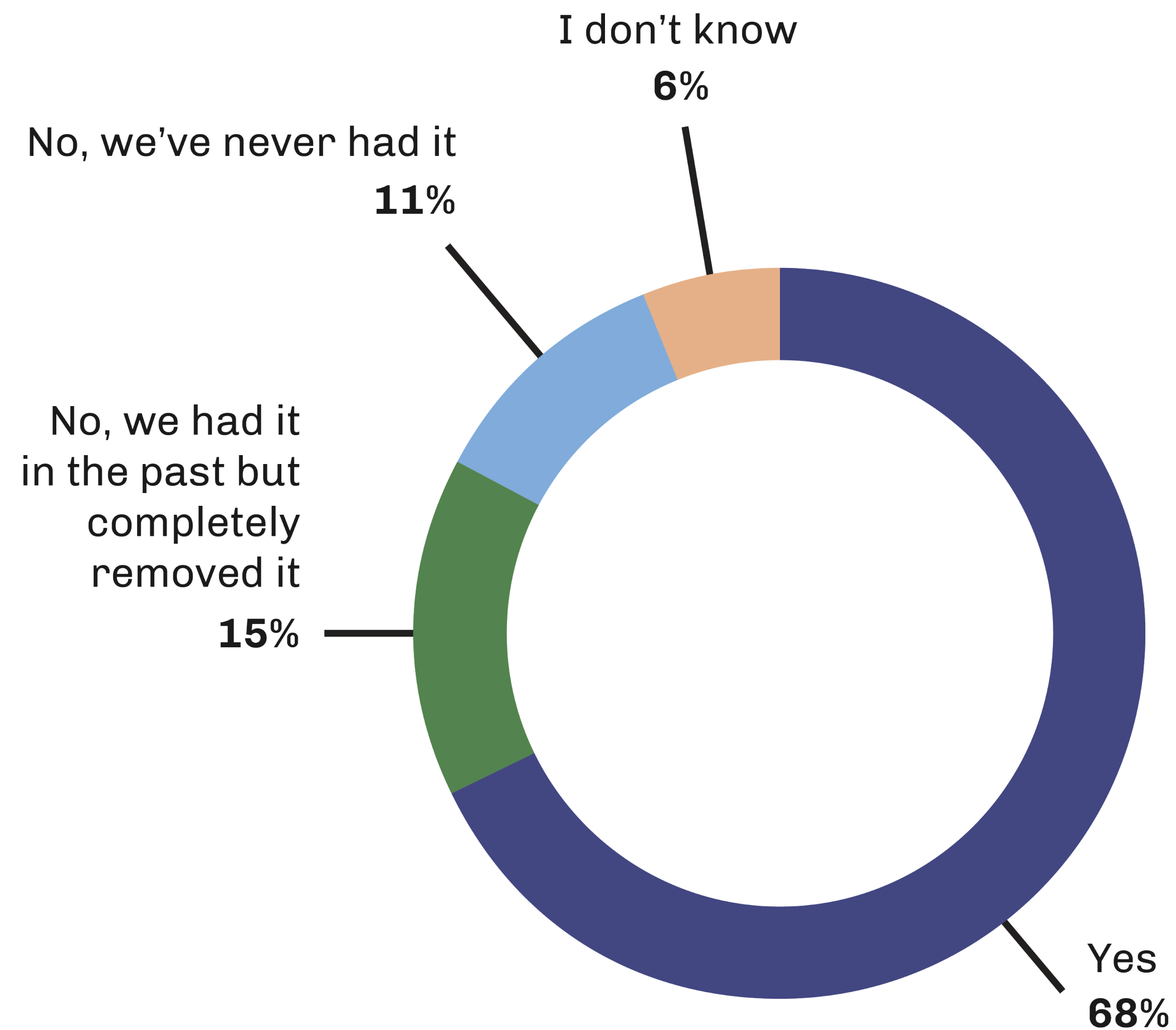






# Campaign Background

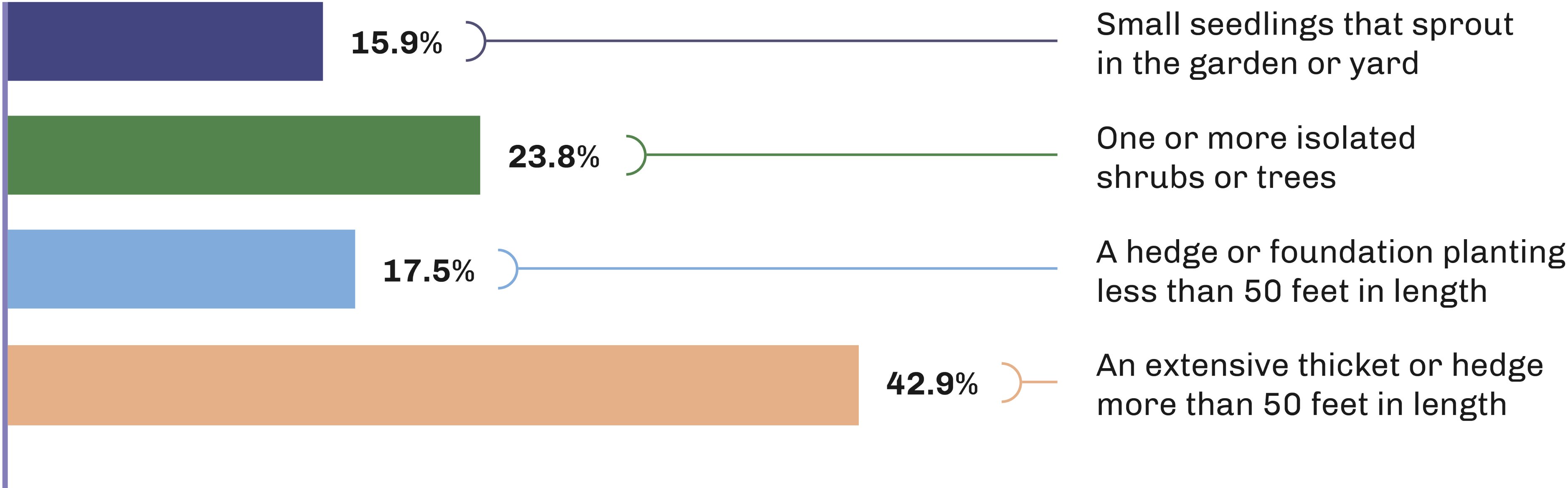
Do you currently have buckthorn on your property?





# Campaign Background

If you currently have buckthorn, to what extent is it present on your property?

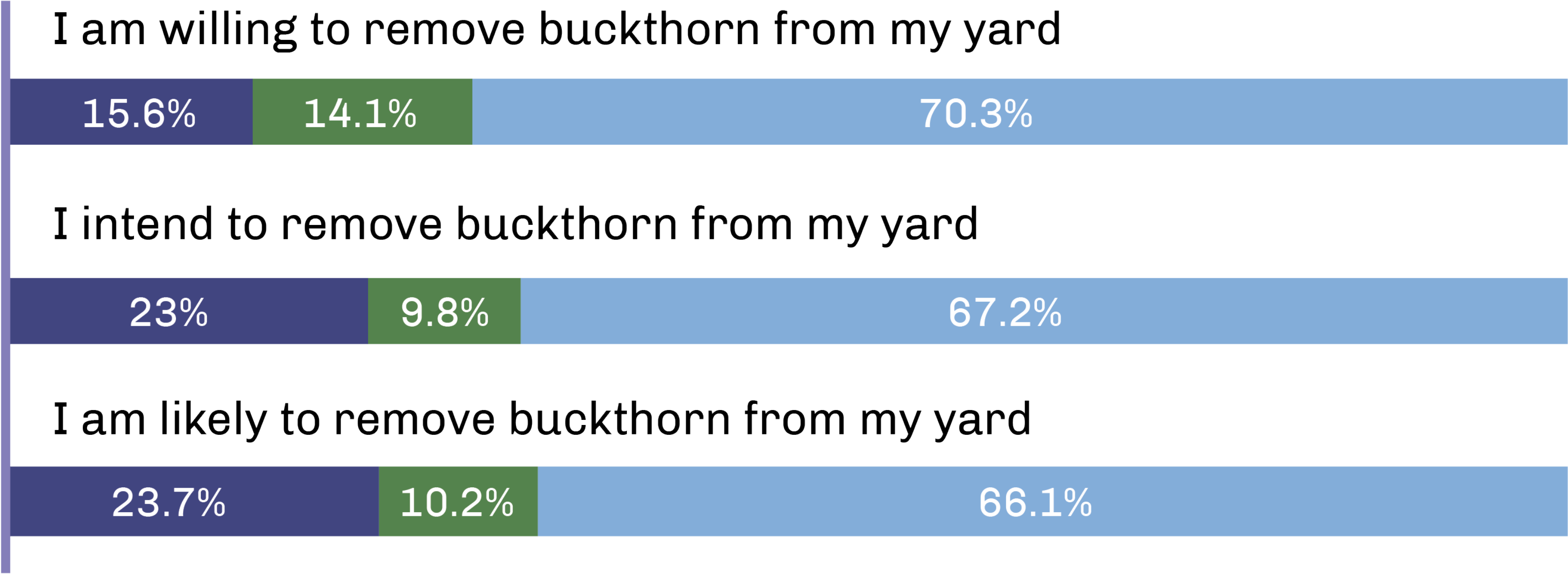




# Campaign Background

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

■ *Disagree*   ■ *Neutral*   ■ *Agree*





# Campaign Background

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I am confident I can successfully remove buckthorn from my yard.

I have the ability to identify buckthorn.

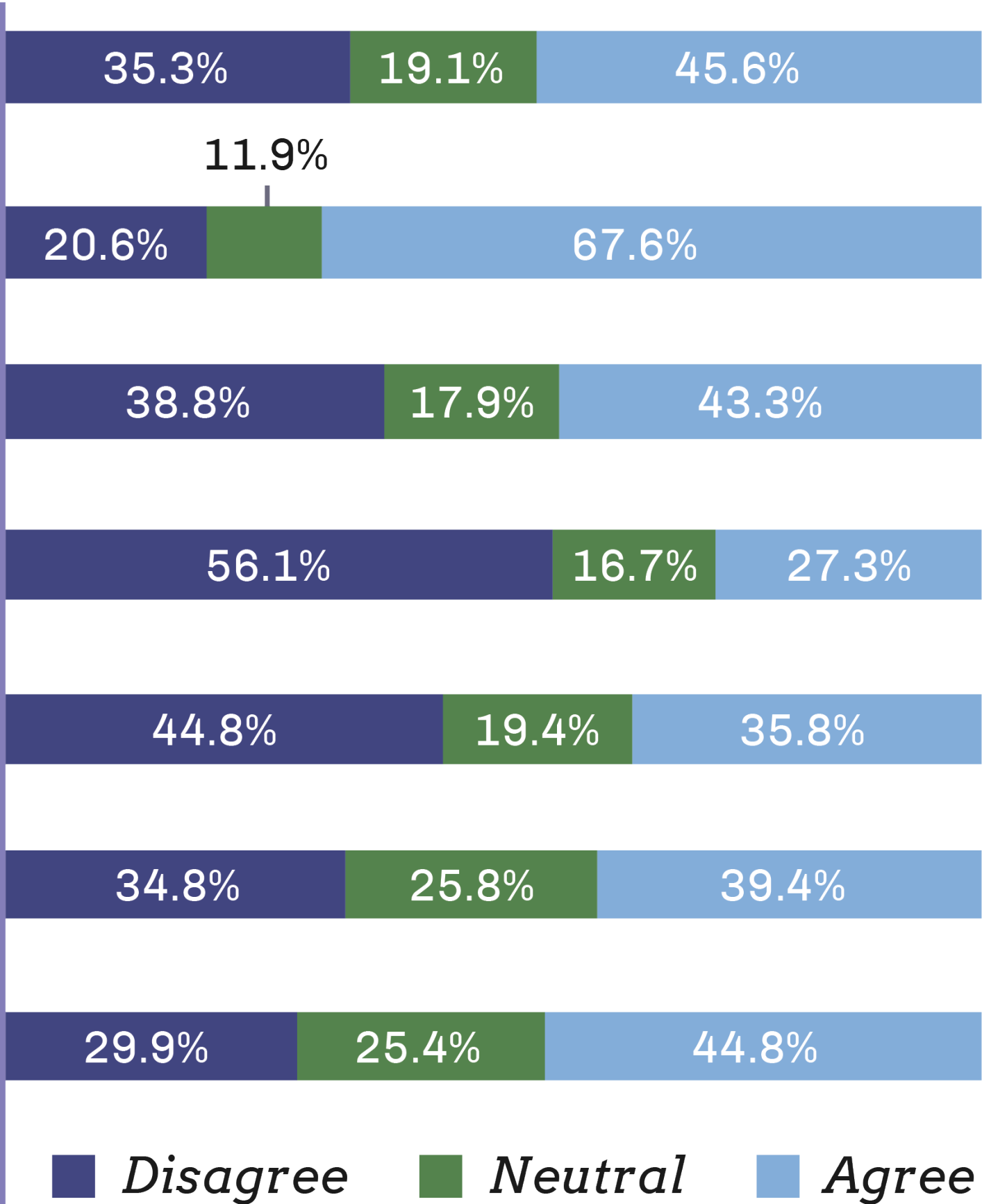
I know how to remove buckthorn.

I have the time to remove buckthorn.

I have the physical ability to remove buckthorn.

I have the financial resources to remove buckthorn.

My lawn/landscaping service can help me remove buckthorn.





# What We Know

- The public generally understands that buckthorn is a harmful invasive species and supports removing invasive species including buckthorn
- We already possess many helpful tools, tactics, and messages for supporting private landowners in removing buckthorn from their property

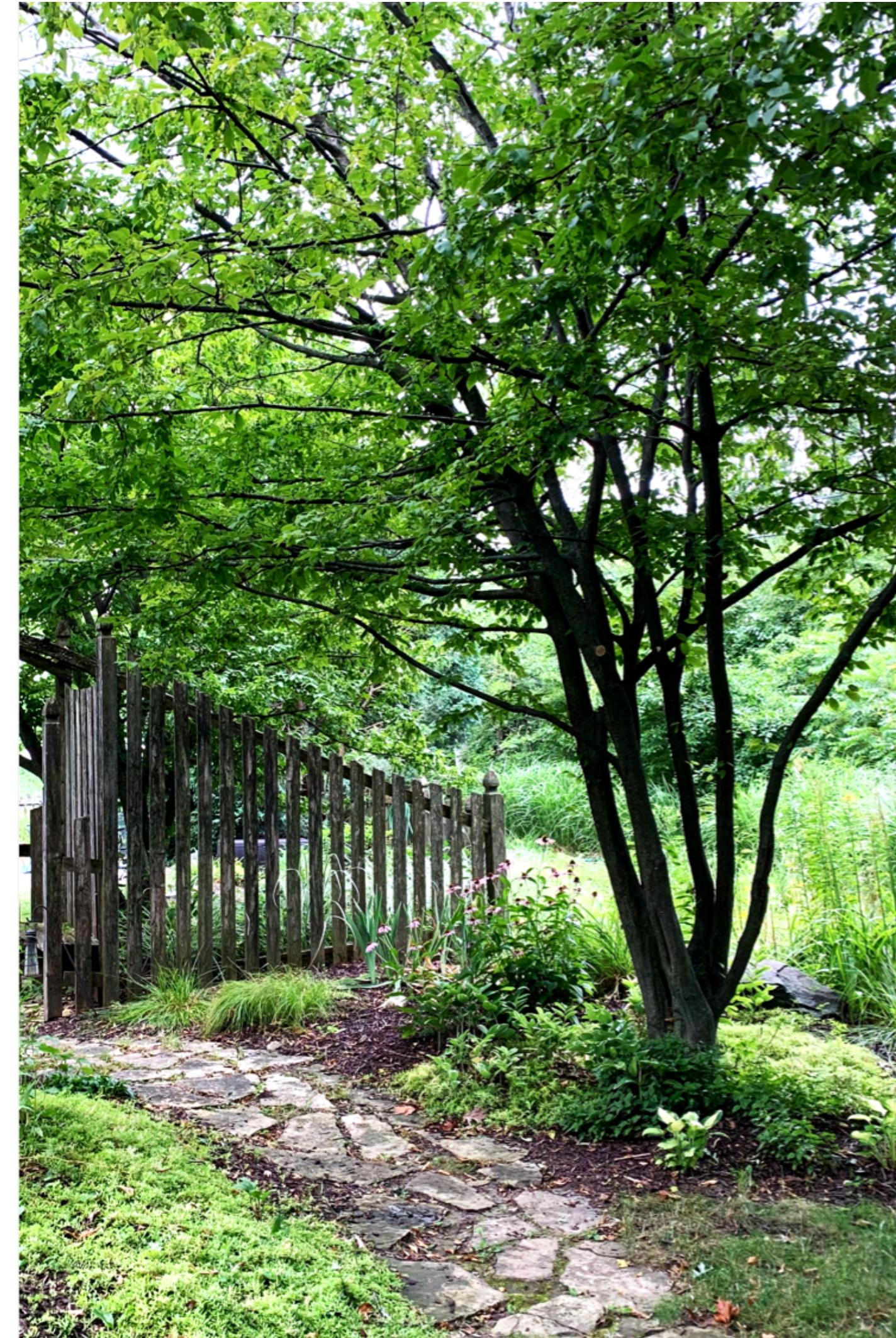


# Before/After





# Before/After





## What We (Also) Know

- There is an interest-action gap among some landowners: many express support for invasive species removal broadly – including buckthorn – while expressing limited willingness to remove it from their own property (i.e. value privacy screening)
- Residents are proud of their property, including their landscaping; they are environmentally-minded; they want to retain agency in decision-making when it comes to their property
- Social dynamics of communities in the project area are influenced by people, word of mouth communication, and social networks
- There are barriers, real and perceived, to removing buckthorn

# Barriers: Real and Perceived

- All green is good, even the invasive poisonous kind
- Time intensive; long-term maintenance; costly
- Buckthorn knows no boundaries
- Buckthorn = privacy
- Fewer recognized examples of native alternatives
- Many assume there must be some red tape



# Where We Are Going?

- It is important for government agencies/conservation groups to do their part and set a good example for homeowners, landowners, and the public.
- Removal has already been widely discussed in some of your communities and social circles.
- This campaign hinges on changing the culture around the removal of buckthorn
- Those new social norms will be best created by voices from within the community

## **Strategies: Start with the Choir, Take a Backseat**

- Develop a network among audiences who have already expressed their support for buckthorn removal and who may have already taken action to remove it from their property
- Focus on developing champions from this “most-primed” audience who can help spread the message publicly and help create social norms around removal of invasive
- Amplify resources of partners/public institutions for assisting homeowners with ecological challenges like buckthorn removal



## **Strategies: Keep it Local**

- There's no “one size fits all approach”
- Need to identify hyper-local champions
- Need for buckthorn removal to be recognized at the neighborhood level (i.e. yard signs)

# Contact Information

- Brandon Hayes  
brandon@boldbison.com  
312-945-8416
- Brett Peto  
bpeto@LCFPC.org  
847-968-3151





Lake County  
Forest Preserves



**BOLD  
BISON**

1 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
2 Wednesday, August 18, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.  
3 Municipal Services, 800 North Field Drive  
4

5 **ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER**  
6

7 Chairman Melanie Rummel called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Aldermen  
8 Jim Preschlack and Eileen Weber were present.  
9

10 Staff in attendance included Mike Strong, Assistant City Manager; Jim Lockefeer,  
11 Assistant to the Public Works Director, and Layla Werner, Management Analyst.  
12

13 There were no members of the public in attendance.  
14

15 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**  
16

17 **I. STATUS REPORT ON FY2022 BUDGET INITIATIVES – Jim Lockefeer,**  
18 **Assistant to the Public Works Director**  
19

20 Assistant to the Public Works Director gave a brief update  
21 regarding FY2022 budget initiatives. Mr. Lockefeer provided  
22 background on specific projects including Ringwood road, Old Elm  
23 and Sheridan parking lot enhancements, and the seminary ravine  
24 and storm sewer study, and the Fire Department SUV replacement.,  
25 forest park bluff stabilization design, forest park beach evaluation  
26 and maintenance, natural areas assessment, south park bioswale.  
27

28 The Committee had lengthy discussion regarding the capital  
29 improvement plan and how it relates to sustainability. Additionally,  
30 the Committee had discussion on the prioritization of specific  
31 sustainable initiatives.  
32

33 The Committee asked clarifying questions regarding the  
34 completion of the various projects presented.  
35

36 **II. UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM MAILINGS – Mike**  
37 **Strong, Assistant City Manage**  
38

39 Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong provided a verbal update to  
40 the Committee regarding the recent mailings that were sent by MC  
41 squared to Lake Forest residents regarding Electricity Aggregation.  
42

43 The Committee asked clarifying questions regarding residents  
44 already engaged in community solar subscriptions.  
45  
46  
47

**III. RECAP OF NORTH BRANCH CHICAGO RIVER WATERSHED  
WORKGROUP MEETING – Layla Werner, Management Analyst**

Management Analyst, Layla Werner provided a brief update regarding the most recent North Branch Watershed Workgroup meeting. Ms. Werner further explained the topics discussed at the meeting including nutrient assessment, the Illinois watershed, and coal tar-based sealants.

The Committee asked clarifying questions regarding usage of coal tar-based sealants in the City.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- I. APPROVAL OF JUNE 16, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**  
Alderman Preschlack moved to approve the June 16, 2021 Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting minutes. Alderman Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

- I. INTRODUCTION AND DISCUSSION ON SUSTAINABILITY  
COMMUNICATIONS PLAN – Layla Werner, Management Analyst**

Management Analyst, Layla Werner displayed a sustainability communications plan to the Committee. The draft included the different forms of communication the City currently uses, opportunities to expand how the City communicates with residents, and a draft communications strategy, targeting specific campaigns.

The Committee had lengthy discussion regarding specific campaigns and priorities.

- II. UPDATES ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES – Mike Strong,  
Assistant City Manager**

Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong presented information on initiatives and priorities identified by the Committee. His presentation included solar facilities on municipal buildings, greenhouse gas emission inventory and the ravine management program. Mr. Strong provided an in depth analysis of potential ways to move forward with the mentioned projects, and facilitated discussion to obtain feedback from the Committee members.

The Committee had lengthy discussion providing direction to staff to move forward with specific priorities.



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any public comments on any non-agenda items.

Seeing none, Chairman Rummel moved to the next agenda item.

**NEXT MEETING DATE(S)**

The Committee unanimously agreed on holding the next meeting on October 20, 2021. Assistant City Manager, Mike Strong stated he would send out a poll at a later date to set a time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Preschlack moved to adjourn the meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee at 8:32 P.M. seconded by Weber. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Layla Werner  
Management Analyst

Reviewed by,

Mike Strong  
Assistant City Manager

**Environmental Sustainability Capital Projects**  
**DRAFT** - FY2023-FY2027 Capital Improvement Program Budget

Project Name		FY2023 Costs		FY2024 - FY2027 Costs (Sustainability Enhancements)			
		Baseline	Sustainability Enhancements	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
<b>Projects &amp; Initiatives - Priority 1 (Funded)</b>							
*Capital Equipment - "Green Fleet" Initiative	PW-CEQ-01-09	\$ 40,000	\$ 6,000				
Rockefeller / McCormick / Loch Storm Sewer Ravine Design	PW-RAV-01-21	\$ 140,000	\$ 2,000				
E. Westminster Ravine Outfall Repair	PW-RAV-03-23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -		
Seminary Ravine Improvements Design	PW-RAV-04-22	\$ 300,000	\$ 5,000				
N. Mayflower Ravine Improvements Design	PW-RAV-07-23	\$ -	\$ -			\$ 2,000	
Gas Light LED Conversions	PW-RDB-02-19	\$ 85,000	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Off-Street: Forest Ave Parking Lot Resurfacing	PW-RDB-04-14	\$ 250,000	\$ 105,000				
Off-Street: South Commuter (Bus Lot) Parking Lot	PW-RDB-06-23	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 80,000		
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>		<b>\$ 815,000</b>	<b>\$ 118,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 80,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Additional Capital Project Opportunities</b>							
Forest Park Bluff Slope Stabilization	PW-01-22	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 100,000				
Forest Park Beach Restoration & Native Vegetation Planting	PK-PRK-02-23	\$ 325,000	\$ 77,000	\$ 77,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	
Off-Street: Waveland Park Resurfacing and Expansion	PK-PRK-02-13	\$ 146,000	\$ 10,000				
Off-Street: South Park Athletic Field Parking Lot	PK-PRK-02-12					\$ 60,000	
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>		<b>\$ 3,871,000</b>	<b>\$ 187,000</b>	<b>\$ 77,000</b>	<b>\$ 15,000</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
*Denotes a recurring/annual CIP program and expenditure							

# REVIEW OF SUSTAINABILITY ENHANCEMENTS TO CIP PROJECTS FOR FY2023

Environmental Sustainability Committee

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

# FIRE DEPARTMENT MID-SIZE SUV REPLACEMENT

**Base Budget - \$40,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$6,000**

- The base budget is for the direct replacement of a Fire Department mid-size SUV
- City staff identified this vehicle replacement as a potential opportunity for a hybrid vehicle replacement
  - On-board electrical equipment can be powered using the lithium-ion hybrid battery, allowing the gasoline engine to shut off (runs only intermittently to charge the battery)
  - Significant improvements in fuel economy and reduced engine idle time





# ROCKEFELLER / MCCORMICK / LOCH STORM SEWER RAVINE DESIGN

**Base Design Budget - \$140,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$2,000**

- Base design will address failing City storm sewer outfalls that convey roadway stormwater to ravines
- Projects have been combined due to their close proximity and similar repair work
- By nature ravine project designs feature sustainability components
  - Native plant material for project construction / slope stabilization & stormwater flow dissipation
- If additional funds are allocated, the City can work with the design contracting firm to identify additional sustainable components to incorporate into the project plans and construction
  - Current construction estimate = \$1,500,000; any additional components identified will increase the construction cost



1. Rockefeller



2. McCormick



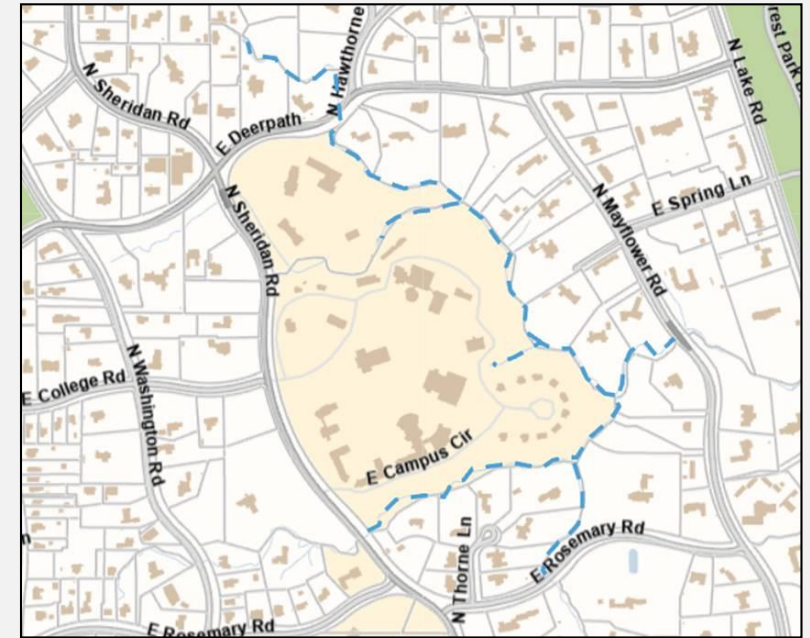
3. Loch

# SEMINARY RAVINE DESIGN

**Base Budget - \$300,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$5,000**

- Completed Study of the exposed City sanitary sewer / failing storm sewer outfalls in the ravine system adjacent to the college
- Study identified various public outfall repairs and ravine segments / reaches restorations and reconstruction
- Design will allow staff to seek grant funding for repair/reconstruction/restoration efforts
- By nature ravine project designs feature sustainability components
  - Native plant material for project construction / slope stabilization & stormwater flow dissipation
- If additional funds are allocated, the City can work with the contracting firm to identify additional sustainable components to incorporate into the project plans



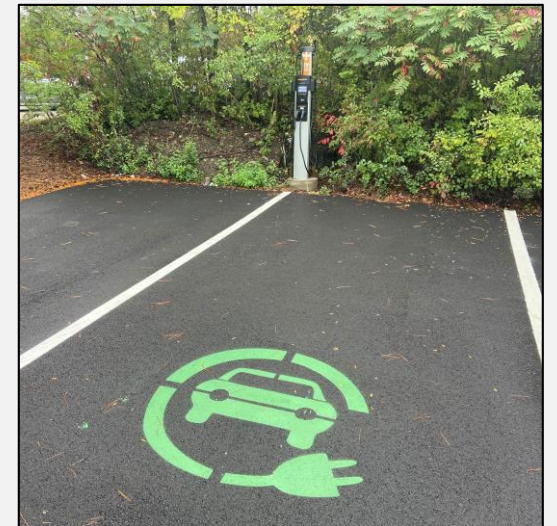
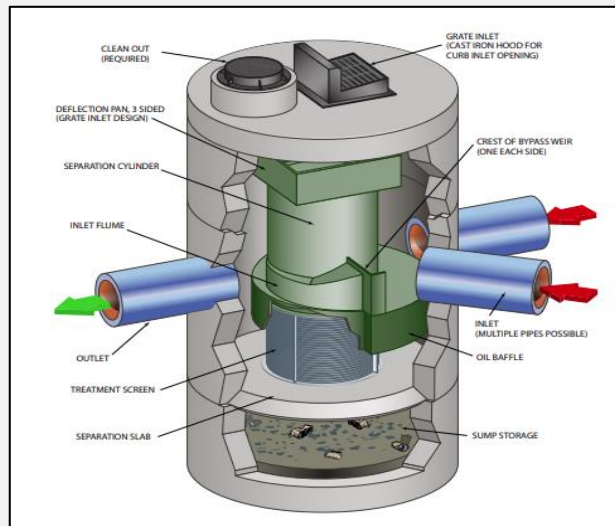
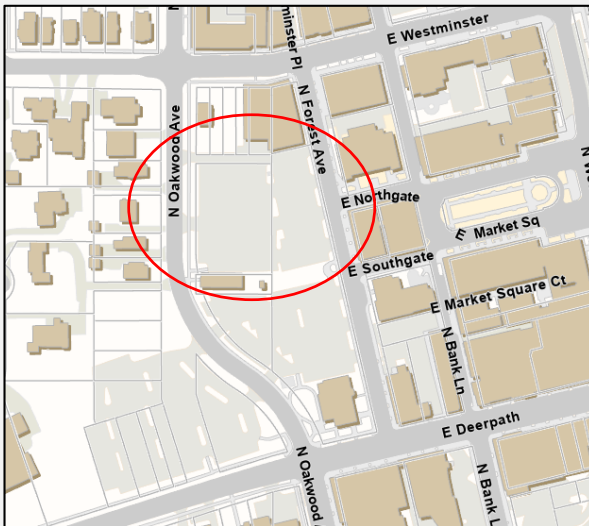


# FOREST AVE PARKING LOT

**Base Budget - \$250,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$105,000**

- **Water Quality Structure & Additional Storm Sewer - \$40,000**
- **EV Charging Stations (Two) & Related Electrical Infrastructure - \$60,000**
- **Design - \$5,000**
- The base budget is for the resurfacing of the parking lot
- Water quality structure replaces existing storm sewer structure immediately downstream of the parking lot; structure removes hydrocarbons & sediment prior to flowing into existing storm sewer system
- EV charging station similar to the stations at the City Hall and Old Elm & Sheridan parking lots
- Two stations recommended due to size and overall usage of the parking lot



# ADDITIONAL PROJECTS



# FOREST PARK BLUFF SLOPE STABILIZATION

**Base Budget - \$3,400,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$100,000**

- The base budget is for the stabilization of the middle areas of the Forest Park Bluff
- Additional sustainability funds requested for native bioswales at the bottom of the bluff for stormwater drainage purposes



# FOREST PARK BEACH RESTORATION & NATIVE VEGETATION PLANTING

**Base Budget - \$325,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$77,000**

- The base budget is for the restoration of the beach system based on completion of recent study in FY2021. Restoration includes sand nourishment, groin enhancement and breakwater improvements
- Additional sustainability funds requested to establish native planting areas, such as native dune grasses, away from the active wash zone at the water's edge to assist with stabilizing the back-of-beach area



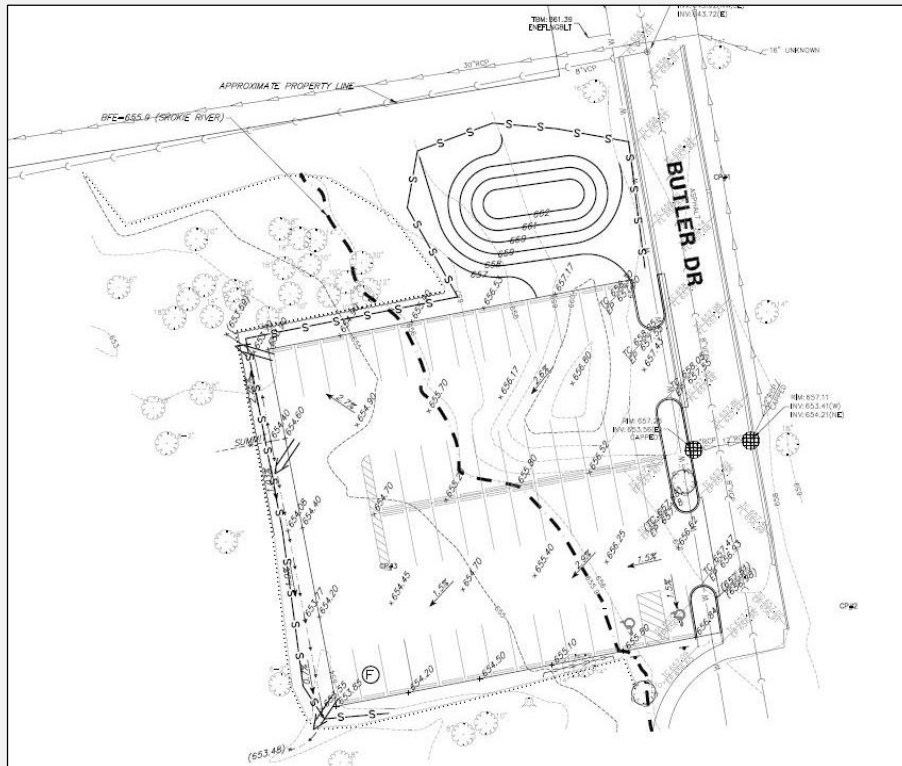


# WAVELAND PARK RESURFACING & EXPANSION

**Base Budget - \$146,000**

**Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$10,000**

- The base budget is for the resurfacing of the existing west parking lot and expansion to double its current parking capacity
- Additional sustainability funds requested to incorporate native landscaping and plants, and install a bioswale adjacent to the parking lot to collect surface runoff



# ACTION REQUESTED

- Motion to recommend approval to City Council the incorporation of the identified Project sustainability components into the Capital Improvement Program



# UPDATES ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES

Environmental Sustainability Committee

October 20, 2021



## CURRENT PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED AND STATUS

Project/Initiative	September	October	November	December	January
Communications/Marketing Plan					
Rooftop Solar Investigation					
Ravine Management Campaign					
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis					

	Initiating
	Planning
	Recommendation
	Target Implementation

# COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING PLAN

- Current Status: *Implementation Phase*
- Project Scope: Develop and execute strategic communications and marketing campaign that promotes sustainability issues/topics and city projects/initiatives
- Project Timeline: On Target (In Process)
- Latest Update:
  - Launched #SustainabilitySunday social media campaign (Complete)
  - Partnered with North Shore Gas to host energy efficiency webinar (Complete)
- Next Steps:
  - Website content development
  - LF Now Mobile Application module

# UPCOMING #SUSTAINABILITYSUNDAY POSTS

## October

- Oct 24: Ravine Management Post – update on ravine management program with LFOLA
- Oct 31: Zero waste Halloween activities/ Fall Composting
  - Pumpkin composting at the compost center

## November

- Nov 7: Potential SWALCO events
- Nov 14: Vehicle Idling
- Nov 21: Ravine Management Post update
- Nov 28: Sharing content from Bart the Cart

## December

- Dec 5: Energy conservation in the Winter
- Dec 12: Sharing content from Bart the Cart
- Dec 19: Icing tactics to avoid using salt
- Dec 26: Christmas Tree Pick-up/ recycling

# PREVIOUS #SUSTAINABILITYSUNDAY POSTS



Hold for oak tree post

Post scheduled for 10/17



## 2021/22 WINTER DIALOGUE CONTENT

- Topics included in Winter Dialogue (How you can protect the environment in winter weather)
  - Leave your leaves alone!
  - Use Gasoline-alternative snow blowers and consider environmentally-friendly deicers and salts
  - Have a water efficient H<sub>2</sub>Ooliday!
  - Close the recycling loop
  - Lower your thermostat & Save money



# SOLAR FACILITIES ON MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

- Current Status: *Planning Phase*
- Project Scope: Explore the potential of installing solar panels on municipal facilities. Locations being investigated: Townline Park, Municipal Services, West Train Station, Fire Station 2, Public Safety Building
- Project Timeline: On Target (Q4 2021 for Recommendation)
- Latest Update:
  - Consultant review of 52 municipal electric accounts (Complete)
  - Site visit at College of Lake County (Complete)
  - Identification of Appropriate Facilities (Complete)
- Next Steps:
  - Development of Procurement document (November 2021)
  - Solicitation Process (December – January 2022)



*Images of College of Lake County solar panel installation*

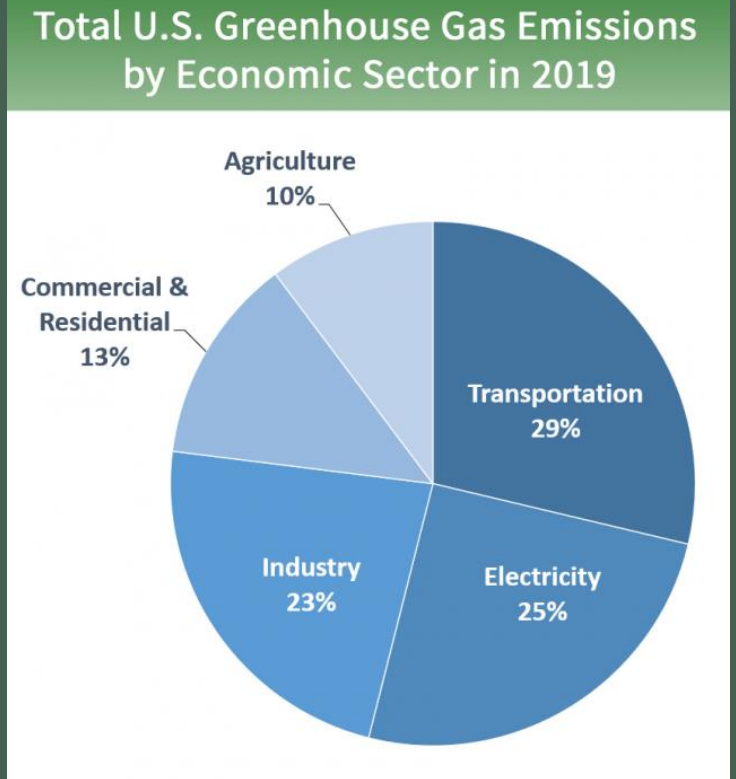


## CURRENT ISSUES BEING INVESTIGATED

- Prospective Sites & Locations
  - West Park & Townline Park Pavilions
  - Public Safety Buildings
  - West Train Station
  - Municipal Services Building
  - Water Plant
- Behind the Meter vs. Community Solar
- Procurement Process (RFP or Cooperative Purchase)
- ComEd Franchise Agreement
  - Ordinance Accounts vs. Paid Accounts
  - Eligibility
- State Permits & Approvals (IPA, ICC)
- Installation Timelines

# MEASURE AND MONITOR LAKE FOREST'S GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

- Current Status: *Initiation Phase*
- Project Scope: Conduct an inventory analysis for community and municipal operation emissions and develop recommendations for emission reduction targets
- Project Timeline: Target beginning of Q1 2022 for Recommendation & Implementation
- Latest Update:
  - City Staff drafting RFP for GHG Emissions (Complete)
  - Met with Representatives from ICLEI (Complete)
- Next Steps:
  - Allocation of GRCorps Member (January 2022)
  - Training with ICLEI (January/February 2022)



Source: EPA

# DEVELOPMENT OF RAVINE INSPECTION/MONITORING PROGRAM

- Current Status: *Planning Phase*
- Project Scope: Explore opportunities to promote consultation services and communications regarding best practices in ravine maintenance. Potential scope includes:
  - Update of Ravine Maintenance brochure and informational resources
  - Coordination of community forum/workshop
  - Ongoing Partnership with Lake Forest Open Lands Association (LFOLA)
- Project Timeline: Target Q1 2022 for Recommendation
- Latest Update:
  - Internal Planning meeting with LFOLA (Complete)
- Next Steps:
  - Exploring Grant opportunities for public education campaign
  - Public education and outreach (workshop) being planned





QUESTIONS?