

Gary Garner

Urban Forester

Parks and Recreation



Not Mountain Pine Beetle

Hail Damaged Trees with Diplodia Shoot Blight

South of Flormann Street

Yes

Mountain Pine Beetle has
been found in Rapid City.

What Needs to Done?

- ✓ Remove the trees, if possible, grind in yard waste at landfill
- ✓ Cut into 2 foot pieces and leave to dry if removal is not practical.
- ✓ The earlier the trees are removed the better.

Must be Completed by April 1, 2012

Mountain Pine Beetle attempting to enter tree.

West Side of Skyline Drive near Cerro Court





Infested Tree near Cerro Court
30 inch diameter



Mountain Pine Beetle “Hits”







Note: Tree is still Green at this time of year

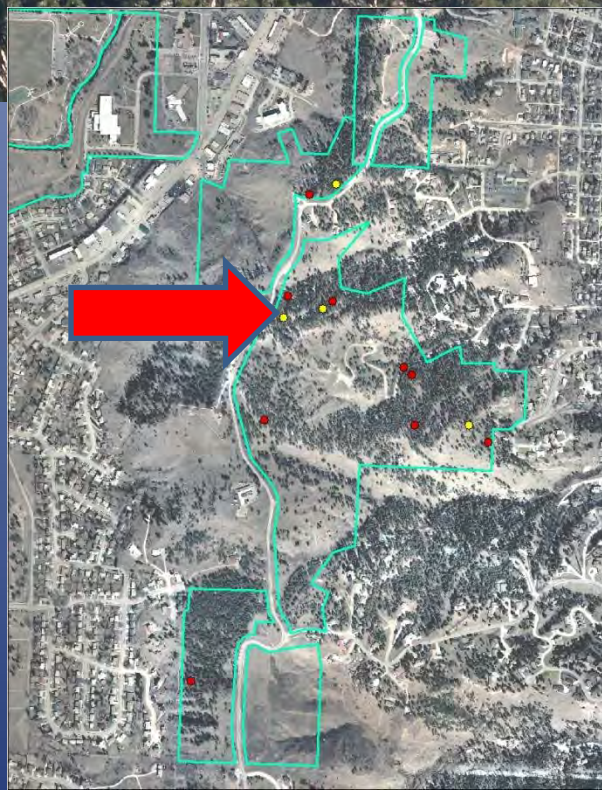


Infested Tree near Palo Verde

Mountain Pine Beetle
Tree Infested last year.



Location of last
years infested
trees. Note that
there are 5 newly
infested trees in
this area



- 27 Trees on City owned land to date
- 30 Trees on Private Property

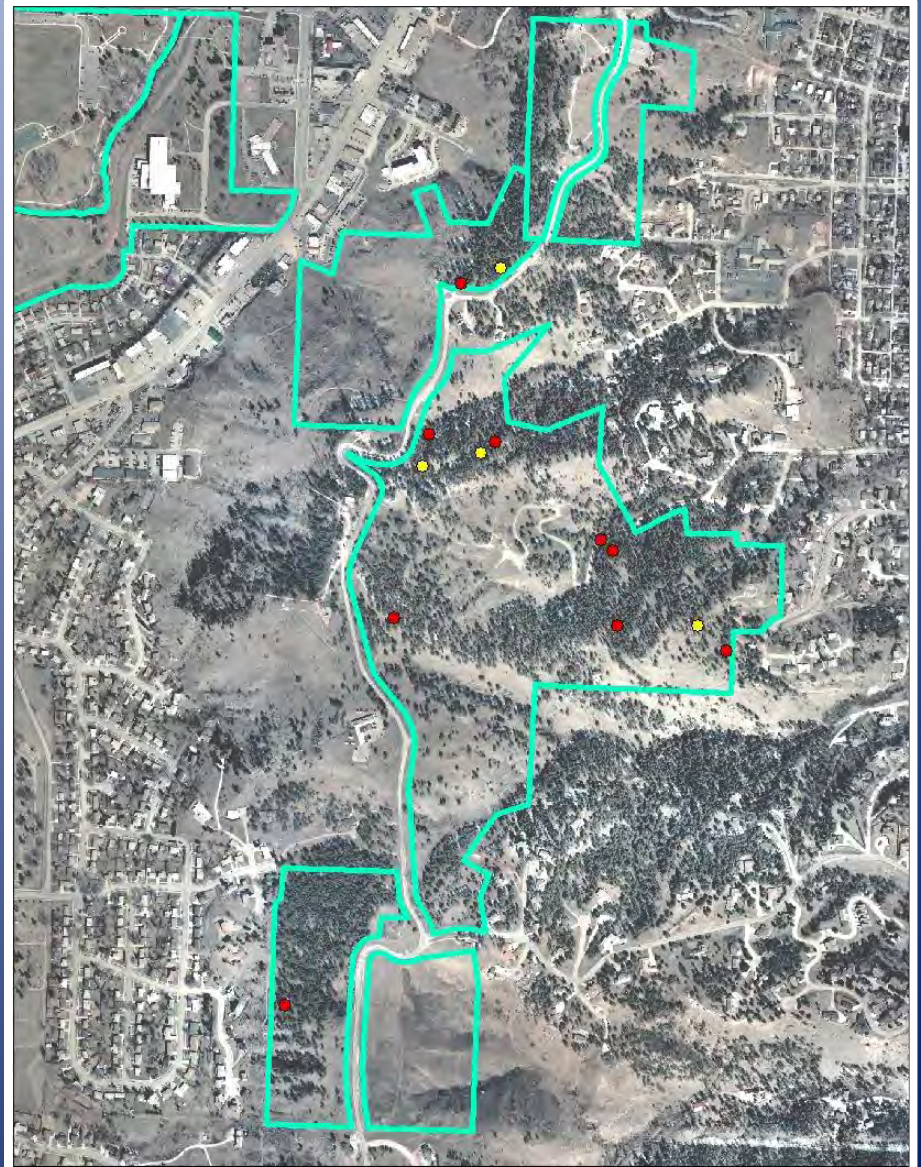
Information Current as of November 28, 2011

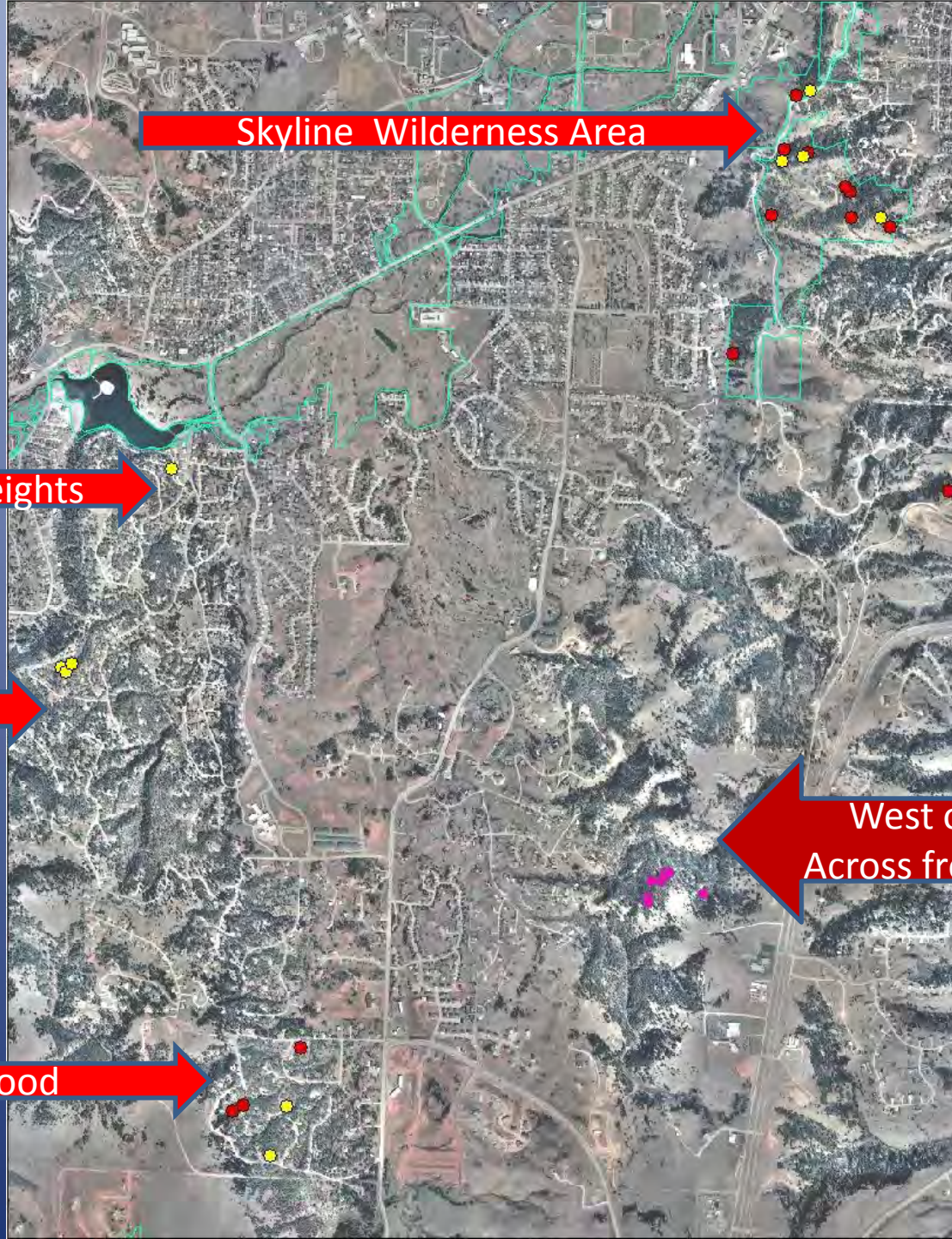
Skyline Drive Wilderness Area/ Dinosaur Park

20 trees infested

● 2-4 Infested Trees

● 1 Infested Tree





Skyline Wilderness Area

Canyon Lake Heights

Carriage Hills

Wildwood

Tower Road

West of Highway 16
Across from Water Tower

What are we currently doing?

Education and Training

1. Urban Forestry Board Workshop held on March 9, 2011 focused on MPB
2. 2 Employees from Parks and Recreation and 2 Employees from Rapid City Fire attended training conducted by SD Resource Conservation and Forestry to become certified MPB markers.

Identify Infested Trees

City Owned Land - Parks and Recreation Staff

Completed Areas

1. Dinosaur Park / Skyline Wilderness Area
2. Wilderness Park

Currently In Progress

1. M-Hill / Hanson-Larsen / Lien Family Park

Remove Infested Trees on City Land South of Omaha Street

1. 20 Trees
2. Parks and Recreation Staff will have this completed by December 9th. (weather permitting)
3. Trees will be removed from site and taken to landfill for composting.

City and other Public Land North of Omaha Street

M-Hill / Hanson-Larsen / Lien Family Park

1. Found 7 Trees to Date
2. Trees will likely have to be cut into chunks and left on site.

At present Parks and Recreation Staff can “find time” to remove the infested trees on land owned by the City.

Trees on Private Property

1. Parks and Recreation Staff are providing site inspections and marking of MPB infested trees.
2. Rapid City Fire is identifying and marking infested trees while conducting fire risk assessments.

Landowner must have 20 or more infested trees to qualify for financial assistance through SD Div of Resource Conservation and Forestry

Our current ordinance can be used to address properties with infested trees.



12.40.020 Definitions.

C. ***PEST.*** Any organism, **insect**, rodent, fungus, virus, bacteria or other agent that causes any damage, abnormal growth or **mortality of any tree**, shrub, bush or woody vegetation.

12.40.100 Trees on private property.

A. The city shall have the right to inspect and cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city if the trees constitute a hazard to life or property or harbor pests which constitute a threat to other trees within the city. The city shall notify the owners of such trees, in writing, to remove the trees within such reasonable time as shall be determined by the Urban Forester. Removal shall be made by the owners at their own expense. In the event of failure of owners to comply with the provisions, the city shall have the authority to remove the trees and charge the cost of removal to the owners or to assess the costs thereof against the property.



12.40.110 Storage of wood.

No person shall store or permit the accumulation of any elm wood in the city. No person shall store any tree or part thereof declared to harbor or contain any pest infestation as defined in § [12.40.020](#), unless the wood is debarked prior to storage.

- What role should the City take in getting private landowners to remove infested trees?
- How can infested trees be identified that are not visible from the public right-of-way?

A bit like finding a car with expired plates in a large parking lot without going into the parking lot

What if the number of infested trees increases in coming years?

1. Current staff may not be adequate to identify and remove the trees.
2. May need to utilize Rapid City Fire Staff, SD Department of Corrections or other agencies to cut and leave trees on site.
3. May need to contract removal of trees.
4. How will we identify infested trees on private property?
5. What is a mechanism for enforcing the code?
6. Can Code Enforcement handle the potentially large number of affected properties ?

If the magnitude of the infestation grows, within the city limits, additional resources will be needed to indentify and remove the infested trees.

Government agencies do not qualify for financial reimbursement under the current programs administered through the State of South Dakota.

Cooperative Effort

- Rapid City Parks and Recreation
- Rapid City Fire
- Pennington County Weed and Pest
- Rapid City Urban Forestry Board
- Rapid City Code Enforcement
- Rapid City Common Council
- South Dakota Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry