Common Tree Inventory Fields

Each tree inventory is unique and should be tailored to the particular needs of the community or organization. Nonetheless, there are tree and site attributes commonly collected in tree inventories across Wisconsin. Below are some of those fields, with sample classes noted. The average tree inventory does not necessarily include *all* these fields, but these do appear in many inventories conducted by different data collectors. This is by no means an exhaustive list of potential fields. Those fields required if receiving DNR grants are marked with an asterisk.

Identification

Field	**Status**
Classes	Alive
	Dead
	Stump
	Planting Site
	No Plant Site
Field	**Species***
Note	*Scientific name preferred.*
Field	**Cultivar / Variety (if known)**
Field	**Tree ID**
Note	*A unique numeric code. Alternatively, you can use a site ID if you want to track the site itself rather than the tree.*

Size

Field	**Diameter at Breast Height (in.)***
Note	*Whole numbers or using tenths rather than ranges are most useful.*
Field	**Height (ft.)**
Note	*Most inventories do not include this.*
Field	**Canopy Spread (ft.)**
Note	*Most inventories do not include this.*

Monitoring / Surveyor

Field	**Surveyor Name**
Field	**Inventory Year***
Field	**Inventory Date**
Field	**Date Modified**
Note	*Date the data was last edited.*

Health / Condition

Field	**Condition***
Note	*There are many ways of assessing tree condition. A numeric rating system is a preferred way to summarize tree health, but generic descriptions as seen below are acceptable. The given numbers are just examples.*
Classes	Dead (0%)
	Poor - Significant problems (1 - 39%)
	Fair - Major structural or health problems (40 - 74%)
	Good - Minor problems (75 - 89%)
	Excellent (90 - 100%)
Field	**Condition Observations / Defects**
Note	*Many different possibilities. Below are examples.*
Classes	Canker
	Leaf chlorosis
	Insect damage
	Trunk decay
	Weak branch union
Field	**Crown Dieback**
Note	*Percent branch dieback. The ranges here are examples.*
Classes	0 - 10%
	11 - 25%
	26 - 50%
	50 - 75%
	75 - 99%
	100%

Maintenance

Field	**Recommended Maintenance**
Note	*Many possible classes. Below are possibilities.*
Classes	Monitor
	Plant
	Prune
	Remove
	Stump Removal
	Treat
Field	**Date Last Pruned**
Field	**Year Planted (if known)***

	Location
Field	**Coordinates / Exact Location***
Note	*It is strongly encouraged to have inventory data in a GIS-capable format.*
Field	**Address***
Field	**Park or Management Unit**
Field	**Overhead Utility**
Note	*Presence of any overhead utility.*
Classes	No
	Yes
Field	**Infrastructure Conflicts**
Classes	Building
	Light post
	None
	Other
	Overhead wires
	Pedestrian
	Traffic sign or signal
	Underground utilities
	Vehicles
Field	**Zoning**
Note	*Will vary based on community. Below are examples.*
Classes	Agricultural
	Commercial
	Industrial
	Residential
	Other
Field	**Land Use**
Note	*Will vary based on community. Below are examples.*
Classes	Residential (Single Family)
	Residential (Multi Family)
	Small Commercial
	Industrial / Large Commercial
	Institutional
	Park / Golf Course
	Cemetery
	Utility
	Vacant / Other
	Water / Wetland

	Location
Field	**Growing Space**
Classes	Front yard
	Rear yard
	Planting strip
	Cutout
	Median
	Other maintained location
	Other unmaintained location
	Alley
Field	**Planting Strip / Terrace Width**
Note	*Range or exact number*
Field	**Zoning**
Note	*Will vary based on community. Below are examples.*
Classes	Agricultural
	Commercial
	Industrial
	Residential
	Other
Field	**Side**
Note	*Where the tree is located at the address.*
Classes	Front
	Side
	Alley
	Rear
	Median

	Risk
Note	*Multiple risk assessment methods exist that document site history, the likelihood of failure, potential targets, and many other data. Tree risk assessments are usually not done for entire municipal tree populations, but sometimes for smaller subsets. Qualified arborists are needed to make these assessments.*