

MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION

HEALTHY LIVES. HAPPY PEOPLE. STRONG COMMUNITY.

STUDY SESSION AGENDA

TREE COMMITTEE

April 12, 2016

5:30 P.M.

COYOTE TRAILS NATURE CENTER
Inside US Cellular Community Park off Lowry Lane
2931 S. PACIFIC HWY

The Tree Committee will hold Study Session and site walk through to discuss the following items:

Arbor Day 2016
Street Tree Removal Criteria



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701 N. COLUMBUS AVE. | MEDFORD, OR 97501 | 541.774.2400
WWW.PLAYMEDFORD.COM | PARKS@CITYOFMEDFORD.COM



MEDFORD PARKS & RECREATION

HEALTHY LIVES. HAPPY PEOPLE. STRONG COMMUNITY.

Arbor Day Agenda

April 30, 2016

9:30 AM – Event setup begins

10:30 AM - Public arriving, visit tables, music on stage

11:00 AM – Welcome and introduction (Molly?)

11:03 AM - Tree City USA Presentation– Adam Airoidi, Matt Krunglevich (ODF), and Mayor Wheeler

11:05 AM – Arbor Day Proclamation and Mayor’s remarks- Mayor Wheeler

11:08 AM – Energy Trust speaker Karen Chase talks about sustainable energy and interrelatedness

11:13 AM – Molly thanks volunteers and transitions to SOMA

11:14 AM – Robert Coffan of Southern Oregon Monarch Advocates

11:25 AM – Heritage Tree Award (Adam)

11:28 AM – Adam announces:

- Tree Planting
- Coyote Trails Skills Stations
- Continuing education training

11:28 AM – End of official program, begin music and outdoor skills activities

12:00 PM – ISA continuing education session begins



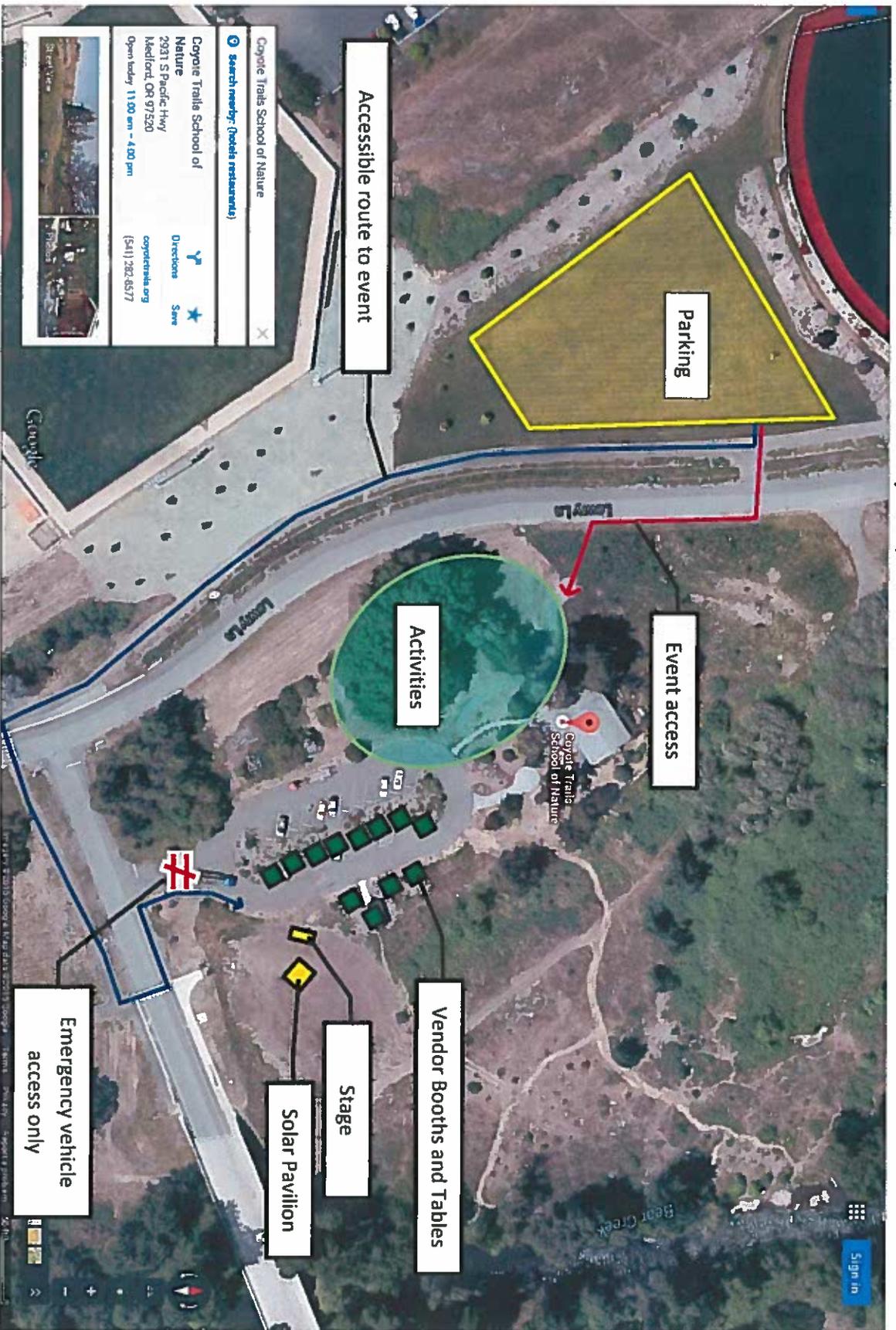
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Arbor Day Celebration at Coyote Trails Nature Center Event Map

April 4, 2015 9:30 AM- 1:30 PM





**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA ITEM COMMENTARY**

Item No:

www.playmedford.com

DIVISION: Parks Maintenance
STAFF CONTACT: Adam Airoidi
STAFF PHONE: 541-774-2690

AGENDA SECTION: Study Session
MEETING DATE: April 12, 2016

ISSUE STATEMENT & SUMMARY:

The City of Medford Tree Program regularly responds to residents' requests to assess trees for safety and health. Requests are often driven by a desire to remove a tree. The Tree Committee is asked for input on development of Street Tree Removal Criteria to aid Staff in systematically assessing trees and authorizing removal based on these specific criteria.

BACKGROUND:

A. Commission Action History
None

B. Analysis
Street trees in the public right-of-way are defined in the City Code (6.700) as a natural public resource, and are managed through the Park's Tree Program. Property owners on streets not designated as Arterials or Collectors and all businesses are responsible for maintenance of their street trees. A list of criteria to define when tree removal from the public right-of-way is appropriate is sought. Committee input and examples of Street Tree Removal Criteria from other municipalities will be used in development of Medford's policy.

C. Financial and/or Resource Considerations
None

D. Timing Issues
Staff hopes to develop and approve Committee's Street Tree Removal Criteria during the summer of 2016.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Goal 6: Maintain and enhance community livability.
Objective 6.1: Promote the aesthetic quality of the urban environment.

COMMISSION OPTIONS:

For discussion only.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff seeks Committee input to further pursue development of street tree removal criteria.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

N/A

EXHIBITS:

Sample tree removal policies from Ashland, Vancouver, Berkeley, and Tacoma.



Planning Division
51 Winburn Way, Ashland OR 97520
541-488-5305 Fax 541-488-6006

STREET TREE REMOVAL PERMIT

A tree that is located in any public street right-of-way or other public property may not be removed until a Street Tree Removal Permit has been submitted according to the Application Submission Requirements, below, and reviewed and approved by the City of Ashland.

An application for street tree removal must demonstrate that the tree is an emergency, hazard, or dead tree as outlined below in the Application Submission Requirements.

Application Submission Requirements. An application for a street tree removal permit shall include all of the following information.

1. **Application Form and Fee.** The application must include the information requested on the Street Tree Removal Permit form provided by the City of Ashland and the permit application fee. Only those property owners of a lot adjoining the street tree location or homeowners' associations responsible for street trees in their development or subdivision may apply to remove an adjoining street tree. If a tree is located in front of more than one property, each property owner or homeowners' association official must sign the Street Tree Removal Permit form.
2. **Site Plan.** A site plan of the property drawn to scale containing the following information. The scale of the site plan must be at least one inch equals 50 feet or larger.
 - a. North arrow and scale.
 - b. Property boundaries including dimensions of all lot lines and driveway locations.
 - c. Location and width of all public streets, planting strips, and sidewalks adjoining the site.
 - d. Size, species, and location of the tree(s) proposed to be removed.
3. **Written Statement.** A written statement explaining how the proposed street tree removal satisfies one of the following approval criteria. The Community Development director may require additional information to demonstrate that the proposed removal satisfies one of the following approval criteria including: 1) a written statement to be prepared by an arborist licensed by the State of Oregon Landscape Contractors Board of Construction Contractors Board and certified by the International Society of Arboriculture or American Society of Consulting Arborists; and 2) an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form to be completed by an arborist.

Street Tree Removal Approval Criteria

- a) **Emergency Tree Removal.** The tree presents an immediate danger of collapse and represents a clear and present hazard to persons or property. Immediate danger of collapse is defined as a tree that may already be leaning, with the surrounding soil heaving, and/or there is a significant likelihood that the tree will topple or otherwise fail and cause damage before a tree removal permit could be obtained through the non-emergency process.
- b) **Hazard Tree Removal.** The tree presents a clear public safety hazard (i.e., likely to fall and injure persons or property) or a foreseeable danger of property damage to an existing structure or facility, and such hazard or danger cannot reasonably be alleviated by treatment, relocation, or pruning. A hazard tree is a tree that is physically damaged to the degree that it is clear the tree is likely to fall and injure persons or property. A hazard tree may also include a tree that is located within a public right-of-way and is causing damage to existing public or private facilities or services and such facilities or services cannot be relocated.
- c) **Dead Tree.** The tree is dead. A dead tree is lifeless. Such evidence of lifelessness may include unseasonable lack of foliage, brittle dry branches, or lack of any growth during the growing season.

Replacement and Stump Removal. Applicants for approved Street Tree Removal Permits are required to remove any stumps and replace the tree. Stump removal and replacements for approved street tree removals shall meet the following requirements.

1. Any street tree removed shall be removed at ground level or lower. If a tree is removed below ground level, the surface must be restored to finish grade and any regrowth which occurs shall be promptly removed.
2. All street trees shall be an appropriate species selected from and planted according to the City of Ashland Recommended Street Tree List.
3. The minimum size for a replacement tree is eight feet in height or one inch in caliper measured at 12 inches above the root crown.
4. Applicants for a Street Tree Removal Permit may be required to replace the tree or trees being removed with a tree or trees of comparable value.
5. If a street tree is determined to be dead or dying, then the replacement need be no larger than the minimize size described above.

Type of Tree(s) _____

Approximate Diameter at breast height _____ Height _____ Canopy _____

Location of Tree _____

Reason for Request _____

Are there underground utility lines and/or overhead power lines present? _____

If yes, please list which lines are present _____

Is there sidewalk damage? _____ If yes, has a Public Works permit been issued? _____

OVER >>

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Street Address _____

Assessor's Map No. 39 1E _____ Tax Lot(s) _____

Zoning _____ Comp Plan Designation _____

PROPERTY OWNER

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING THE TREE REMOVAL (e.g., tree service)

Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

ARBORIST, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, OTHER

Title _____ Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Title _____ Name _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

As owner of the property involved in this request, I have read and understood the complete application and its consequences to me as a property owner. I hereby certify that the statements and information contained in this application are in all respects, true and correct. I further understand that if this request is subsequently contested, the burden will be on me to establish:

- 1) *that I produced sufficient factual evidence to support this request;*
- 2) *that the information contained in this application are adequate; and further*
- 3) *that all trees, structures, or improvements are properly located on the ground.*

Property Owner's Signature (required)

Date

STAFF DECISION:

Permit is hereby (circle one):	Approved	Approved with Conditions	Denied
Conditions of Approval	_____		

Is the tree 18" d.b.h or greater?	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	Has the City Administrator has been notified: <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES
Community Development Director/Planning Manager Signature	_____		
	Date		

and several to remain as branches. One sprout of moderate vigor is left to become the main stem. The remaining sprouts will be shortened again in the next few years.

Chapter 7 - Removal Standards

A. Street Tree Removal Specifications and Standards

1. The tree removal shall consist of cutting down each tree in a safe manner to a point four inches above the adjacent ground level. The permit holder shall remove all tree limbs and tree trunks from the site in accordance with regulations of the City, County and State. Logs and chips if requested are to be left on private property.
2. The permit holder shall refrain from the practice of directional felling the trees. All trees shall be limbed out prior to the final cutting of the trunk. Sidewalks, curbs, streets and manhole structures shall always be protected from the impact of falling wood by use of the tree or limb ground supports. Ropes or other mechanical devices shall be used to lower all limbs of sufficient size that may cause damage to other trees or surrounding public or private property.
3. Limbs and trunks temporarily placed in the right of way shall be placed in such a manner as to eliminate any obstruction to motor vehicles and pedestrians. Brush and limbs overhanging a curb or pavement shall not be acceptable and under no circumstances shall these materials be allowed to lie in the right of way overnight.
4. All infectious diseased or parts of dead trees possibly harboring vectors of infectious diseases shall be removed from the City of Vancouver and shall become the permit holders responsibility to ensure destruction of the diseased or dead wood in accordance with the State statues and local ordinances. Under No circumstances shall logs from infectious diseased trees be left on site.

B. Street Tree Removal Criteria

Street tree removal permit will be granted when the adjacent property owner has sufficiently demonstrated that the continuing presence of the tree outweighs the public benefit provided by the tree. Trees that are determined to be dead, “hazards” or “inappropriate species” as designated by the City are automatic candidates for removal.

1. The following factors **shall not** be considered as criteria for removal of a street tree:
 - a. Obstruction of view
 - b. Potential future costs to public infrastructure or private property which can be avoided by root pruning and root barriers
 - c. The cost of routine tree maintenance (pruning, watering, fertilizing, spraying, if necessary)
 - d. Normal maintenance activities such as the raking of leaves and flowers and annual cleaning of gutters
 - e. Hazards that can be controlled or eliminated through appropriate pruning or maintenance

C. Procedure for removal of trees and shrubs in right of way

The adjacent property owner shall submit a complete Street Tree Permit Application (APPENDIX C) to the City Forester's Office:

Online: www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry

By email: urbanforestry@cityvancouver.us

By Fax: (360) 487-8305

By Mail: Vancouver Urban Forestry Division, P.O. Box 1995 Vancouver, WA 98668

In person: City Hall, permit counter, 415 W 6th St Vancouver, WA 98668

Upon approval of the removal, the applicant shall obtain the street tree removal permit at City Hall permit counter, 415 W 6th Street for a fee of \$5 (per address, per request). The permit is valid for 90 days and the applicant should notify the City Forester's Office upon completion of work.

D. Stump Grinding Specifications

The stumps and roots of trees or shrubs shall be removed to a point at least one foot below the top of the adjacent curb or proposed curb grade, treating the remaining roots with a suitable compound to prevent future sprouting or growth. All areas where stumps have been removed, and areas disturbed by the removal operations, shall be backfilled to the same level of adjoining grade with pulverized topsoil and seeded the same day grinding are removed otherwise the site shall be properly barricaded overnight to ensure the safety of the public. Any roots which have disrupted or broken the adjacent street, curb or sidewalk shall be removed and said street, sidewalk, or curb shall be repaired.

1. Removal of stump grindings and debris.

Within twenty-four hours after grinding (removal) of a tree stump and buttress roots, the permit holder shall remove all stump grindings and associated debris from the site. Grinding debris generated by stump removal work shall be the responsibility of the permit holder. Stumps, grindings and debris shall be placed away from the curb and gutter, street and sidewalk immediately to eliminate hazards to the motoring public and pedestrians and to eliminate damage to public property.

2. Backfilling.

All areas where stumps have been removed and areas disturbed by the removal operations shall be backfilled to the level of adjoining grade with pulverized topsoil the same day grindings are removed, otherwise the site shall be properly barricaded overnight to ensure the safety of the public. All holes must be filled with topsoil by the second day. The permit holders shall supply their own topsoil. The topsoil shall be properly leveled and compacted so as to ensure a minimum amount of settlement of the backfill material. If there is more than a one-day delay between the time of removal of grindings and refilling with soil, the disturbed areas shall be barricaded off for public safety and the City Forester notified. Stump grindings and debris shall not be used as backfill material. Topsoil: native; free of roots, rocks, subsoil, debris, large weeds, and foreign matter; acidity range (pH) of 6.5 to 7.0.

TREES/PARKS

Trees / Parks

Tree Removal Program

It is the policy of the City to protect all public trees from needless removal and every effort is made to preserve and protect public trees until such time removal is warranted and prudent.

There are many reasons why trees need to be removed in an urban area and City staff evaluates each tree considered for removal on a case-by-case basis. The criteria listed below are used by urban forestry staff when evaluating trees for possible removal. The criteria are not listed in order of importance and individually may not justify removal.

Tree Removal Criteria

The following criteria are used in evaluating a public tree for possible removal:

- Tree is dead or dying.
- The tree is deemed hazardous, when the hazardous condition cannot be corrected through pruning or other reasonable arboricultural practices.

When trees are not deemed dead, dying or hazardous, the following factors will be considered:

- Life expectancy of the tree.
- Desirability of the tree species.
- Amount of space allowable for tree growth.
- Overall quality and structural integrity of the tree.
- Persistent and uncontrollable insect, disease or fruiting problems.
- Frequency and extensiveness of the tree's maintenance requirements.
- Feasibility and timeliness in which a replacement tree will be planted.
- Proximity and quality of trees near to the one considered for removal.
- Wishes and desires of the property owner/resident
- Quality and extent of past pruning and other tree maintenance practices the tree has undergone.
- Extent and frequency of damage the tree is causing to surrounding infrastructure such as sidewalks, streets, sewers, etc.
- Location of the tree with regard to streetlights, traffic control devices, intersection sight lines and the requirements of the tree related to available growing space.

Shortly after the tree is removed the stump will be ground out.

When trees to be removed are growing immediately in front of a single residence property and the resident has not requested the removal, staff will attempt to notify the occupants by leaving a card at the front door which states the reason for the removal and provides a phone number to call to receive further information.

The City tries to replant where trees have been removed, but in most instances the replacement tree will not be planted in the same spot due to the presence of underground utilities and other concerns.

Any person having questions concerning the removal of a street tree may call the Parks Division, Urban Forestry Office at (510) 981-6660 or send an e-mail to trees@ci.berkeley.ca.us

[Home](#) | [Web Policy](#) | [Text-Only Site Map](#) | [Contact Us](#)
[Trees / Parks](#), 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704
Questions or comments? Email: trees@cityofberkeley.info Phone: (510) 981-6660
(510) 981-CITY/2489 or 311 from any landline in Berkeley
TTY: (510) 981-6903

Enter Search Term(s)

Public Tree Hearings



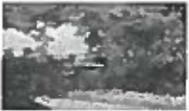
Learn more

Cambridge Tree Species Map



Learn more

Planting a Tree



Learn more

Public Works > Our Services > Urban Forestry > Tree Maintenance > Tree Removal

Tree Removal

Tree removal occurs when trees are dead dying, diseased, or hazardous. Public trees are protected by Massachusetts State Law Chapter 87. The removal of a healthy public tree requires an advertised public hearing. If a tree is declared by the Tree Warden to be an immediate hazard to the public, a hearing is not required.



We do not remove City trees without good reason. We do not remove trees because they drop leaves or acorns, because it has grown too large or shades your lawn, or because it is not conveniently located. We will remove trees that are hazardous. In the context of state law, a hazard tree poses a threat to persons and/or property. As defined by the International Society of Arboriculture, a hazard tree must meet three criteria:

- 1. The tree is sufficiently large enough to cause damage should it fall;
- 2. The tree has a target (that would be damaged should it fall);
- 3. The tree has a condition that would make it likely to fall.

We will promptly inspect requests for removal. In many cases, a tree may be developing a condition that would ultimately make it a hazard, but not imminently. The removal of such trees requires a public hearing as prescribed by state law. In some cases, the entire tree may not be hazardous, but some maintenance work is required. We will enter that work request into our database and schedule the work within our priorities.

More information...

To report...

To request...

Service Requests



Cambridge citizen requests: now online & on the go! Report issues here.

FAQ's

Have a question? Find the answer in our extensive Frequently Asked Questions

Google translate



DEPT of PUBLIC WORKS

147 Hampshire St
Cambridge MA 02139

PHONE: 617.349.4800
TDD: 617.499.9924
Email Us

HOURS OF SERVICE

Monday: 8:30am-8pm
Tuesday-Thursday: 8:30am-5pm
Friday: 8:30am-12pm

Schedules
Drop-Off Center Recycling
Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Day
Recycling and Trash
Street Cleaning

Maps & Data
Public Dedications
Sewer and Stormwater Map
Street Tree Map

Ordinances & Regulations
Cambridge Cemetery
Engineering
Parks
Recycling and Trash
Stormwater Management
Street Cleaning
Streets and Sidewalks
Urban Forestry

Frequently Asked
Questions
Administration
Cambridge Cemetery
Engineering
Parks
Rodent Control
Recycling and Trash
Snow
Special Events
Stormwater Management
Street Cleaning

Right-of-Way
TREE WORK PERMIT APPLICATION

Removal and Replacement				
Tree #	Tree # Species	Diameter	Reason for Removal	Replacement Species
1		▼		▼
2		▼		▼
3		▼		▼
4		▼		▼
5		▼		▼

Removal Criteria

A street tree removal permit will be granted if the adjacent property owner can sufficiently demonstrate that the public benefit provided by the tree is outweighed by significant tree defects. Trees that are determined by the Urban Forester to be dead, dying, "hazard trees," or "inappropriate species" are automatic candidates for removal.

The following factors shall NOT be considered as criteria for removal of a street tree:

- Obstruction of view (Please call for correct application).
- Potential future damage to public infrastructure or private property, if that damage can be avoided by root pruning, root barriers, or other management strategies.
- The cost of routine tree maintenance (pruning, watering, fertilizing, spraying)
- Normal maintenance activities such as the raking of leaves and flowers and cleaning of gutters
- Hazards that can be controlled or eliminated through appropriate pruning or maintenance

The stumps and roots of trees or shrubs in improved rights-of-ways shall be removed to a point at least 8"-12", where possible, below the top of the adjacent curb or proposed curb grade.

Call 1 800 424-5555 to locate underground utilities at least 48 hours prior to digging.

Trimming				
Tree #	Tree # Species	Diameter	Proposed Activity	
1		▼		▼
2		▼		▼
3		▼		▼
4		▼		▼
5		▼		▼

* Trimming is defined as: pruning branches greater than three inches in diameter, pruning to remain in compliance with Tacoma's Urban Forestry Standards. Trimming **must** be performed according to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 guidelines by an individual or company with a valid state contractor's license, City of Tacoma license and current bonding.

Planting			
Planting Space	Overhead Power Lines	Proposed Tree Species (botanical Name)	
1	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		▼
2	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		▼
3	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		▼
4	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		▼
5	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		▼

Trees must be:

- A species on the [Approved Street Tree Selection List](#)
- Nursery-grown, at least 1.5" caliper, and Washington Nursery Grade #1
- Maintained through successful establishment.

Call 1.800.424.5555 to locate underground utilities at least 48 hours prior to digging.

Return permit application to: City of Tacoma Building and Land Use, Permit Counter

By mail or in person: Complete the PDF form, save a copy, and print out.

747 Market Street, Room 345
Tacoma, WA 98402-3769
Fax: (253) 591-5433