



Homeowner Tree Planting within the Public Right-of-Way at Residential Locations

Thank you for your interest in planting street trees! Homeowners may plant street trees within the public right-of-way at residential locations after contacting Urban Forestry for technical assistance. This communication ensures Right Tree, Right Place for proper placement, utility conflict avoidance, correct species selection and proper planting. Proper planting and avoidance of site conflicts will ensure your new tree will thrive and possible issues in the future are prevented.

Please take into account the below information before planting. Once you have completed these steps, contact our office to arrange a brief site visit; there is no charge for this service.

Planting Checklist

Site Considerations:

- ☐ Call Before You Dig! Call 811 so underground utility lines are located marked out (for free and required by law)
- ☐ Proposed placement is at least 15ft away from any underground utility lines, 15' from a driveway, alley, streetlight, utility pole, non-safety street sign.
- ☐ Vision Triangle - tree placement is not within a vision triangle, to avoid vision obstruction. It is also a good idea to consider vision near driveways. This distance is dependent upon type of street and speed limit and can be as much as 50' from an intersection.
- ☐ Fire Hydrants - tree placement is at least 15ft away
- ☐ Light poles - tree placement is at least 15ft away
- ☐ Other - tree placement is at least 10ft away from stormwater inlets, 20ft away from street safety signs

Species Selection and Placement:

- ☐ Tree Species selected from the [Spokane Approved Street Tree List](#)
 - Class II for most locations, planting strips 5-8ft wide
 - Class I only if there are overhead power lines or if the planting strip is less than 5ft wide
 - Class III for locations where there is adequate growing space, planting strips 8ft+ wide
 - Class II and III trees are good for locations without sidewalks, however consider the possibility of a sidewalk in the future.
 - 2 inch caliper trees in size at planting; please wait for review prior to purchasing
- ☐ Planting sites are spaced appropriately: Class II 35ft apart, Class III 45' apart, Class I 25ft apart (Class I are only allowed for particular restricted sites – see above)
- ☐ Adequate room for root and crown growth, plan for the mature size of the tree. Look out for any other site conflicts and existing trees nearby to avoid overcrowding.

Give our office a call for a quick site visit once you have completed the above steps. We will provide helpful information for planting according to City Standards and Specifications. Then once the tree is planted, let us know and our staff will complete a quick site inspection and update our records.

If you choose to hire a professional to complete these steps and plant street trees for you, please follow the process listed on the [urban forestry website](#). Thank you for your interest in planting street trees, which provide many benefits to the community!