

MURRAY CITY'S URBAN FOREST

Did you know Murray City Power has its own Forestry Division? They maintain trees in our parks, parking strips, cemetery, and trees within our overhead power system.



TREE CITY USA®



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Tree Planting Guidelines

- 01** Call Blue Stakes prior to digging to locate all underground utilities. Avoid planting under powerlines.
- 02** Dig a planting hole 2-3 times larger than the root ball and no deeper than the height of the trunk flare.
- 03** Remove container/burlap & wire basket from the root ball. Place the tree in the planting site and level with trunk flare. Planting too deep can kill newly planted tree due to lack of oxygen to the roots.
- 04** Backfill around the root ball, lightly packing the soil. Check frequently to ensure the trunk is straight. Water periodically to remove air pockets.
- 05** Stake the tree only if necessary.
- 06** Newly planted trees require water. Keep the soil moist, but not waterlogged. Water trees at least once a week and more frequently during hot, windy weather.
- 07** Maintain a tree ring around the root flare to prevent damage from lawn mowers and string trimmers. Add a 2-4" layer of mulch around the base of the tree. This will reduce weeds and prevent water loss.
- 08** Avoid pruning during first year of planting. Be sure to water & maintain your trees for the duration of its life

What is an Urban Forest?

An urban forest is a collection of trees that grow within a city, town or a suburb. Trees found in parks and gardens, along parking strips and river banks, and central to the landscaping of businesses and personal dwellings are an integral part of the urban infrastructure.

Recommended Park Strip Trees

Small Species (Mature Height 15'-30'). Suitable for 4' parking strips.

Canadian Chokecherry 'Prunus virginiana': Leaves emerge green, turning dark purple.

Flowering Cherry 'Prunus serrulata': Many cultivars available. Pink blossoms are attractive in spring.

Flowering Crabapple 'Malus': Many cultivars available. Attractive blossoms in spring.

Eastern Redbud 'Cercis canadensis': Purple heart shaped leaves, vibrant in spring.

Cockspur Hawthorne 'Crataegus crus-galli': Vibrant white blossoms in spring.

Japanese Tree Lilac 'Syringa reticulata': (Ivory Silk) White fragrant blossoms, tolerant to urban conditions.

Hedge Maple 'Acer campestre' Tolerant to dry, sandy soil. Does well in urban conditions. Yellow fall color.

Emerald Avenue Hornbeam 'Carpinus betulus': Broad, pyramidal crown, golden/yellow leaves in fall.

*Medium Species (Mature Height 25'-50'). Suitable for larger parking strips.

European Beech 'Fagus sylvatica': Many cultivars that vary in crown form and leaf color. Thin, smooth bark. Dark green leaves turn golden yellow to reddish orange in fall.

Ginkgo 'Ginkgo biloba': Distinct leaves with golden fall color, strong upright growth form.

Goldenraintree 'Koelreuteria paniculata': Unique lantern-like seed pods, bright yellow flowers.

*Medium and Large Species not suitable to plant under power lines.

If you have any questions or have a tree in mind that isn't on the list, please call 801-264-2733.

*Medium Species Continued. (Mature Height 25'-50'). Suitable for larger parking strips.

Common Hackberry 'Celtis occidentalis': Unique furrowed bark, drought tolerant, slender leaf's and adapts well to urban environments.

Japanese Zelkova 'Zelkova serrata': Upright vase shape canopy, smooth grey bark exfoliates to reveal orange inner bark, bronze-red fall color.

Lacebark Elm 'Ulmus parvifolia': Distinct bark, attractive foliage. Also known as Chinese Elm.

Frontier Elm 'Ulmus frontier': Upright vase shape canopy, burgundy fall color.

Little Leaf Lindon 'Tilia cordata': Pyramidal shape, heat and drought tolerant.

Fringetree 'Chionanthus virginicus': Distinct bark, tolerant to urban conditions.

*Large Species (Mature Height 45'-70'). Large parking strip required.

Burr Oak 'Quercus macrocarpa': Large lobed leaves, deeply furrowed bark.

Northern Catalpa 'Catalpa speciosa': Large heart shaped leaves, white blossoms in spring.

Kentucky Coffeetree 'Gymnocladus dioicus': Attractive furrowed bark, yellow fall color.

American Sycamore 'Platanus occidentalis': Smooth distinct bark, Resistant to most pests & disease.

Swamp White Oak 'Quercus bicolor': Large shade tree, orange gold fall color.

Tulip Tree 'Liriodendron tulipifera': Distinctive lobed leaves, showy yellow flowers in spring.



Murray City **Restricted** Park Strip Trees

Ash 'Fraxinus': All Ash species susceptible to "EAB" Emerald Ash Borer.

Box Elder 'Acer negundo': Weak wood subject to rot and decay. Box Elder bugs can be a nuisance.

Siberian Elm 'Ulmus pumila': Weak wood, disease and insect prone, seeds aggressively. Often mistaken as Chinese Elm.

Flowering Pear 'Pyrus calleryana': Widely over planted throughout Utah. Poor branch structure due to bark inclusions, susceptible to Fire Blight.

Poplar 'Populus': (Poplar, Cottonwood & Quaking Aspen) Weak branch structure, invasive root systems, wood subject to rot and decay.

Russian Olive 'Elaeagnus angustifolia': Has low seedling mortality rates which thrives on poor soil, matures in a short period of time, and outcompetes wild native vegetation. Invasive species with large thorns.

Silver Maple 'Acer saccharinum': Large surface roots known to damage curbing, sidewalks and driveways. Weak wood subject to rot & decay, Iron chlorosis can also be an issue in Utah soils..

Tree of Heaven 'Ailanthus altissima': Weak wood, weak branch structure and seeds aggressively.

Willow 'Salix': (all varieties) Weak branching structure, invasive root systems, wood subject to rot and decay.

Evergreens: (all varieties) Low branching and dense canopies obstruct view, cones can also cause a trip hazard.

Fruit Trees: (Apple, Apricot, Cherry, Pear, Peach and Plum) Fruit drop causes mess and poses trip hazard to public.

Tree Care Tips

Plant the tree in the right place. Trees can interfere with overhead powerlines causing power outages and risk of electrocution.

A professional arborist can prune dead, diseased, and damaged limbs. In most cases, tree pruning is corrective or preventative maintenance. Prune trees while they are young. This will help establish a healthy structure and reduce future maintenance costs.

Never top your trees! Topping can lead to cankers, bark splitting, and branch dieback. It may also lead to increased maintenance costs in the future.

Murray City Ordinances

Planting, cutting, trimming, and removing city trees:

Trees shall be provided on the thirty-foot (30') centers in the park strip. On corner lots, the first tree nearest the intersection shall be located forty (40') from the intersection. Trees to be planted shall be provided by the subdivider/developer.

Whenever a residential dwelling is constructed, landscaping shall be installed in the front yard within one year from the date of the occupancy of the building. Landscaped areas shall consist of an effective combination of trees, ground cover, and shrubbery. All unpaved areas not utilized for access or parking shall be landscaped in a similar manner. All landscaping shall be maintained in a neat and orderly fashion.

It is unlawful to plant, remove, cut down above or below ground, trim or top any tree on city tree planting strips or other city property, or cause such acts to be done by others, unless the work is performed in compliance with the city's arboricultural regulations.



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Street Trees Available for Sale*

Murray City Power offers a tree planting program every spring. Trees go on sale February 1st at 7:00 am.

For pricing, selection, and ordering information call 801-264-2703 or check out the following link:

<https://www.murray.utah.gov/81/Street-Tree-Planting-Maintenance>

*Quantities are limited.



As a Reminder.....

Trees, young and old, require an adequate water source. Irrigation systems tend to water the top 2"-4" of soil. It is recommended to either hand water with a garden hose or use a watering bag.

Did you know?

If the trees in your yard are growing into the power line OR if you have park strip trees that need to be trimmed, contact Murray City Power at 801-264-2703. Our staff will trim them free of charge.

Why You Should Plant a Tree:

Cleans the air we breathe	Intercepts stormwater
Reduces city noise	Cools the planet
Habitat for birds and wildlife	Reduces stress & anxiety
Increases property values	
Reduces cooling costs and conserve energy	

Property values of landscaped homes are between 5-20% percent higher than those of non-landscaped homes.

Additional Links

Trees Are Good: <https://www.treesaregood.org/>
Murray City Arboretum: <http://www.murraytrees.org>
Utah Community Forest Council: www.utahurbanforest.org
Utah State University Forestry Extension: <https://forestry.usu.edu>
Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands: <https://ffsl.utah.gov>
International Society of Arboriculture: www.isa-arbor.com
Tree Owner Information: <http://www.treesaregood.org>
Tree Care Industry Association: <https://www.tcia.org>
Arbor Day Foundation: <https://arborday.org>



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