

Street Trees



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The City of Dallas is a Tree City, USA, and as outlined in the Dallas City Code (DCC) and the Dallas Development Code (DDC), Street Trees are required. These are trees that are planted in the in the public right-of-way, usually on the front of the property near the street or sidewalk within ten (10) feet of the street.

Care and Maintenance of Street Trees

Maintenance of street trees, whether located in a public right-of-way or on private property, is the responsibility of the adjoining property owner. Trees shall be pruned so that the branches do not significantly obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection. They shall be trimmed to 14 feet above the street surface and 8 feet above the sidewalk surface.

Planting Requirements

- Placement:** Street trees are planted within planting strips, at least five feet away from any curb, twenty (20) feet from any street corner, and more than ten (10) feet of any fire hydrant or streetlight.
- Size:** The minimum tree size at planting is two (2) inch caliper measured four (4) feet above ground for deciduous trees, and six (6) foot height for evergreen trees.
- Spacing:** In general, trees should be spaced between thirty (30) feet and sixty (60) feet apart, depending on the tree's growth characteristics except where planting a tree would conflict with existing trees, retaining walls, utilities, and similar physical barriers.
- Species:** A complete list of suggested street trees is available on the website or from Planning Staff.

Street Removal or Replacement Process

- Street Tree Removal Permit:** Street Tree Removal requires a STREET TREE REMOVAL PERMIT. Street Trees may only be removed if they are diseased or constitute a nuisance or hazard to public safety. There is a fee associated with the permit and an arborist report may be required with submittal of the permit application.
- Insurance:** The contractor/owner shall obtain and at all times maintain a policy or policies of general liability insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 and shall name City as an additional insured thereon.
- Tree Removal:** All stumps of street trees shall be removed below the surface of the ground so that the top of the stump shall not project above the surface of the ground.
- Replanting:** Removal of a Street Tree may require the replacement of the tree removed unless it is determined that it would be unsafe, impractical or inappropriate to replant a tree on the same property as the property from which the tree was removed, in which case an alternate location may be required.

More Information

This brochure highlights some facts about Street Trees in the City of Dallas. For more information, please contact Public Works Department 503-831-3559.

