

General Guidelines and Requirements

The planting of new trees, whether on your own property or in the public right of way, can add value to your home, reduce energy costs, and improve the overall appearance of the lot and an entire neighborhood. The City encourages residents to plant new trees and will allow trees to be planted on public property when a few simple guidelines are followed.

- Always contact JULIE to have utilities located prior to any excavation.
- Contact Dept. of Public Works to receive approval prior to planting trees or shrubs in the right of way (.e.g. tree bank, parkway)
- Avoid planting trees near street lights
- Trees should be at least 6' from back of curb
- Trees should be at least 100' away from an intersection
- No evergreen tree should be planted within the right of way
- Only low growing trees should be planted under or close to overhead utility lines
- Avoid planting too many of the same species of tree on your property; variety is good
- When planting near other trees already established, select a location that is based on the mature tree size. Plan ahead and allow proper space for trees to grow to their mature size.



DID YOU KNOW?

Property owners and residents are required to receive approval from the City before planting any tree within the public right of way.

This is necessary to help ensure that the proper type of tree is planted as well as the proper location identified.

Trees that are planted in the wrong location could obstruct traffic signs, create obstructions over sidewalks, or interfere with utilities in the future and have to be removed.

The selection of the wrong type of tree could result in future disease problems, cause root problem in sewer lines or under sidewalks, create unwanted nuisance problems, or be the wrong size for the space available.

The City of Woodstock can help verify that the type, size, and location are suitable before you invest your time and money planting a tree in the public right of way.



City of
Woodstock

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Tree Planting
on Public
Rights of Way

Help Yourself/Help Your Neighbor



Being a Good Neighbor

Dept. of Public Works
326 Washington Street
Woodstock, Illinois 60098
(815) 338-6118
pwdept@woodstockil.gov

**Examples of Low Growing Trees
That You Should Consider
(must be single stem varieties)**

- Trident Maple
- Amur Maple
- Paperbark Maple
- Tatarian Maple
- Downy Serviceberry
- Apple Serviceberry
- Allegheny Serviceberry
- American Hornbeam
 - Eastern Redbud
- Winter King Green Hawthorn
 - Callery Pear
 - Japanese Tree lilac
 - Blackhaw Viburnum

**Examples of Tall Growing Trees
That You Should Consider**

- Common Horsechestnut
 - Yellow Buckeye
- Common Hackberry
- Ginkgo (male only)
- Kentucky coffeetree
 - White Oak
 - Shingle Oak
 - Bur Oak
 - English Oak
- American Linden
- Littleleaf Linden
 - Chinese Elm
 - Lacebark Elm

**Examples of Prohibited
Right of Way Trees**

- Boxelder
- Tree of Heaven
 - Ash
- Female Ginkgo
- White or common Mulberry
 - All species of Poplar
 - Common Buckthorn
- All species of Willow
 - American Elm
 - Siberian Elm
 - Red Elm
 - All evergreens
- All types of multi-stem specimens
- All types of trees with thorns

Contact the Department of Public Works or visit our website www.woodstockil.gov for a complete list of trees recommended for planting, trees prohibited from the public right of way, and additional information regarding the City's tree planting policy.



Variety Is Good

Planting too many of the same type of trees in any one neighborhood is not recommended. Variety helps to reduce the spread of disease and insects that could impact a large number of trees at the same time, and also provides a more pleasing impact with varying shapes and color.

Public Right of Way

Approval is required prior to planting any tree or shrub in the public right of way.

The right of way is also called 'Treebank' and/or 'Parkway'.

Certified Arborist Can Assist

The City's Certified Arborist can assist with the proper selection of your type of tree and location for planting. Contact the Department of Public Works to request planning assistance and for approval to plant a tree in the public right of way.

The City's Certified Arborist, based on his professional judgment, may allow some variations of the guidelines and/or variations in planting locations. Those decisions will be made in the field on a case-by-case basis.