

City of Gothenburg Tree Rebate Program

Program Guidelines and Rules

The City of Gothenburg's Tree Rebate Program will reimburse up to 50% of the homeowner's cost for trees planted within the right of way. Following are the guidelines and rules of the program.

1. All trees shall be planted between May 1st and June 30th
2. All trees funded shall be on a first-come, first-serve basis. All interested parties are required to fill out the Five-Year Maintenance Agreement (Attachment B) at the city office in order to be considered. There is approximately enough funding to fund 10 trees. Funding will be limited to two trees per applicant. A person owning two parcels of property may be considered as a separate applicant; however, funding priority will be given to all applicants first request before funding a second request.
3. All claims for reimbursement from the City shall be presented to the City Clerk before August of that planting year
4. All trees shall be planted within the right of way. Applicants must call Nebraska 811 diggers hotline 2 days before digging, and planting site must be approved by the City of Gothenburg.
5. All trees eligible for this program are listed on Attachment A.
6. All trees shall be purchased from a retailer that is currently a licensed Nebraska nursery.
7. All trees shall be planted by the commercial nursery or shall be planted by the homeowner under the attached planting guidelines (see Attachment B).
8. All trees planted will be funded 1/2 by the City Tree Rebate Grant and 1/2 by the homeowner. Funding by the grant shall not exceed \$150 per tree. Minimum cost of tree shall not be less than \$150. Homeowner shall pay for the tree and shall submit an invoice for reimbursement from the City. City will reimburse through its normal course of business once it has been determined that the tree has been planted properly, is an acceptable species, and the homeowner signs a five year maintenance agreement (Attachment "C").

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Trees allowed for planting - Trees shall be between 1 and 2 inches in caliper (measured at 12 inches above the root flare).

The Tree Board must approve trees for the Rebate Program before planting. Trees that have already been approved by the Board are as follows:

DECIDUOUS TREES THAT WILL BE OF A LARGE SIZE AT MATURITY 45 FEET PLUS

Acer nigrum, Black Maple
Acer saccharum, Sugar Maple Cultivars: Caddo Sugar Maple only
Catalpa speciosa, Northern Catalpa
Celtis occidentalis, Common Hackberry
Ginkgo biloba, Ginkgo
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis, Thornless Honeylocust Cultivars: Shademaster
Skyline
Gymnocladus dioica, Kentucky Coffeetree
Platanus x acerifolia, Planetree
Quercus bicolor, Swamp White Oak
Quercus imbricaria, Shingle Oak
Quercus macrocarpa, Bur Oak
Quercus muehlenbergi, Chinkapin Oak
Quercus robur, English Oak
Quercus hybrids of the above Oak species
Tilia americana, American Linden and Cultivars
Tilia cordata, Littleleaf Linden Cultivars: Glenleven, Greenspire, Shamrock
Tilia tomentosa, Silver Linden Cultivars: Green Mountain
Ulmus americana, American Elm Cultivars: Patriot, Valley Forge, Princeton
(note: species should be avoided on Elm, due to susceptibility to Dutch elm disease)
Acer rubrum, Red Maple Cultivar: Burgundy Belle Red Maple
Prairie Expedition listed with the cultivars of American Elm

DECIDUOUS TREES THAT WILL BE OF MEDIUM SIZE AT MATURITY
(25-45 FEET)

Acer campestre, Hedge Maple
Acer Grandidentatum, Bigtooth Maple
Acer miyabei, Miyabei Maple
Carpinus caroliniana, American Hornbeam
Corylus colurna, Turkish Filbert
Koelreuteria paniculata, Goldenraintree
Ulmus x Frontier, Frontier Elm
Acer truncatum x Acer platanoides hybrids
Ulmus propinqua, Emerald Sunshine Elm

DECIDUOUS TREE THAT WILL BE SMALL AT MATURITY
(LESS THAN 25')

Acer glabrum, Rocky Mountain Maple
Acer tataricum, Tatarian Maple
Cornus mas, Corneliancherry Dogwood
Syringia reticulata, Japanese Tree Lilac
Viburnum lentago, Nannyberry Viburnum
Acer truncatum, Shantung Maple

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Planting Specifications

Trees should be planted in accordance with the accompanying diagram. With container trees care should be taken to ensure that there are not girdling roots due to the tree being grown in a plastic container. Girdling roots should be cut and or straightened. Ball & burlapped trees should have the entire wire basket and all twine and burlap removed once the root ball is in the hole. Damaged roots should be pruned. All trees should be planted with the first lateral root at the soil line or 1 inch above the soil line. Care should be taken so that the hole is not dug too deeply and the tree is not planted too deep. When backfilling, use water to settle the soil and remove air pockets, do not tamp the soil.

Mulching

Mulching is the most important post-planting practice that can be done to improve the vitality of landscape plants. Organic (shredded or chipped bark or wood) mulch should be placed around the tree in a 6' diameter circle. The mulch should be 3-4 inches deep and should be maintained throughout the life of the tree.

Staking.

Staking is often necessary in our area due to high winds. Stakes should be made of wood so that if left in place they will rot away, unlike steel posts. Guying material should be at least 2" wide where it contacts the trees. It is not acceptable to use garden hose (or similar material) and wire. Stakes can generally be removed after one season, and rarely should be left on after seasons.

Watering

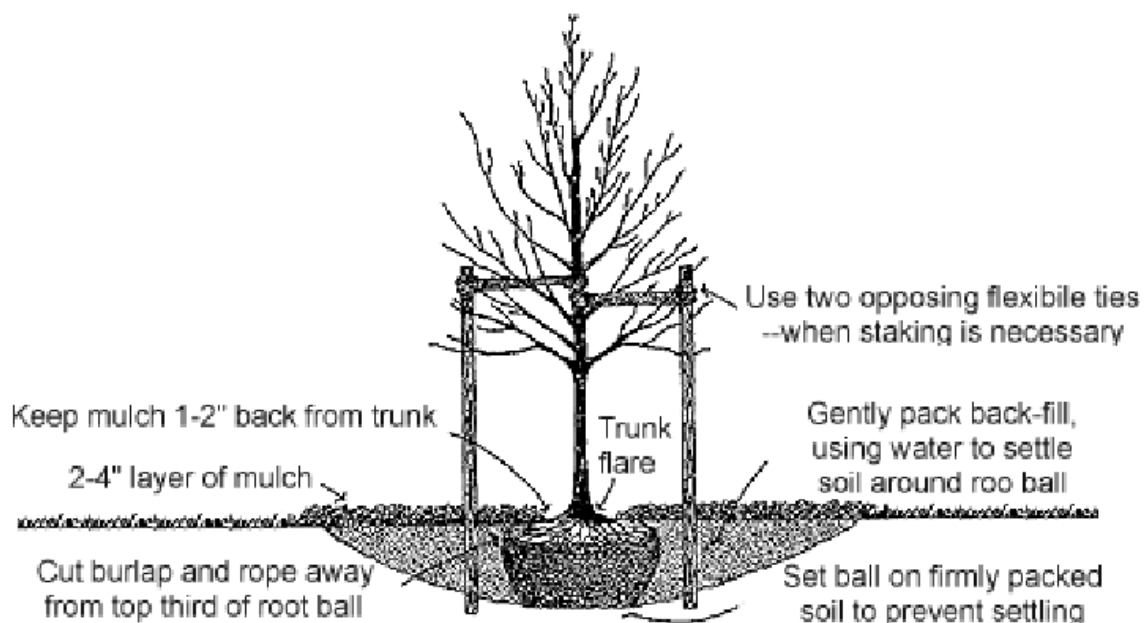
Tree watering can be difficult due to the differences in sites. The root ball must be kept moist at all times yet the tree should not be over watered. A good guideline is to apply one gallon of water per inch of caliper, on the root ball per day. This can be adjusted according to the amount of water applied to the lawn, and whether the soils are heavy.

Spacing

Only small trees will be allowed in the program when space becomes an issue. Examples include: Overhead utility wires or a very narrow planting space. There shall be no tree planted in a space narrower than 4 feet. Larger trees should be planted in areas at least 10 feet wide. This will prevent walks and streets from being heaved in the future.

Tree Stem

All trees shall be single stemmed. Multi-stemmed trees end up blocking vision, and impeding upon the walks and streets.



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Five Year Maintenance Agreement

I, _____ agree to maintain all trees I am
PLEASE PRINT NAME
reimbursed for under the City of Gothenburg's tree rebate program.

Maintenance shall include watering, mulching, staking (if necessary), and any other required maintenance such as pruning, spraying, etc. I also agree to contact a member of the Tree Board should I have any concern for the growth and overall health of the tree or trees planted. Trees shall be maintained under this agreement for a minimum of five years from the date of reimbursement.

Signed,

Signature

Date

Address