

## Approved Tree Species

The space between the sidewalk and the curb is called the tree lawn or parkway. To minimize tree root and sidewalk conflicts, check the list below for the size of your tree lawn to select the appropriate tree for your space. It is not recommended to plant trees in tree lawns less than 21/2' in width. All street trees must be tree form (single trunk) and a minimum caliper of 2"-21/2" measured 6" above the root flare.

### Group I Small Trees - Mature height 15'-30'

-Plant in tree lawn 2 1/2' to 4' wide

-Tree form only

-Suitable to be planted under overhead utility lines

-\*Space 20'-25' on center

Amur Maackia – *Maackia amurensis*

Crabapple- *Malus* species and hybrids

White flowers: 'Snowdrift', 'Spring Snow', 'Madonna', 'Harvest Gold'

Pink flowers: 'Adams', 'Sentinel'

Red flowers: 'Centurion', 'Red Barron', 'Prairifire'

Amur Maple-*Acer ginnala* 'Flame', 'Embers'

Trident Maple-*Acer buergeranum*

Tatarian Maple – *Acer tataricum*

Amanogawa Oriental Cherry – *Prunus serrulata* 'Amanogawa'

Japanese Tree Lilac-*Syringa reticulata* 'Ivory Silk', 'Summer Snow'

Serviceberry-*Amelanchier laevis* 'Cumulus', 'Majestic' *Amelanchier x grandiflora* 'Autumn Brilliance', 'Princess Diana', 'Trazam'

Thornless Cockspur Hawthorne – *Crataegus crusgalli* var. *inermis*

Winter King Hawthorne – *Crataegus viridis* 'Winter King'

Korean Mountain Ash – *Sorbus alnifolia*

Eastern Redbud -*Cercis canadensis*

Kousa Dogwood - *Cornus kousa*

Okame cherry-*Prunus x incam* 'Okame'

### Group II Medium Trees- mature height 30' to 45'

-Plant in tree lawn 4' to 6'

-May not be suitable to be planted under utility lines.

-\*Space 25'-35' on center

Hedge Maple – *Acer campestre*

Shantung Hybrid Maple –

Norwegian Sunset-*Acer truncatum* X *A. platanoides*

'Keithsform'

Pacific Sunset – *Acer truncatum* x *platanoides*

'Warrenred'

Imperial Honeylocust – *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Imperial'

Goldenrain Tree – *Koelreuteria paniculata*

Merrill Magnolia – *Magnolia x loebneri* 'Merrill'

Sawtooth Oak - *Quercus acutissima*

Yoshino Cherry - *Prunus X yedoensis*

American Hornbeam—*Ostrya virginiana*

Columnar Sargent Cherry – *Prunus sargentii* 'Columnaris'

Callery Pear – *Prunus calleryana* 'Aristocrat', 'Redspire', 'Chanticleer', 'Capital'

American Hornbeam - *Carpinus caroliniana*

Fastigiata European Hornbeam – *Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata'

Kwanzan Oriental Cherry – *Prunus serrulata* 'Sekiyama'

Sun Valley Red Maple- *Acer rubrum* 'Sun Valley'

Accolade Flowering Cherry- *Prunus* 'Accolade'

### Group III Large Trees-Mature height 45' or more

-Plant in tree lawn 6' or wider

-Not suitable to be planted under overhead utility lines

-\*Space 40' or more on center

Red Maple – *Acer rubrum*

October Glory-*Acer rubrum* 'October Glory'

Red Sunset - *Acer rubrum* 'Franksred'

Armstrong Freeman Maple – *Acer x freemanii* 'Armstrong'

Swamp White Oak – *Quercus bicolor*

Bur Oak – *Quercus macrocarpa*

Shingle Oak – *Quercus imbricaria*

English Oak – *Quercus robur*

Fastigiata English Oak – *Quercus robur* 'Fastigiata'

Northern Red Oak – *Quercus rubra*

Littleleaf Linden – *Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire', 'Glenleven'

Silver Linden – *Tilia tomentosa* 'Green Mountain', 'Sterling Silver'

Turkish Filbert - *Corylus colurna*

Hardy Rubber Tree - *Eucommia ulmoides*

Hackberry – *Celtis occidentalis* 'Prairie Pride'

Katsura Tree – *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*

Japanese Zelkova – *Zelkova serrata* 'Green Vase', 'Halka'

Lacebark Elm – *Ulmus parvifolia* 'Dynasty', 'Ohio'

Yellowwood- *Cladrastis kentukea*

\*All spacing is a function of mature crown spread and may vary widely between species and cultivars.

**Planting of other species may be acceptable pending approval of the city forester.**

### UNACCEPTABLE TREES

(Weak wood, soil incompatibility, excessive fruit, etc.)

Black locust-(*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

Black walnut-(*Juglans nigra*)

Boxelder-(*Acer negundo*)

Catalpa-(*Catalpa* spp.)

Bradford pear– (*Pyrus calleryana* "Bradford")

Fruit trees-(apple, pear, plum, etc.)

Ginkgo, female-(*Ginkgo biloba*)

Honeylocust, thorned- (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)

Norway maple-(*Acer platanoides*)

Mulberry-(*Morus* spp.)

Pin Oak-(*Quercus palustris*)

Poplars-(*Populus* spp.)

Siberian elm-(*Ulmus pumila*)

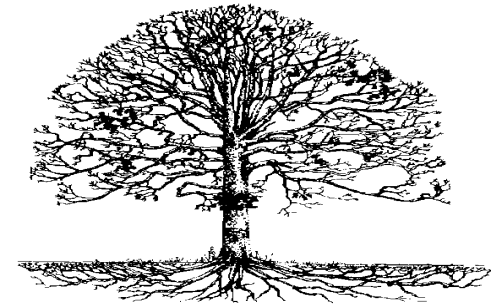
Silver maple-(*Acer saccharinum*)

Tree of Heaven-(*Ailanthus altissima*)

Willow-(*Salix* spp.)

## CITY OF BETHLEHEM

### STREET TREE SELECTION AND CARE



Bethlehem is proud of its designation as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. The Tree City USA program is designed to recognize those communities that manage their street and public property trees and to encourage development of community tree management programs based on criteria that provide structure, require demonstrated success, and promote community awareness and appreciation for public tree resources.

This publication is designed not only to provide residents with information about local tree ordinances, permits, and current arboricultural practices, but also to cultivate a sense of stewardship among residents regarding the care and nurturing of our urban forest.



**TREE CITY USA®**

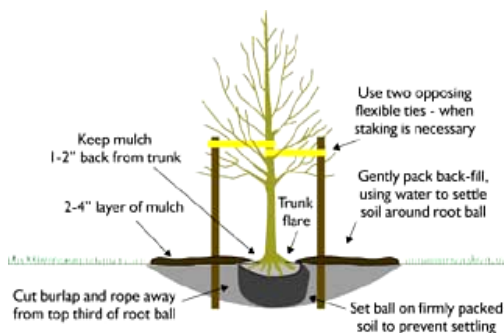
**Arbor Day Foundation**

# Planting and caring for your street trees

# What Ordinance?

## Location, location, location!

Planting the wrong tree in the wrong place can lead to problems like pedestrian interference, poor traffic visibility and higher maintenance costs. Tall growing trees should not be situated under overhead electrical wires and trees with wide spreading crowns are unsuitable for narrow areas where structures and roadways would limit their mature width. Think before you plant and consult your local extension forester, nurseryman, or city forester. The best time to plant your tree is during the dormant season; in the spring before bud-break or in the fall after leaf-drop. Dig the planting hole 2 to 3 times the width of the root ball and only as deep as the existing root system, leaving a mound of undisturbed soil at the bottom of the hole for the root ball to rest on. Locate the tree's root collar



(where the trunk flares out and roots begin). Soil may have been heaped up on the trunk during digging and transport and will need to be pulled away to expose the root collar. The proper planting depth is extremely important. The top of the root ball should be level with the top of the hole. After placing the tree in the prepared hole, start backfilling the hole with topsoil; just enough to support the tree and keep it straight while you cut the rope or wire and fold or cut the burlap away from at least the top third of the root ball. Continue filling in the hole, tamping with topsoil; just enough to avoid air pockets that could dry out roots. If your tree was in a container, check for roots encircling the ball. Gently pull these away and spread them out and away from the trunk while backfilling or cut them so they don't continue to grow around and girdle the tree.

## Mulch

Cover the planting area with 2" to 4" of shredded bark mulch making sure to keep it a few inches away from the trunk.

Mulching conserves soil moisture, discourages weeds, and keeps mowers and line trimmers away from the tree trunk.

**DO NOT** pile mulch up and around the trunk of the tree ('volcano' mulching). This practice is detrimental to tree growth and health.



CORRECT



INCORRECT

## Watering

One of the most important things you can do to get your new tree off to a good start is regular watering. If rainfall is less than 1" per week, slowly soak the soil around the newly planted tree applying around 15-20 gallons per watering.

## Staking

Staking should only be done if necessary as slight movement of the tree encourages better root growth. If supporting the tree, place stakes beyond root ball, use flexible ties, and remove stakes and ties after one year.

## Pruning

On new trees, only prune damaged or crossed branches.

## Fertilizing

It is not recommended to fertilize newly planted trees.

## STREET TREE MAINTENANCE

Street trees are the responsibility of the property owner but are regulated because they are in the public right-of-way and have the potential to affect vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

- Maintain clearance 8' above sidewalk and 14' above roadways.
- Prune to remove dead, damaged or diseased wood.
- Topping is prohibited.
- Trees should be properly mulched and watered.
- It is recommended that an ISA \*certified arborist be used for pruning work.

\*Accredited by the International Society of Arboriculture

For more information about the shade tree ordinance, permit applications, or for a list of licensed tree services, please contact:

Department of Public Works  
10 East Church Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018  
610-865-7065 or

visit the City's website at: [www.bethlehem-pa.gov](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov)

The City of Bethlehem does have a Shade Tree Ordinance which was established to protect and preserve our street and public property trees. Article 910 of the City's codified ordinances is available on the City website.

**PERMITS**-A permit is required to prune, remove, plant, or treat a street tree along the public right of way.

**LICENSE**- Tree work performed on street or public property trees must be done by a tree service licensed with the City of Bethlehem.

## THE VALUE OF TREES

**Many people look at trees as just messy large plants requiring extra work for property owners. Most people don't realize all the work trees do for us and how valuable they really are.**

"Healthy mature trees add an average of 10% to a property's value." – *USDA Forest Service*

"One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people." – *U.S. Department of Agriculture*

"Landscaping can reduce air conditioning costs by up to 50 %, by shading windows and walls of a home." – *American Public Power Association*

"Trees can be a stimulus to economic development, attracting new business and tourism." – *The Arbor Day Foundation*

"There are about 60 to 200 million spaces along our city streets where trees could be planted. This translates to the potential to absorb 33 million more tons of CO2 every year, and saving \$4 billion in energy costs." – *National Wildlife Federation*

## SAY NO TO TREE TOPPING!

This practice is:



- **Unightly**
- **Unhealthy**
- **Unprofessional**