

City of Marion
Engineering Office
233 W. Center Street; Marion, Ohio 43302
Telephone: (740) 387-2240 Fax: (740) 383-5712

Obtain a Permit Before Planting Trees Within Public Right-of-Ways

The purpose of this handout is to provide guidelines and information to home and property owners who wish to plant trees within a public right-of-way. Trees planted between the curb and sidewalk or within the public right-of-way must meet certain guidelines outlined in this handout, and citizens must obtain a permit from the Marion City Engineering Department, 233 West Center Street, after contacting Ohio Utilities Protection Service **800-362-2764**.

Right-of-Way Planting Guidelines

Trees should be planted at least 10' from fire hydrants and utility poles; 8' from driveways and street signs; 6' from underground utilities; and 35' from the corner of street intersections. In addition the following spacing guidelines apply:

Large tree species: 8' width of tree lawn and 40' spacing between trees;

Medium tree species: 5' width of tree lawn and 30' spacing between trees;

Small tree species: 4' width of tree lawn and 20' spacing between trees.

If overhead utility lines exist, small tree species must be utilized. Medium tree species may be considered in situations where overhead utility lines are above 40'.

Recommended Street Trees

The following deciduous trees should be successful in an urban environment. Tree species size and site guidelines must be carefully matched, and each site will be inspected by the City. City staff can help identify which tree species are appropriate for a given location. More detailed information about species and cultivars is available at <http://www.webgarden.osu.edu>.

Small Trees (Less than 30')

Serviceberry

Hedge Maple

Amur Maple

Paperbark Maple

Pacific Sunset Maple

Crabapple

Japanese Tree Lilac

Amelanchier sp. (Tree form)

Acer campestre

Acer ginnala

Acer griseum

Acer truncatum x platanoides

Malus sp. (upright forms & scab resistant)

Syringa reticulata

Medium Trees (30 – 45')

State Street Miyabe Maple
European Hornbeam
American Hophornbeam
Aristocrat Callery Pear
Cleveland Select Pear

Acer miyabei
Carpinus betulus
Ostrya virginiana
Pyrus calleryana 'Aristocrat'
Pyrus calleryana 'Cleveland Select'

Large Trees (Over 45')

Norway Maple
Red Maple
Sugar Maple
Hackberry
Turkish Filbert
European Beech
Ginkgo (Males only)
Honeylocust (Thornless)
Sweetgum
Black Gum
White Oak
Swamp White Oak
Shingle Oak
English Oak
Red Oak
Shumard Oak
Baldcypress
American Linden
Silver Linden
Japanese Zelkova

Acer platanoides
Acer rubrum
Acer saccharum
Celtis occidentalis
Corylus colurna
Fagus sylvatica
Ginkgo biloba
Gleditsia triacanthos var. *inermis*
Liquidambar styraciflua
Nyssa sylvatica
Quercus alba
Quercus bicolor
Quercus imbricaria
Quercus robur
Quercus rubra
Quercus shumardii
Taxodium distichum
Tilia Americana
Tilia tomentosa
Zelkova serrata

Undesirable Street Trees

Boxelder
Horsechestnut
Catalpa
Cottonwood
Ginkgo Female
Mountain Ash
Ash
Siberian Elm

Silver Maple
Birch
Poplars
Mulberry
Willows
Black Locust
Fruit Bearing Trees
Evergreen Trees

The City will also consider any species selection or design proposal on a case-by-case basis, even if the proposal deviates from these guidelines. If you have questions about street tree planting, call the Marion City Parks Superintendent at 740-387-5370.

Call Before You Dig – Ohio Utilities Protection Service - 800-362-2764

Residents are required to contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service, at the telephone number listed above. After the underground utilities are located, the resident should check whether a tree will fit into their planned tree site.

If the site will allow a tree to be planted, then obtain a permit through the Marion City Engineering Office. A representative from the Engineering Office or the Parks Superintendent will need to evaluate the site, and approve it, before the resident purchases a tree from these guidelines.

Planting Information

It is advisable to follow planting guidelines from the garden center or tree nursery, where the tree was purchased. The tree should be put into the ground at the same depth it was planted at the nursery, not any deeper. The hole diameter should be at least 6” larger than the diameter of the root ball. If potted, remove the tree from the pot, and loosen the roots on the outer edge if present. If the tree ball is wrapped in burlap, cut and remove the upper third of burlap and all string. Remove all fabric, if it is plastic or synthetic.

Backfill the soil mixed with good quality topsoil or compost. Stake the tree with two stakes. Wire the tree to the stakes, using rubber hose around the trunk. Remove the stakes, wire, and hose after one year. Water the root zone thoroughly to reduce air pockets.

Care of Street Trees

Residents are encouraged to provide routine care for street trees. New trees should be watered regularly, during their first year. Once per week, approximately 1” of water should be given to the trees, at a slow rate to reduce run-off. Providing a 2-3” layer of mulch over the root zone will reduce soil drying and help prevent trimmer and/or mower damage.