

APPROVED TREE SPECIES

The Tree Inspector will recommend a tree suitable for your property. It is not recommended to plant trees in tree lawns less than 2.5" in width. All street trees must be tree form (single trunk) and a minimum caliper of 2" - 2.5" measured 6" above the root flare.

GROUP 1 *Small Trees* - Mature Height 15'-30'

- ◆ Plant in tree lawn 2.5' - 4' wide
- ◆ Tree form only
- ◆ Suitable to be planted under overhead utility lines
- ◆ * Space 20' - 25' on center

Amur Maackia	Serviceberry
Amur Maple	Eastern Redbud
Trident Maple	Okame Cherry
Tatarian Maple	
Amanogawa Oriental Cherry	
Japanese Tree Lilac	

GROUP 2 *Medium Trees* - Mature Height 30' - 45'

- ◆ Plant in tree lawn 4' - 6' wide
- ◆ May not be suitable to plant under utility lines
- ◆ * Space 25' - 35' on center

Hedge Maple	American Hornbeam
Shantung Hybrid Maple	Kwanzan Oriental Cherry
Goldenraintree	Sun Valley Red Maple
Sawtooth Oak	Accolade Flowering Cherry
Yoshino Cherry	
American Hophornbeam	
Columnar Sargent Cherry	

GROUP 3 *Large Trees* - Mature Height 45' +

- ◆ Plant in tree lawn 6' or wider
- ◆ Not suitable to be planted under utility lines
- ◆ * Space 40' or more on center

Red Maple	Littleleaf Linden
Armstrong Freeman Maple	Silver Linden
Swamp White Oak	Turkish Filbert
Bur Oak	Katsura Tree
Shingle Oak	Japanese Zelkova
English Oak	Lacebark Elm
Willow Oak	American Yellowwood
Northern Red Oak	

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

HOW DO I GET A PERMIT?

If you feel that you require tree work, please follow these steps:

1. Call the Department of Public Works at 610-437-7596 between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00pm, Monday - Friday.
2. Describe the problem or concerns you are having.
3. A tree inspector will then make a field visit to verify the extent of the work to be done.
4. Once the permit has been issued for the work to be done, you must select a City-licensed, ISA-certified business to perform the work. You will receive a listing of those companies. As these companies are independent contractors, it is strongly encouraged that property owners receive pricing from more than one company for the work to be performed. The City cannot make a recommendation as to which company to call.
5. Replant with the tree recommended by the Tree Inspector for your property. Ensure the work has been completed, then call the Department of Public Works for a final inspection.



TREE CITY USA®

For more information please contact:

City of Allentown
 Department of Public Works
 641 S. 10th Street
 Allentown PA 18103
 610-437-7596

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

HOMEOWNERS GUIDE TO SHADE TREES



*Everything you need to know about
planting and caring for your shade tree.*



Allentown
City without limits.

WHAT IS A SHADE TREE?

A shade tree is identified as any tree, shrub and woody vegetation in a public right of way. The right of way is the width of a strip of land between property lines set aside for public or private use or ownership as a street, alley, crosswalk or utility provision. Most often, it is the strip of ground between the sidewalk and the street, although this is not the only instance.

Shade trees are important to the health and vitality of a neighborhood because they help to:

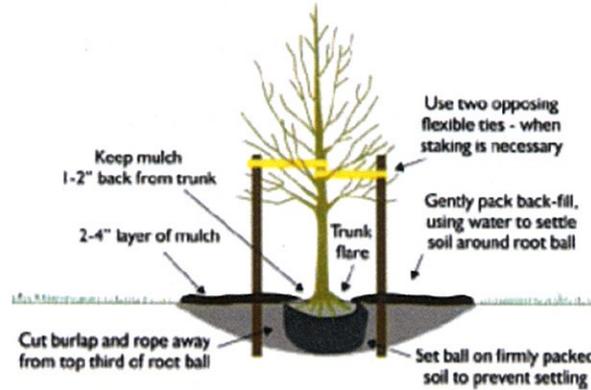
- ◆ Make your surroundings pleasant
- ◆ Reduce runoff and street noise
- ◆ Improve air quality
- ◆ Increase the value of real estate
- ◆ Provide relief from summer's heat and reduce glare from the pavement

SHADE TREE ORDINANCE

Like most cities, the City of Allentown has a Shade Tree Ordinance which was established to protect and preserve our street and public property trees.

SAY NO TO TOPPING

The practice is unsightly, unhealthy and unprofessional.



Mulching



CORRECT

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. This practice is detrimental to the tree growth and health.



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 about 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 the 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.

PERMITS

A Shade Tree Permit is required before pruning, planting, removing, chemical spraying, fertilizing, construction, excavation and temporary lighting. Call the Department of Public Works at 610-437-7596 to obtain your permit.

LICENSE

Tree work performed on street or public property trees must be done by an ISA-Certified, licensed tree service company with the City of Allentown.

TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Downed trees and branches are the property owner's responsibility to clean up.

Branches can be prepared for curbside yard waste collection by cutting them into four-foot lengths and tying branches into 40lb bundles which can be placed out on your recycling night. Curbside yard waste collection begins the first full week of April through the week of Thanksgiving.

Branches or logs over 5" in diameter must be taken to the Allentown Yard Waste Drop Off Site, or the owner may contract privately with a tree service or landscaper for removal.

You do not need a permit to complete any work on a private tree outside the public right of way. The City has no jurisdiction over disputes between neighbors related to private trees.

YARD WASTE DROP OFF SITE - HOURS

24th Street & Fish Hatchery Road

SRPING/SUMMER/FALL (generally March- November)

Mondays 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesdays 8:00am - 6:30 pm

Fridays 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Saturdays 8:00am - 3:00pm

WINTER (Weather Dependent)

Hours are subject to change.

Please contact the Recycling Bureau at 610-437-8729

