



Cost-Share Maintenance Program for Residential Street Trees

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What is a Street Tree?

"Street Trees" include trees growing within the public rights-of-way as well as trees growing in parks and on other public property. The right-of-way is a strip of land set aside for public uses such as streets, alleys, sidewalks and utilities. Right-of-way widths vary from street to street. To determine whether or not a tree is growing within the right-of-way, contact the city's Urban Forester.

Why are Street Trees Important?

Street trees are especially beneficial to communities. Because of their strategic location, they are important for their ability to trap and convert pollutants produced by vehicles and to muffle noise. They also mitigate the "heat island" effect of pavement which absorbs, stores, and radiates thermal energy. Street trees prevent heat absorption by shading, and actually reduce air temperature by transpiring (evaporating water through the leaves). Street trees provide many environmental, economic and social benefits to our community. Accomplishing tree maintenance tasks is necessary to having safe, healthy, structurally sound and well-maintained trees.

Importance of Tree Care

Pruning, done correctly, can do much to enhance tree health and appearance. Done incorrectly, it can cause starvation, shock, an excess of new growth, hazardous limb attachments, ugliness and even the death of the tree. Improper tree pruning such as topping is also against city ordinance.



Cost-share Program Overview

The City provides free permits, advice, technical information and assurance of tree service quality through a tree service licensing process. The abutting property owners are responsible for caring for the trees next to their property including pruning and sometimes tree removal in the case of dead, dying or hazardous trees.

The City has set up this cost-share program to help to defray some of the costs associated with the care and maintenance of the public trees.

Cost-Share Program Requirements

In order to be eligible for reimbursement, all of the following conditions must be met:

- The property must be single-family residential and within the city limits of Coeur d'Alene.
- Only trees located in the public city rights-of-way will be eligible for reimbursement (widths vary).
- A city-licensed tree service must do all of the work. The City will reimburse the abutting property owner after final inspection and acceptance.
- Trees can only be removed with prior City approval and the replacement tree(s) must be provided by the abutting property owner. Not all removal requests are approved.
- An application must be submitted and approved before any work begins.

A permit is required to prune, remove or plant trees in the public rights-of-way.

Cost Share Details

The City will reimburse 50%, up to \$200, per tree for pruning (3 tree max), and 50%, up to \$600, for tree removal. A maximum reimbursement of \$600 is available per parcel within a 36-month time period.

Forfeited residential street tree funds from residential building permits are being used for the program. Each year available funds will be determined and refunds will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once funds have been exhausted, a waiting list will be set up until additional funds become available.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT, THE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION MUST BE APPROVED BEFORE WORK BEGINS

Program Steps

- Submit completed application with estimate from City-licensed tree service which must include:
 - A Basic Site Map
 - Work Proposed (ANSI Standards)
 - Estimate Per Tree
- City review/inspection
- If approved, schedule work
- Submit copy of paid invoice
- City inspection/acceptance/refund

If you have any questions, or need assistance filling out the application, please contact us at:

City of Coeur d'Alene
Monte McCully - Urban Forester
mmccully@cdaid.org
Phone: 208 292-5766

Licensed Tree Services

An annual Tree Service License is required for tree work on public trees in Coeur d'Alene. City licensed tree services are familiar with the local tree ordinance, have an ISA Arborist on staff, carry adequate insurance, provide proof of past tree care experience and pay an annual licensing fee. For a full list of current City-licensed tree services, contact the Parks & Recreation Department or see the webpage at www.cdaid.org/parks. All city-licensed tree services give free estimates.

Types of Pruning

ANSI A300 American National Standards for Tree Care

Crown Cleaning: The selective removal of one or more of the following items - dead, dying, diseased, weak branches and water-sprouts from a tree's crown.

Crown Raising: The removal of the lower branches of a tree in order to provide clearance over the street (14ft) or sidewalk (7ft).

Crown Thinning: The selective removal of branches to increase light penetration, air movement and reduce weight.

Crown Restoration: Improve the structure, form and appearance of trees that have been severely headed, vandalized or storm damaged.

Structural Pruning: Develop a central trunk and establish well spaced branches. This type of pruning is generally done when a tree is fairly young.

Tree Removal:

Trees can only be removed with prior City approval, and the replacement tree(s) must be provided by the abutting property owner. Not all removal requests are approved. For those that are approved, stumps must be ground or cut flush with the ground (per City ordinance).

