

Street Tree Planting Program



Greetings:

Thank you for your interest in the City of Albany's street tree planting program!

Albany is committed to improving the quality of life for all of its citizens and visitors, and trees are an integral part of the life of this Capital City.

The value of trees, beyond beauty and shade, can be measured economically. Trees improve property values, reduce cooling and heating costs, reduce the pollutants in the air and soil, and produce oxygen.

To encourage plantings, the City will underwrite one half of the cost of purchasing and planting each tree. The deadline for orders for spring planting is March 31st and fall planting September 15th.

Carefully consider the location you wish to plant in; look for overhead lines, water shut-offs, and the size of the growing area. The trees we have chosen are 'urban tolerant', they are grouped by size at maturity, and are listed for suitability under utility/power lines. This is a "street tree" program and all trees must be planted along the street right-of-way. If there is no lawn or lawn strip, the city will open an area in the sidewalk to provide a planting space.



Care of newly planted trees is the responsibility of the property owner. Your investment includes planting and a one year guarantee against the death of the tree by natural causes, **provided there is evidence the tree has been properly watered.** Vandalism and motor vehicle damage is not covered by the guarantee.

We hope your tree provides many years of beauty and enjoyment to you and your neighbors. Thank you again for your interest and efforts.

Sincerely,
Thomas Pfeiffer
City Forester

Order Form

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTING A PLANTABLE LOCATION. Trees cannot be planted on the site of an old tree or stump because of the roots still in the ground. If you have any question in your mind, dig down and see what is there. If you find anything you can't cut with a shovel, please select another location.

Please sketch the house, sidewalk, new tree (marked with a **T** on sketch), and anything else the contractor should be aware of. Pounding a stake in the ground is a sure way of marking the location. **This plan is all the contractor will have. Because of the number of orders, they will not call in advance.**

Does your sidewalk need to be cut? Yes _____ No _____
_____ No _____

Is there an old tree stump in the way? Yes _____

Are there overhead wires at the planting site? Yes _____ No _____

Sketch Plan

Please complete and send to: **Department of General Services, 1 Conners Blvd., Albany, NY 12204.**

The prices listed on the following are your cost for the trees you order. Include a check made payable to **Treasurer, City of Albany** for the total amount of the tree order.

Type of tree(s) ordered: _____ Cost: _____

(2nd choice if 1st not available) _____ Cost _____

Name (PRINT) _____ Signature _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____

Address where tree is to be planted (if different from above) _____

Description of Trees

Small Trees—Suitable Under Powerlines



***Hedge Maple (Acer campestre)* SPRING, LIMITED AVAILABILITY FALL** **\$148.00**
Smaller member of the maple family chosen because of its suitability for planting under utility lines. Leaves are similar in shape to the sugar maple but smaller, and due to its dense branching it is often clipped as a hedge in Great Britain.



***Serviceberry (Amelanchier)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$ 88.00**
Small flowering tree native to North America; it's the first plant in bloom in the Adirondacks. We have requested the single stem tree form, but it is more commonly available in the shrub form. Produces a small berry that is edible but may be a little messy on your sidewalk.



***Crabapple (Malus spp.)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$88.00**
There are many varieties of crabapple. We have chosen three that have pink, red or white flowers, and produce little or no fruit. Branching is upright but the trees can get as wide as they are tall. With a sunny spot and the right soil they will provide a spectacular show each spring.



***Japanese Tree Lilac (Syringa reticulata)* SPRING, LIMITED AVAILABILITY FALL** **\$88.00**
This is a big lilac, getting to 20' with white flowers on the top of the tree in early July (long after other lilacs are finished). We have had good luck with this species in Washington Park.

***Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn (Crataegus crusgalli inermis)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$88.00**
We have been adding to our list of smaller trees and the Hawthorns don't mind city living too much. This one is thornless, has white flowers in May, and a small red fruit that persist into winter for a little added color.

***Canada Red Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$88.00**
Small white flowers, leaves change from light green to dark maroon.

Medium Trees to Large Trees: Generally Not Suitable Under Utility Lines



***Honey Locust (Gleditsia triacanthos)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$88.00**
A spreading form, it stands up well in the urban environment. Small leaflets that turn yellow in the fall. Although it can become a large tree, we will permit **under utility lines** due to its form, which will accept the pruning needed for line clearance.



***Callery Pear (Pyrus calleryana)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$ 88.00**
If you have noticed landscaping or tree planting anywhere, you've seen this one. I vote this 'most likely to be overplanted'. For good reasons; maturing to 40' with showy white flowers and an outstanding glossy bronze to scarlet fall color that stays on long after other trees are through for the year. They have tiny fruits, but not pears that you can eat or even notice. Although it can become a large tree, we will permit **under utility lines** due to its form, which will accept the pruning needed for line clearance.



***Japanese Zelkova - (Zelkova serrata)* SPRING ONLY, NOT AVAILABLE FALL** **\$88.00**
This tree is in the Elm family and resembles its relatives in form and leaf shape. However, it is resistant to the Dutch Elm Disease. Although it can become a large tree, we will permit **under utility lines** due to its form, which will accept the pruning needed for line clearance.



***Red Oak (Quercus rubra)* SPRING ONLY, NOT AVAILABLE FALL** **\$100.00**
This is one of our native oaks that can produce an abundance of acorns. It will get huge and have reddish-purple fall color. If you have your heart set on an oak, this is one of the best. **Do not plant under utility lines.**



***Littleleaf Linden (Tilia cordata)* SPRING AND FALL** **\$100.00**
Beautifully shaped tree, it has a distinctive pyramidal form. Provides excellent shade. Can grow quite tall - 60+ ft.- so not suitable under utility wires. Yellow fall color. **Do not plant under utility lines.**

Medium Trees to Large Trees: *continued*



Ginkgo - male only (Ginkgo biloba) SPRING, LIMITED AVAILABILITY FALL **\$110.00**

This is a commonly planted tree in NYC, which says it all about hardiness. Tall, small fan shaped leaves, yellow fall color, no insect pests or diseases. ***Do not plant under utility lines.***



London Planetree (Platanus x acerifolia) SPRING, LIMITED AVAILABILITY IN FALL **\$88.00**

We include it because it is extremely hardy and has very interesting bark. Big leaves, button-balls, and half hearted yellow fall color. It is a preferred variety of Sycamore. ***Do not plant under utility lines.***



Green Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica) SPRING AND FALL **\$88.00**

Large tree that can grow to 60 ft. tall; mature ash trees line Washington Ave. from Quail St. to Brevator St. The leaves turn a brilliant yellow in the fall, one of the first to change color. ***Do not plant under utility lines.***

Additional Trees—Limited Availability

Small Trees

Washington Hawthorn \$88.00
Shantung Maple \$133.00

Medium Trees

European Hornbeam \$163.00
Golden Rain Tree \$163.00
Black Tupelo \$150.00
Hackberry \$130.00
Crimean Linden \$140.00

Large Trees

English Oak \$110.00
White Ash \$ 88.00
Freeman Maple \$100.00
Elm - "Pioneer" \$100.00
Sargent Cherry \$138.00

Caring For Your Tree

The trees we have selected are the best suited for the urban environment. In order to protect your investment and retain the beauty of your tree we suggest the following:

- After tree is planted, watering is critical. Deep watering is best—hose on slow trickle for an hour or two, 2-3 times per week. Or by bucket, 10 gallons, 2-3 times per week, depending on rainfall.
- Watch that neighborhood animals do not make your tree their “rest stop”; animal droppings dramatically change soil conditions and will slowly kill a tree.
- Watch that vandals do not hang onto or break off branches; this can weaken limbs and open areas to invasion of insects or disease which can be fatal to the tree.
- Bracing stakes and wires are put on your tree to stabilize it until roots develop. These should be removed the following growing season. They can be removed by the person ordering and caring for the tree. If you are not able to remove the wires please call the Department of General Services, we will be glad to assist.

Remember, with a little help from you a tree properly maintained and cared for will last a lifetime.

All information subject to change.

CITY OF ALBANY

**Department of General Services ■ One Conners Boulevard ■ Albany, NY 12204 ■
Phone (518) 434-2489 ■ Fax (518) 427-7499**