

TREE FAQs

IS IT OKAY TO TOP A CITY TREE (OR ANY TREE)?

No. Topping of City trees is prohibited by Salem Revised Code (SRC) 86.050. In addition, this is a discredited practice that shortens the life of the tree, produces hazardous trees, and creates more work in the future as all of those sprouts start crowding each other out. For more detailed information on tree topping, see the following web site:



<http://www.treesaregood.org/treecare/topping.aspx>

DOES THE CITY GIVE AWAY THE WOOD OR WOOD CHIPS FROM ITS WORK?

The City has a contract with the Marion County Juvenile Department Alternative Work Programs to dispose of wood from felled trees.

The Marion County Juvenile Department provides accountability to youth and services to the local community. The staff and youth crews cut the trees into firewood and season it under cover for 12 months. Some of the seasoned firewood is then donated to low income seniors and disabled persons. The rest is sold to the public to pay back victims of youth crime and to help with the cost of the program.

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Citizens can purchase seasoned cords of firewood from the program, which includes free delivery in town, by calling 503-588-5324. You can also call that number if you have a tree that is already on the ground that you would like to donate. They do not cut down trees, but work with most of the local tree services.

Wood chips generated by Parks staff are used within City parks.

For information on approved street trees, Heritage Trees, and other City tree program information, please go to the City web site: <http://www.cityofsalem.net/>

CITY TREE CODES:

- ☛ Street Trees—SRC Chapter 86 (503-361-2215)
- ☛ Trees on private property—SRC Chapter 68 (503-588-6256)
- ☛ Landscape for Developments—SRC Chapter 132 (503-588-6173)

**Public Works Department
Parks and Transportation Services Division
Park Maintenance Section**

1460 20th Street SE
Building 14
Salem OR 97302-1230

Phone: 503-588-6336
Fax: 503-588-6305

email: salemparks@cityofsalem.net

TREES IN SALEM



CITY OF *Salem*
AT YOUR SERVICE

TREE FAQs

WHY TREES?

The City of Salem is proud of its trees. These trees provide beauty and create an environment

beneficial to our mental health. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and other gases and, in turn, provide oxygen for people to breathe. The leaves capture dust and air pollution, further filtering our air. Trees, even without leaves, reduce soil erosion while its roots stabilize the hillside and creek banks. In addition, they help cool the streets with shade, lessen glare off buildings and

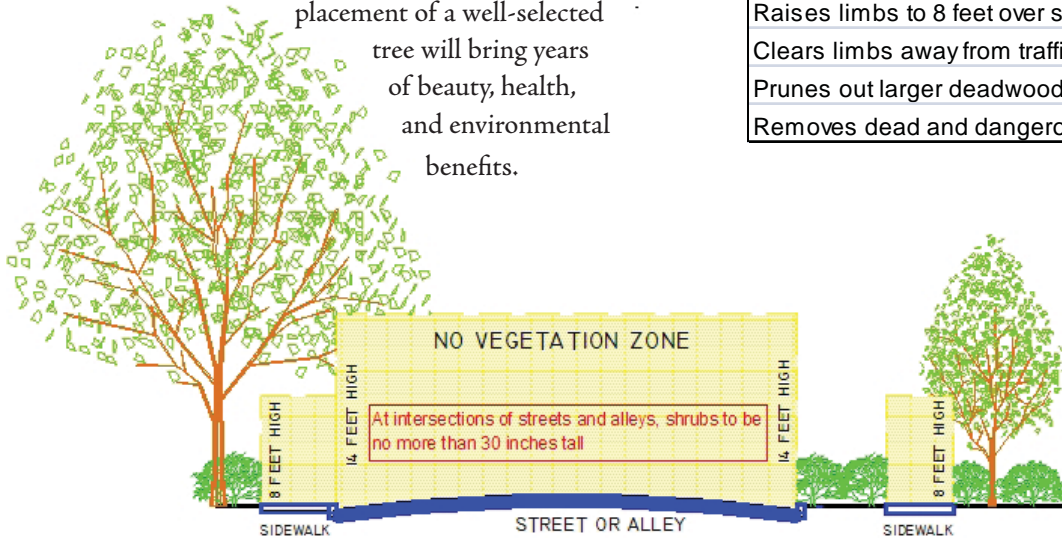
sidewalks, absorb noise, and bring beauty to our community. Some trees can become a nuisance, but the City is working with its citizens to get the right tree in the right place. The correct

placement of a well-selected tree will bring years of beauty, health, and environmental benefits.



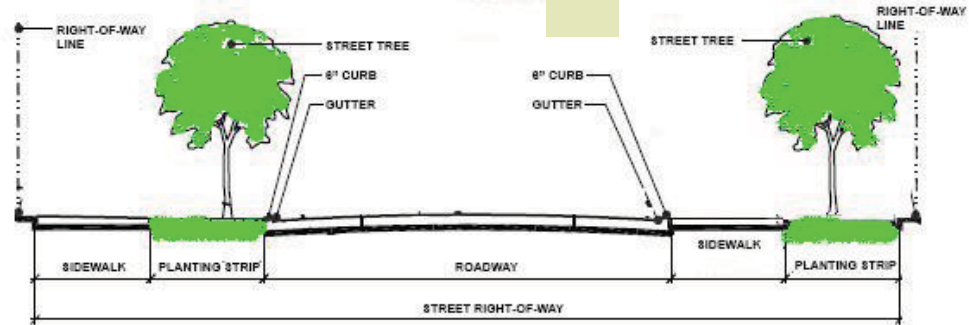
TREE CITY USA

Salem is only one of 17 cities in the country that continues to be a Tree City USA award winner since its inception in 1975.



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If you are unsure of the right-of-way line, please call the Office of the Urban Forester at 503-588-6336 and we can provide an approximate location of the right-of-way line measured from the street/curb toward your house.

| Do I have a City street tree? | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Between street and sidewalk | Yes |
| Back or side yard | No |
| Between street and house—No sidewalk | Check with the City |
| Between sidewalk and house | Check with the City |

| What service does the City provide for street trees? |
|--|
| Plants trees along the City streets. |
| Raises limbs to 14 feet over streets. |
| Raises limbs to 8 feet over sidewalks, yards, and buildings. |
| Clears limbs away from traffic signs, signals, and streetlights. |
| Prunes out larger deadwood. |
| Removes dead and dangerous trees. |

| In the street right-of-way, do I need a "No Cost" permit to: | |
|--|----------------|
| Plant a tree? | Yes |
| Plant shrubs or flowers? | No |
| Prune or treat a tree? | Yes |
| Remove a tree? | Yes |
| Install decorative lighting? | Yes (with fee) |



| Who prunes limbs away from utility lines? | |
|---|----------------|
| Contact the following utility companies: | |
| Portland General Electric (PGE) Tree-related calls only | 1-800-544-1794 |
| Downed wires and other problems | 1-800-542-8818 |
| Salem Electric (se@salemelectric.com) | 503-362-2956 |
| Qwest | 1-800-573-1311 |
| Comcast | 1-800-266-2278 |
| The City crews are not "Line Clearance Certified." | |
| Do not touch downed lines! | |