

LIMA'S TREE HERITAGE

Lima has a proud heritage of tree-lined streets, parks with beautiful old trees, and homes enhanced by the beauty and shade of those trees. Because of community involvement, Lima continues to be a Tree City USA, a designation awarded to cities by the National Arbor Foundation. We hope you will become a part of this heritage by planting a tree.

BENEFITS OF TREES

1. Provide Shade
2. Cool the air
3. Reduce noise
4. Absorb emissions from cars and trucks
5. Properly placed they can cut down the cost of cooling a home or building
6. Enhance property values
7. Prevents soil erosion.

WHERE TO PLANT

Wherever the lawn space between the sidewalk and curb is more than 4 feet wide, trees may be planted in this tree lawn or on boulevards. These tree lawns or boulevards belong to all of us as city property. On streets with a very narrow tree lawn, consideration should be given to planting on private property, behind the sidewalk. Adequate space should be allowed for the full-grown tree. The mature size and growth form of the selected tree must suit the planting space.

Large trees can be spaced a minimum of 40 feet apart while medium and small trees can be spaced a distance equivalent to their mature height. Distance from overhead utility lines, utility poles, fire hydrants, signs, and intersections should be as specified in the Planting Permit.

PRUNING OR REMOVING STREET TREES

The property owner may prune street trees without a permit. Pruning is sometimes necessary to trim low branches over the sidewalk or street or to thin in the tree to reduce its bulk and improve air circulation and light. TOPPING, the cutting back of the crown branches merely to reduce height, is exceedingly detrimental to a tree. **DO NOT TOP TREES!**

Permits are required to remove a tree from any city property: street trees, boulevards or parks. The City will remove a street tree only if it has been found by the city forester to be dead, diseased or dangerous.

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO CARE FOR LIMA'S STREET TREES

1. Secure a permit before planting or removing a tree on city property.
2. Plant only approved kinds of trees.
3. Follow proper pruning procedures.
DO NOT TOP TREES!
4. Permission is required to plant trees in public parks.
5. The City will remove dead, diseased, or dangerous trees within the public right-of-way.

Permits may be obtained free of charge at the Central Services Building, 900 S. Collett St., Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Guidelines for proper pruning may also be obtained at 900 S. Collett St. For questions, please call 221-5195.

GUIDELINES TO SELECTION OF STREET TREES

1. Consider the space you have and the ultimate size the mature tree would be. Overhead wires and a small tree lawn would require a small tree. It is necessary for a small tree that the tree lawn be a minimum of 4 foot wide.
2. Consider the surrounding area and the form of the tree. Trees with weeping branches would obstruct traffic on a street.
3. Consider the possible problems that may occur as the tree matures. Shallow roots could lift sidewalks. Roots could enter sewer lines and heavy branches could cause trouble with electric and power lines.
4. For best chances of survival, trees should usually be purchased from a reputable nursery rather than from woods. Nursery grown trees have more vigor and larger root systems. They transplant easier than those grown in a woods.
5. Finally, consider your own likes and dislikes and select a tree that will meet your approval.

GUIDE TO PROPER TREE PLANTING AND CARE

Step 1. Dig planting hole twice the size of the container or soil ball on the roots.

Step 2. Remove all containers before planting.

Step 3. Set the ball of the tree or soil from the container so that the top of the soil is slightly above the ground level of the prepared hole. NEVER PLANT DEEPER. The root flare should be at ground level.

Step 4. Remove all plastic covers, wires, and twine from the plant before filling the hole with a mixture of 50% peat moss and 50% top soil (thoroughly mix the soil and peat moss before filling the hole).

Step 5. Soak the plant thoroughly with water. Thereafter, water once every two weeks or when the soil is dry. Never water an already wet soil. Carefully tamp the soil mixture around the root ball to eliminate air pockets.

Step 6. Mulch tree 2-3" deep with bark mulch or wood chips to help preserve moisture and retard weed growth. Do not "volcano" the mulch.

Step 7. Water once every 7-10 days with 5 gallons plus 5 gallons per one inch caliper of tree when there is insufficient rainfall.

AFTERCARE

Proper watering is extremely important for trees, not just at planting, but also for the first two years afterwards. During dry periods, add enough water to soak the soil to root depth once every 10 days. Although sufficient water is vital, too much water, especially in heavy, poorly drained soil, can kill the tree.

MULCH: A TREES BEST FRIEND

Mulch surrounding a tree when it's planted, or covering all or a portion of the tree's dripline zone when it grows, can significantly enhance growing conditions. Mulch such as bark or wood chips;

1. Retains soil moisture
2. Controls weeds and grass
3. Protects the trunk from mowers
4. Improves appearance
5. Controls erosion
6. Reduces soil compaction
7. Simplifies maintenance

CITY OF LIMA STREET TREE SELECTION AND CARE



TREE CITY USA.®

DEVELOPED BY

URBAN FOREST COUNCIL
of Lima, Ohio

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Division of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
900 South Collett Street
419-221-5195

David J. Berger, Mayor

Crabapples:

Snowdrift - white flowers, 20'

Indian Magic - pink flowers, 20'

Winter King Hawthorne - good white flowers, excellent red fruits

Redbud - heart-shaped leaves with reddish-purple flowers, 20-30'

MEDIUM TREES: Maturing 30-50', good trees for tree lawns

Heritage River Birch - good fall colors, fast growing, salmon-white bark, bore resistant, 40'

Honeylocust - lacy-like leaves, gives filtered shade; varieties; Skyline 50', Imperial 35', Shademaster 50-60'

Sweetgum - symmetrical crown when young, bright fall leaf colors, shallow and widespreading roots; Gold Dust and Moraine, 45-55'

European Hornbeam - very symmetrical, heat and drought resistant

Elm - Varieties resistant to disease, Frontier, Pioneer, Homestead, typical elm leaves with vase-shaped mature tree, 40-50'

LARGE TREES: 50 feet and over, these trees should be planted where they will have no obstruction. Because of their size, they should be spaced 40 to 50 feet apart and in at least a 5' wide tree lawn.

Norway Maple - dark green leaves, heavy shade, good fall colors; varieties: Crimson King (red leaved), Emerald Queen, 60-75'

Little Leaf Linden - yellow flowers, fall color, pyramidal growth; varieties: Greenspire, Junebride, 50'

Sugar Maple - good shade tree, yellow fall color, 60-75'; varieties: "Green Mountain", Bonfire and more

Red Maple - excellent shade tree, excellent fall color, #1 shade tree at O.S.U. Trails; varieties: Red Sunset, Autumn Flame, October Glory, 50'

Tuliptree - magnificent large tree with unusual leaf shape and greenish-white flowers, grows quickly on good soils, 70-90'

Red Oak - slow growing, excellent tree, good red fall color, 60-90'

UNDESIRABLE TREES

These trees are in most cases undesirable for street use and are not permitted for planting along city streets.

Box Elder (Acer) - limbs die early, susceptible to storm damage

Silver Maple (Acer) - storm damage, too large at maturity

Tree-of-Heaven (Ailanthus) - weak wood causes breakage and storm damage, seeds sprout readily

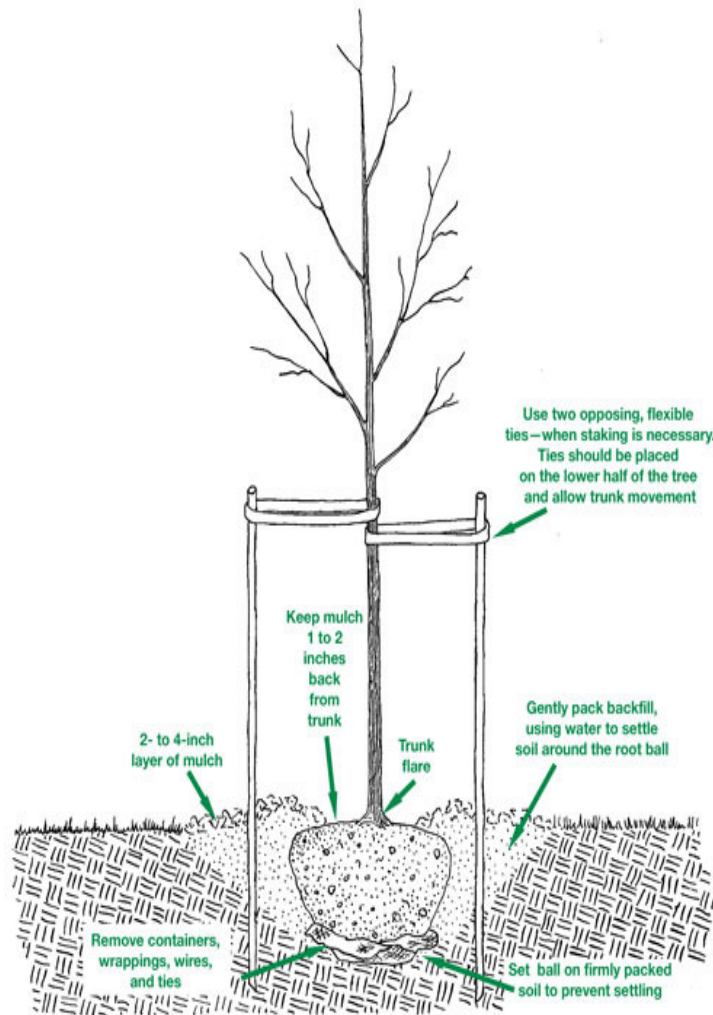
Ash - currently subject to Emerald Ash Borer infestation

Chinese Elm - subject to limb and branch breakage

Willow (Salix) - clogs sewers, weeping branches interfere with traffic

Mulberry - prolific sprouting, berries that stain, short-lived

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TREE PLANTING DIAGRAM

SUGGESTED LIST OF STREET TREES

SMALL TREES: These trees usually mature at 20-30' and are used in areas too small for any other trees or low overhead utility lines.

Serviceberry - tree or shrub-like forms, white flowers, 20'

Amur Maple - shrub-like, good fall color, 20'

Japanese Lilac Tree - shrub-like, white flowers in June, 20-30'

Cherry - colorful foliage and flowers, vigorous upright growth, extremely hardy, Canada Red, Kwanzan, Snow Goose, 20-30'