

## Waverly Leisure Services Department Street Tree Planting Guidelines

Citizens may be unaware that Waverly has a tree ordinance with guidelines for planting and trimming and a suggested tree list.

Specifically, the guidelines address the location of new plantings on public land i.e., the parking or the space between the curb and sidewalk. The City prefers to not have trees planted in the parking. However, if you have 50 square feet of exposed soil, 4'9" wide, 4'9" away from driveways and 20 feet away from street intersections, you may plant in the parking. If there is no curb, trees can be planted 10' or farther away from the edge of the street.

No pine or evergreen should be planted between the sidewalk and curb or within 10 feet of the curb. Pine trees spread at the bottom making them difficult to see through. When they are closer to the street, they are a visibility and safety problem.

Homeowners must keep their trees pruned at least 8' above the sidewalk and 16' above the street. To avoid power lines, trees that will be fully grown over 30' should not be planted under the lines. Find list of small trees below.

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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Small<br/>Trees</b></p> | <p>These trees are appropriate for planting under or near distribution power lines. Trees that mature at heights of less than twenty-five feet do not require significant pruning to assure public safety and reliable utility service when planted under distribution power lines. The State Urban Forester recommends this list of trees for planting in the space between the curb and sidewalk. Small trees have a mature height of up to 25 feet, spaced 20 feet apart and include Crabapples, Flowering Crabs, Hornbeam, Amur Corktree, Amur Maple, Red Bud, Serviceberry, Japanese Tree Lilac, Japanese Pagoda Tree, Magnolia, Washington Hawthorn, and Dogwood.</p> |
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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Medium<br/>Trees</b></p> | <p>The ultimate height of this tree may not be compatible with power lines and site conditions. To assure public safety and service reliability, contact The Leisure Services Department before choosing to plant this tree near power lines. Medium trees have a mature height of up to 25 to 40 feet and spaced 30 feet apart and include River Birch, Little Leaf Linden, Horsechestnut, Buckeye, Paper Birch, Black Cherry, Ginkgo, and Redmond Linden.</p> |
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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Large<br/>Trees</b></p> | <p>Because this tree will grow very tall, <b>DO NOT PLANT NEAR POWER LINES.</b> Tall-growing trees, under or near power lines, are a safety hazard to people and electric service. We thank you for your cooperation to select a more appropriate tree. That selection will assure greater public safety, reduce electrical outages, and reduce expenditures for tree pruning and line repair. Large trees have a mature height of over 40 feet, spaced 30 to 40 feet apart and include White Oak, Red Oak, Black Oak, English Oak, Burr Oak, Swamp White Oak, Lacebark Elm, Honeylocust (thornless and podless varieties), Kentucky Coffeetree, American Linden, Hickories, Sycamore, Hackberry, and Red Maple. Experts suggest that large trees should not be planted in the minimal spaces. You may notice that large maple trees are not listed because there are too many maple street trees in Waverly.</p> |
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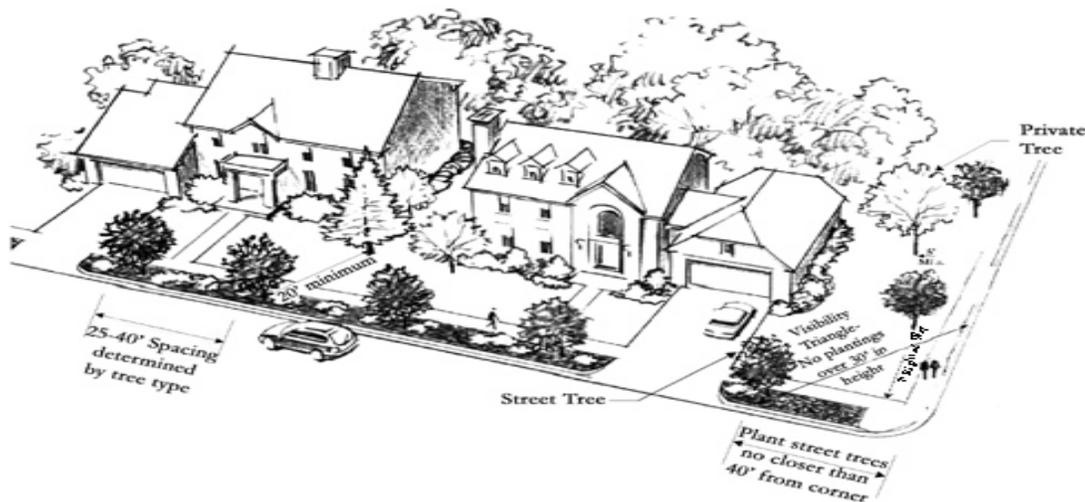
## Nuisance Trees

By ordinance, these trees have been defined as nuisance trees and cannot be planted on any street or public place. Boxelder, Cottonwood, Boileana Poplar, American Elm, Black Locust, Poplar, Siberian Elm, White Poplar, Willows, Silver Maple, Weeping Birch, Fruit Trees (except ornamentals), Lombardy Poplar, Tree of Heaven, Catalpa, European Mountain Ash or any Ash.

Finally, tree contractors are required to get an annual permit to operate in the City of Waverly. To comply, the contractor must provide a \$10.00 fee, contact information, and a current certificate of insurance. Permits may be obtained during office hours at the Leisure Services Office.

**Don't forget – always look up before you plant a tree.**

**Call Iowa One Call = 1-800-292-8989 for location of underground utilities.**



### *Benefits of Trees*

- Trees supply the oxygen we need to breathe.
- Trees keep our air supply fresh by absorbing the carbon dioxide that we exhale and also that which is emitted by factories and engines.
- Trees are natural air conditioners. They lower air temperature by evaporating water in their leaves.
- Trees cut down noise pollution by acting as sound barriers.
- Trees trap and filter out dust and pollen on their hairy leaf surfaces.
- Trees slow down strong winds.
- Trees shelter us from direct sunlight on hot summer days.
- Tree roots stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.
- Trees provide us with colors, flowers, and beautiful landscapes.
- Trees camouflage unsightly scenes and break the monotony of endless highways, sidewalks and lawns.
- Trees give us privacy.
- Trees provide food and shelter.
- Trees properly located can significantly reduce home heating and cooling costs.