



Extended Tree Care Maintenance Schedule

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Water	Δ	Δ	Δ	*	*	*	*	*	*	Δ	Δ	Δ
Mulch	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ								
Weed Control			Δ	Δ	*	*	*	*	*			
Inspect	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ
Prune	*	*	Δ			Δ						*
Plant			*	Δ						*	*	
Fertilize										Δ		

Δ normal maintenance * increased maintenance

Watering

- 99 percent of water taken up by tree roots evaporates from the leaves.
- Water trees 10 gallons per trunk diameter inch (measured at 6 inches above ground) per week unless rainfall has been sufficient or equivalent to one inch of rainfall.
- Water should be applied at a rate of about a gallon per minute to reduce runoff.
- To test the effectiveness of watering, Dig a hole about 6 to 8 inches deep on the outside edge of the mulch ring. If soil sticks together and forms a ball or ribbon, soil moisture is probably adequate for

Mulching

- Apply mulch to tree beds to achieve a four foot diameter circle that is three inches deep.
- Do not place mulch against the trunk of the tree, leave about a fist width between the trunk and the start of the mulch ring. The mulch ring should resemble a donut shape with the tree in the center.
- A mulch layer will help to conserve soil moisture around the tree roots.

Weed Control

- Weeds should be removed from the mulched area around the tree.
- Excessive weeds compete with the tree for available water and nutrients.
- Weeds should be removed by hand. Herbicides are **NOT** to be used for weed control on newly established trees.

Inspections

- Inspect trees regularly for insects, disease, physical and environmental damage.

Pruning

- To minimize damage and synchronize with the natural growth cycle, prune in winter.
- Avoid heavy pruning as leaves are expanding in early spring (April, May), when tree energy reserves are low.
- For maximum display of spring flowering species, prune after bloom.
- Prune dead branches and limbs at any time.
- Always cut back to the main trunk, base of a branch or above a bud. This technique respects natural growth patterns.
- Refer to http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2010/04/3791_1459_0.pdf for more pruning information.

Fertilizing

- Beginning the second growing season, fertilize from the trunk to three feet beyond drip line with time release 22-11-11 analysis fertilizer. If using broadcast method, 10-15#/1,000 sq. ft.