

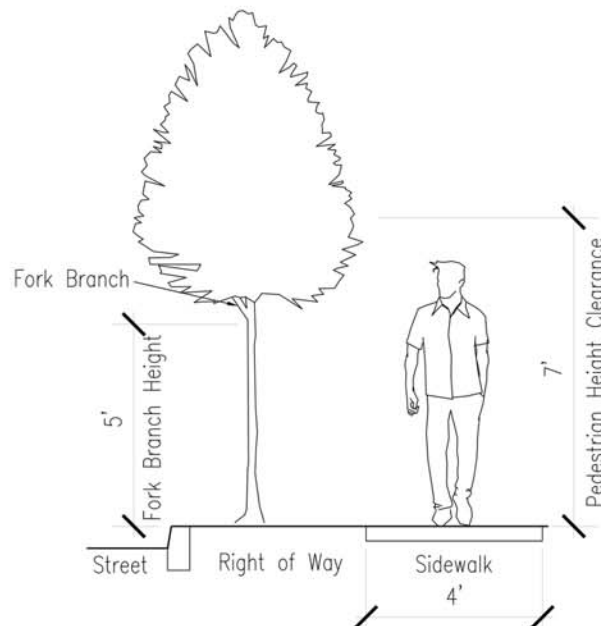
## General Requirements:

A Tree Planting permit is required to plant trees within the City right of way (usually the area between the sidewalk and the street). You must submit plans and a tree planting permit application form for permission to plant trees in the right of way. The permit is free and ensures that trees are planted properly to maximize benefits, protect public safety and limit conflicts with infrastructure. The following guidelines apply:

- Trees must be a minimum of two inches caliper size. Caliper is the diameter of the trunk measured at six inches above the ground.
- The minimum tree pit size is four by four feet or three by six feet. Ideally pits should be larger because the more room the tree has for root growth, the more likely it will thrive in the future.
- Street trees must not obstruct the width of the sidewalk. Keep an area at least four feet in width and seven feet in height clear for pedestrians along the sidewalk. Minimum fork branch height should be five feet.
- The optimum time to plant trees is during the cool season. Trees planted at this time are able to start establishing a root system, making them better able to withstand the stress brought on by hot weather.
- Water is critical during the first year. Applicants must agree to water the tree deeply a minimum of once a week for one year. More frequent watering is recommended during hot dry periods.
- Contact Louisiana One Call (800-272-3020) at least forty-eight hours prior to digging to have utilities marked. This is a free service.

## Minimum Tree Distance Requirements:

- 25 feet from a corner intersection
- 5 feet from a driveway
- 20 feet between a tree and a light pole
- 10 feet from a fire hydrant
- 5 feet from house utility connections
- 10 feet if the tree is a live oak
- 5 feet from a catch basin



## RESIDENTIAL TREE PERMIT PROCESS

The following items must be submitted for review as part of the tree permit application:

### **TREE PLANTING PERMIT APPLICATION:**

Fill out a Tree Planting Permit Application, which can be found on the Parks and Parkways website (<http://www.nola.gov/parks-and-parkways/>) or obtained by contacting our offices at (504)658-3201.

### **SKETCH:**

Provide a sketch illustrating dimensions to pertinent information such as:

- \*catch basins
- \*overhead utility lines and utility poles
- \*utility connections to the house
- \*size of planting strip
- \*distance to restrictions as listed in the minimum tree distance requirements

**Choosing the Appropriate Tree:**

- \* If the width of the planting strip or tree well is less than five feet, only a small tree is allowed.
- \* The staff at Parks and Parkways provides tree selection guidance upon request.
- \* Deciduous trees often have fall color and provide summer shade while allowing for winter sunshine. Evergreen trees drop leaves, but they are never completely bare.
- \* Overhead utility lines limit the size of the tree that should be planted beneath them. Large trees and plants with a central leader, such as palms, should not be placed under utility lines. Often, a utility company will prune a tree to allow for the unimpeded passage of wires through the canopy of the tree.

*Consider the ultimate mature size of a tree before planting.*



**Minimum Spacing Guidelines:**

Small Trees (<20' crown diameter at maturity):  
15 to 25 feet or greater on center

Medium Trees (20-30' crown diameter at maturity):  
20 to 35 feet or greater on center

Large Trees (>35' crown diameter at maturity):  
40 feet or greater on center



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CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



**RESIDENTIAL  
TREE  
PLANTING PERMIT  
PROCESS**

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