

It's A New Parkway Tree!

How To Care For The

- Provide slow deep watering once a week.
- Mulch with natural materials.
- Protect from mower or string trimmer damage.
- Avoid using weed killer near the tree and do not fertilize the tree for one year.
- Forestry staff will re-inspect the tree in a few months and they will cut the twine and burlap around the stem once the tree is established and is not leaning.

For further information please contact the Public Works Forestry Grounds Division at 434-5475 or 434-5476



Village of Downers Grove
Public Works
5101 Walnut Avenue
Downers Grove, IL
60515

CARE FOR NEWLY PLANTED TREES

The transplanting procedure is traumatic to a tree, and many trees will demonstrate symptoms of shock. To reduce the likelihood of shock symptoms such as withered leaves, dead branches and reduced growth, the Forestry Division suggests the following:

Nothing has a greater impact on new tree survival than adequate watering.

Watering Adequate watering is especially important the first 2 years following transplant. Slow deep watering is the key. In normal weather the tree should be watered every 7-10 days. When the weather turns hot and dry, the tree should be watered every 3-4 days. Be aware that the Village has a Water Conservation Ordinance in effect from May 15 –September 15.

Please see the end of this brochure for the Water Conservation Ordinance and a Special Offer to assist you in Watering the new tree.

Mulching Natural materials such as wood chips are the most beneficial. These retain soil moisture, regulate soil temperature extremes, and add organic matter. Stone can compact the soil and does not provide nutrients. Plastic weed barriers can smother the roots and can do more harm than good.

Pruning Village crews will prune the tree when the one-year inspection occurs. It is best to wait one year to prune the tree so that enough foliage growth occurs to facilitate root growth.

Fertilization Fertilization of new trees is discouraged. The new tree needs to establish a new root system. Fertilizers that contain Nitrogen may cause excessive top growth before enough new roots have grown.

Twine removal Village crews will remove twine the following season.

Other Harmful Practices Lawn mowers and string trimmers are a frequent cause of tree injury. Repetitive damage to the trunk of the tree can cause serious problems. Careful application of lawn weed treatments in the vicinity of the new tree is essential to avoid

spray drift which can cause severe

damage to tree foliage.

Downers Grove, IL 60515

Water Conservation Ordinance

Be aware that the Village has a Water Conservation Ordinance in effect from May 15 to September 15. Water use is permitted on an even/odd system. Even numbered houses are permitted to water on even numbered days; odd numbered houses can water on odd numbered days. Outdoor water use is prohibited 11am to 4pm and also 11pm to 4am. These time periods allow the water towers to refill. Dividing outdoor water usage by this even/odd system decreases the demand for water and, under normal conditions, will maintain adequate water pressure for the health and safety of the residents.

Village of Downers Grove
Public Works Facility
5101 Walnut Ave.



Special Offer

The Forestry Division has a helpful watering device available called a TreeGator®. A TreeGator® is a 20-gallon plastic reservoir that attaches around the trunk of the tree. The TreeGator® is quickly and easily filled twice a week with a garden hose, and the small holes in the bottom allow water to trickle out slowly. This encourages deep root growth.

Not only is the TreeGator® an excellent source for water, but it also prevents small animals from gnawing at the trunk of the new tree.

The Village has successfully used TreeGators® on the new plantings along Fairview Avenue south of 63rd Street, and in the Downtown Central Business District.

If you are interested in using a TreeGator® on your new parkway tree, the Village Public Works Department has them available at no cost to you. You may have 1 TreeGator® for each new tree planted in the parkway. Simply bring this brochure to the Public Works Facility for your free TreeGator®.