

# TREE REGULATIONS



## City of Dodge City

620/225-8160

### TRIMMING & MAINTENANCE

#### OWNER/OCCUPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Property owners/occupants are responsible for maintaining private and street trees and shrubs located on their property. A Street Tree is defined as any tree planted within the right of way on any street or alley. **No one may plant, prune, or remove a street tree without a permit obtained from the City Forester.** Private trees are those planted on private property and not within the public right-of-way.

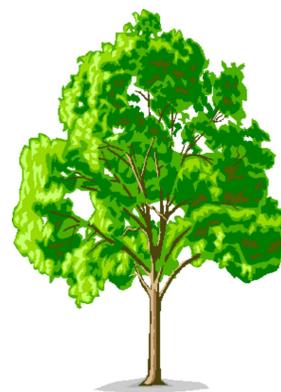
#### TREE TRIMMING

Trees and shrubs must be pruned to eliminate hazards or sight obstructions to vehicles or pedestrians. Dead or diseased trees that constitute a hazard must be removed.

- Minimum Height - Tree limbs overhanging streets, sidewalks, or alleys must be trimmed so they are not less than eight (8) feet above the sidewalk or twelve (12) feet above the street or alley. Hedges and shrubs may not grow over any sidewalk, street, or alley.
- Hazardous Conditions - Dead, diseased, or dangerous trees or broken or decayed limbs that pose a safety hazard to the public must be promptly removed.
- Notices & Abatement – Written notice will be provided to property owners/occupants where trees or shrubs require maintenance. If the violation is not corrected within five (5) days, (30 days for a private tree), the city will have the work completed and the cost billed to the property owner. If the bill is not paid, charges will be applied to the tax rolls for the property.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER...

- Permits Required - Anyone wanting to plant, prune, or remove a street tree or shrub must have a permit. Permits may be obtained by calling the City Forester at the Parks & Recreation Department, 225-8160.
- Licensed Arborists - Property owners may perform required maintenance on trees or shrubs on their own property. Individuals or companies performing commercial tree work are required to have a license from the City. For a list of licensed arborists call 620.225.8160 or go to [www.dodgecity.org](http://www.dodgecity.org).
- Disposing of Limbs & Debris - City Sanitation will dispose of tree limbs and branches for private individuals. Commercial arborists are responsible for disposing of limbs and debris as part of their contract. For more information call Dodge City Sanitation at 225-8170.



- Don't Top Trees - Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three (3) inches in diameter within the tree's crown. It is unlawful as a normal practice to top any street tree.
- Removal of Stumps – The stump of any tree or shrub removed from any street, alleys, or public ways must be removed below the surface of the ground.
- The city has the right to prune any tree or shrub when it interferes with a street light, or any traffic control device or sign.

### PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS

#### RECOMMENDED STREET TREES

Dodge City Parks and Recreation maintains a list of preferred tree species which are proven to do well in this area. For a copy of that list call the Parks & Recreation office at 225-8160 or go to [www.dodgecity.org](http://www.dodgecity.org).

#### TREE SPACING

Street trees should be spaced according to their size class. Small class trees should be planted no closer than 30 feet, medium trees 40 feet, and large trees 50 feet. The City Forester may approve exceptions to this guideline for special plantings.

#### SIGHT TRIANGLE REQUIREMENTS

Sight triangles are the line of sight between three points, the center of the intersection and 2 points measured at right angles along the streets a distance of 120 feet on arterial streets and 90 feet on secondary streets. Trees or shrubs over 30" in height may not be planted within the sight triangle.

#### OTHER PLANTING REQUIREMENTS

- Trees and shrubbery, greater than 18 inches in height, are prohibited within 20 feet of street lighting poles or three (3) feet of fire hydrants.
- Only small class trees may be planted under or within 10 feet of any overhead utility wires. Trees should also not be planted within five (5) feet of any underground water, sewer, or transmission line or other utility.
- Generally it is suggested that no tree be planted closer than four feet from the curb. The City Forester will assist you in determining where the tree should be planted. Remember, a permit is required before planting any street trees.