

**Trees - Community Releaf Project**  
**Sponsored by the City of Seward Tree Board**



**INFORMATION**

The City of Seward Tree Planting Program was implemented to help citizens purchase quality trees for planting along streets. Trees are an invaluable resource and need to be constantly renewed. They provide a buffer from street noise, clean the air, block the wind, shade the property and can increase property values as much as 20 percent.

Each year, the City of Seward Tree Board will take applications for the planting of 6- to 10-foot trees selected for their desirability as street trees. The selected trees will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, and plantings may be limited by the availability of funds.

**PROJECT GUIDELINES**

1. No trees can be planted within 30' of an intersection or within the sight triangle of an intersection or alley;
2. No large shade trees can be planted within 10' of power lines or underground utilities;
3. Smaller ornamental trees shall be spaced at least 25' apart and at least 30' from existing trees;
4. Large shade trees shall be spaced at least 40' apart and at least 40' from existing trees;
5. Property owners are responsible for all care of the trees after they are planted. A care manual will be provided.
6. All trees must be paid for before planting.
7. Trees will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
8. Trees must be a minimum trunk caliper measurement of one and one-half inches (1.5").

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**APPLICATION FORM**

I am interested in participating in the tree planting program. Please have my property surveyed for planting sites for the following trees: (Please indicate quantity and type of trees to be planted)

<u>TREES</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>		<u>QUANTITY</u>
American Elm "New Harmony"	_____	Gingko	_____
American Elm "Princeton"	_____	Miyabe Maple	_____
American Elm "Valley Forge"	_____	Northern Red Oak	_____
American Linden/Basswood	_____	Ohio Buckeye	_____
Autumn Blaze	_____	Red Sunset Maple	_____
Bitternut Hickory	_____	Sawtooth Oak	_____
Black Maple	_____	Scarlet Oak	_____
Chinkapin Oak	_____	Shagbark Hickory	_____
Common Hackberry	_____	Silver Linden	_____
Crimson Spire Oak	_____	Sugar Maple	_____
Flowering Crab "Prairiefire"	_____	Shumard's Oak/Swamp White Oak	_____
Flowering Pear "Autumn Blaze"	_____	Sycamore	_____
Flowering Pear "Chanticleer"	_____	Triump Elm	_____
Freeman's Maple	_____		

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address for planting if different than above: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Completed Application to: City of Seward Tree Board  
City Hall - 537 Main Street  
P. O. Box 38  
Seward Nebraska 68434-0038

**AFTER APPLICATION IS APPROVED & TREE(S) IS (ARE) PLANTED, & INSPECTED BY STREET SUPERINTENDENT, PLEASE RETURN COPY OF PAID TREE INVOICE TO CITY OF SEWARD - CITY WILL REIMBURSE PROPERTY OWNER FOR HALF COST (MAXIMUM \$75.00 PER TREE).**



### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- Q. Is it necessary to paint tree wounds?
- A. The latest research shows that tree wounds need not be painted. In fact, painting may very well keep the wound from healing as fast as it might if it were simply left alone. In the past, painting wounds was a sign of a professional trimming job, but to this date, no wound dressing has been found that will deter decay, stop insects from entering or speed healing.
- Q. Should I keep grass from growing around the trunk of my newly-planted tree?
- A. YES! Grass roots produce chemicals which actually inhibit the growth of a newly-planted tree. If the grass is kept away from the trunk at least 24" on each side, the tree will grow faster. Often, it will grow twice as fast as it would if grass is allowed to grow up to the trunk. Keeping grass away by the use of mulch also reduces the potential of damage to the tree from a string trimmer or a lawn mower. These two items kill more trees than insects and diseases put together.
- Q. Should I have my tree topped?
- A. Under no condition should a tree be topped. Topping is NOT an acceptable method of trimming trees. If a tree is properly trimmed, it will have the same shape and character that it had before it was trimmed. Most people should be able to look at a tree that has been properly trimmed and not be able to tell that anything has been done to it. Topping reduces the life span of a tree and allows insects and decay to enter the tree. If it is done to an extreme, it can kill the tree in one growing season.
- Q. How often should I water my trees?
- A. If you have sandy soil, a newly-planted tree should be watered every 5 to 7 days unless there is more than 1" of rainfall. If you have clay soil the time period should be increased to every 7 to 10 days. In periods of extreme drought, even large trees may need water. Remember, you can't water a tree too much at one time, but you can water a tree too often.

## **City of Seward Tree Board**

Thomas Suhr, Chairman  
Charles Matzke  
Larry Goldsmith II  
Kenneth Schmieding  
Kregg Einspahr