CITY OF CAMBRIDGE TREE PLANTING PROGRAMS

Public Works has a variety of programs available for residents interested in adding trees to public spaces around their buildings and homes.

**REPLACE EXISTING TREES**
You can request a replacement tree if one was removed from an existing well in front of your property, at no expense to you.

**BACK OF SIDEWALK PROGRAM**
If there is no space for a tree well on your sidewalk, you can request a tree be planted on your private property.

**REQUEST A NEW TREE PLANTING**
If there is no tree well at your property and you would like a tree planted, you may be able to have a well installed.

**COMMEMORATIVE TREE PROGRAM**
Have a tree planted to honor a person, significant life event, or other idea. Fee involved. Please contact us for more information.

**ADOPT-A-TREE PROGRAM**
NEW! Residents can sign up online and help a young tree get established through our Adopt-A-Tree program. To learn more, visit: www.cambridgema.gov/adoptatree

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TREES HELP US...
Lower sidewalk temperatures in summer, reduce home cooling costs, and improve air quality. Trees contribute to our lives every day.

...AND WE CAN HELP TREES
Residents and business owners in Cambridge have the power to help care for street trees. Here’s how you can help.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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More useful information:
www.cambridgema.gov/tree

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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WORKING TOGETHER

A healthy urban forest needs help from all of us.
HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you have a newly-planted tree or young tree in front of your home or business, the DPW encourages you to do the following:

WATER, WATER, WATER
Water your tree between May and November. If your tree has a green gator bag attached to the trunk, fill the bag once a week. If you would like a gator bag, please contact the DPW. Without a gator bag, use a gallon milk jug or equivalent, and water the tree with 15-20 gallons of water at least once per week.

PROTECT
1. Do not curb your dog in a tree well. Dog urine can be harmful to young trees.
2. Do not fertilize your young tree. Most fertilizers promote canopy growth instead of tree root growth.
3. Do not lock your bikes to trees. A small wound on the trunk could lead to a lifetime of problems for the tree.
4. Do not place raised edges around a tree well. They may create a poor environment for the tree to thrive and present a trip hazard.

WEED
Keep the tree weed-free. Weeds can compete by consuming valuable resources that a young tree needs to become established.

MULCH
Every spring, mulch the tree well with 2-3 inches of shredded bark or wood chips, keeping mulch away from the trunk.

BE ALERT
Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a threat to our ash trees. The EAB is an emerald-green metallic beetle, so small that seven of them could fit on the head of a penny! Look for tiny, D-shaped exit holes in the bark of ash trees, die-back in the upper third of the tree canopy, and sprouting of branches just below this dead area. Contact the City Arborist if you find a beetle or have questions.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE URBAN FORESTRY FACTS

- The Arbor Day Foundation has recognized Cambridge as a Tree City for the past 25 years
- There are over 100 tree species and cultivars planted and maintained throughout the City
- The DPW’s Urban Forestry Division maintains 19,000 trees and growing
- The most common species in the city are Honeylocust, Norway Maple, Red Maple, Pin Oak, and Littleleaf
- Trees are pruned at least once every 6 years
- We plant smaller diameter trees because they establish quickly with proper care

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Committee on Public Planting: The committee typically meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the DPW to discuss tree planting opportunities as well as other tree related issues.

"Trees can be a stimulus to economic development, attracting new business and tourism. Commercial retail areas are more attractive to shoppers, apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space in a wooded setting is more valuable to sell or rent."
- The Arbor Day Foundation