

## A Public Service Message from City of Des Moines

### ADD SOME GREEN TO YOUR STREET IN 2015

If you request that a tree(s) be planted at the curb adjacent to your property, and commit to regular watering during establishment, the City of Des Moines will plant an appropriate species next Spring, absolutely free of charge. Together we can make a huge difference in our community.

Please access the **Tree Planting Request** form at [desmoinesforestry](http://desmoinesforestry) to request your Spring 2014 street tree planting.



**Now is the time to make an impact!** Let's build Des Moines' tree canopy together. You may plant a tree on your property (search [plantsomeshade](#) for discounted trees by MidAmerican Energy), request a city street tree adjacent to your property (noted above), or join one or both of our non-profit partners in their essential missions (see below).

**Help Accomplish a Tree Inventory:** "The single most critical item the city needs at this time for the protection of the urban forest, is a comprehensive tree inventory. Tree Des Moines is committed as an organization to partnering with the City of Des Moines to raise the funds necessary to achieve this goal. The tree inventory would be the catalyst and reference needed for the city and the Metro area to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP). The UFMP will give city agencies detailed information, recommendations, and resources needed to effectively and proactively manage the urban canopy, a major part of our green infrastructure" (CJ Stephens, President of Tree Des Moines). Contact them at [www.treedesmoines.com](http://www.treedesmoines.com)

**Learn About Trees:** The City of Des Moines and Trees Forever continue to partner in providing TreeKeeper Training, with special classroom instruction about trees. Our 102 graduates engage in hands-on service in the community, planting, pruning and advocating for newly planted trees. Training topics range from the benefits of trees, urban tree stressors, and tree ID, to small tree care, planting, and advocacy. This Fall the class is on Saturday, September 27, 2014. Be one of the first to REGISTER and become part of the Des Moines sustainable green community movement. REGISTER TODAY. Contact: Leslie Berckes, Trees Forever Field Coordinator (515) 681-2295, or [LBerckes@treesforever.org](mailto:LBerckes@treesforever.org)



TREE DES MOINES

INSPIRING PEOPLE TO PLANT, NURTURE AND CELEBRATE TREES



CITY OF DES MOINES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



TREES FOREVER

Planting a better tomorrow™



### Social Benefits of Trees

"Human response to trees goes well beyond simply observing their beauty. We feel serene, peaceful, restful, and tranquil in a grove of trees. We are 'at home' there. The calming effect of nearby trees and urban greening can significantly reduce workplace stress levels and fatigue, calm traffic, and even decrease recovery time needed after surgery. Trees also reduce crime" (quote from [treesaregood.com](http://treesaregood.com)).

## FAQ's about the City of Des Moines emerald ash borer (EAB) Management Plan

**Q: How do you determine which public ash tree to treat and which tree to remove?** A: If a tree has been healthy and green over the last few growing seasons, AND has a visible root flare at the base of the trunk, this is a beginning qualification for treatment. However, we will not be treating any ash tree under utility wires, nor any ash tree with one or more of the following defects: trunk cavity; trunk decay or fungus; co-dominant stems with included bark; severe crown dieback; past or anticipated future root pruning for sidewalk repair.

**Q: How soon will the ash tree adjacent to my house be removed?** A: During our assessment phase this summer, we are identifying removal trees on our streets and in our parks with a pink paint dot at the base of the tree. If it is a street tree we notify the adjacent property owner that it will be removed within the next 3 years. A second notice will be issued a few days before removal. You do not pay for the removal of public trees.



**Q: Who is doing the removals?** A: City of Des Moines Forestry staff, MidAmerican Energy forestry contractors (trees under utility wires), and Family Tree Care acting as a contractor to the city.

**Q: When will the stump be removed?** A: Stumps will be removed within 12 months of tree removal.

**Q: Will my ash tree be replaced?** A: When a street ash tree is removed, a Tree Planting Request form is dropped off to the adjacent landowner so you can receive a no-cost street tree replacement.

**Q: When will ash treatment begin?** A: Since EAB has not yet been discovered in Des Moines, we anticipate treatment will begin in Spring 2015. During our assessment phase this summer, treatment trees will be identified with a numbered aluminum tag on the street side of the tree. This ID will help track future treatment efforts.

**Q: Is treatment safe?** A: The chemical is injected directly into the tree. This 'closed delivery system' ensures that no chemical spreads into the environment, nor will it come in contact with animals.



**Q: What should I do about ash trees on my private property?** A: Check out the EAB section on our Forestry web page at [www.dmgov.org](http://www.dmgov.org) to look for tips and information links. The most important thing you can do is ask the advice of a Certified Arborist. We've created a [How to Hire a Tree Service](#) bulletin and placed it on our web page.

If you still have questions after checking the Forestry Division web page, about EAB or any other program, contact our Public Works Call Center at **283-4950**.

### ~ R E M I N D E R S ~

#### Don't Prune That Oak!

Do NOT prune oak trees in summer growing season, to prevent unnecessary spread of disease. Oak wilt is a damaging disease of oak trees in Iowa, and can be spread by untimely pruning or by using infected pruning tools. Wait until leaf drop this Fall before pruning oaks!



The City of Des Moines plants, maintains, and removes public trees along streets



and in our parks. Maintenance of private trees is the responsibility of private property owners. Private tree disputes are a civil matter between property owners.

Remember to water your trees during long dry spells!

