

LIST OF RECOMMENDED TREES FOR THE CITY OF CLEAR LAKE

Chapters 165.41 and 151 of the Clear Lake Code of Ordinances establish guidelines for tree planting and trimming and identifies a suggested tree list for trees to be located in "public" areas.

Specifically, these guidelines address the location of new plantings on public land commonly referred to as the "parking". "Parking" is defined in the Code as that part of the street, avenue or highway in the City not covered by sidewalk and lying between the lot line and the curb line; or, on unpaved streets, that part of the street, avenue or highway lying between the lot line and that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic. The City prefers to not have trees planted in this area. However, trees may be allowed to be planted in this area but only in those cases in which trees cannot be planted adjacent to the street right-of-way and shall meet the following conditions:

1. A tree planting permit shall be obtained from the Building Official.
2. Trees shall not be located within 4' of a public sidewalk or the anticipated location of a future public sidewalk where one does not exist. Trees shall not be located within 5' of the curb. No trees shall be planted in the area between a curb and a sidewalk where the width of the area is less than 9'.
3. At street intersections, trees shall not be located within 50' of the intersection of curb lines along major thoroughfares or within 30' of the intersection of curb lines along local streets. In cases where 2 different types of streets intersect, the location of the tree shall be determined by the type of street adjacent to the proposed tree.
4. At the intersection of a street and an aisle or a drive and at the intersection of a street and an alley, trees shall not be located within 30' of the drive, aisle or the right-of-way line of the alley.
5. Large trees shall be placed no closer than 30' apart or located closer than 14' to a building. Small trees shall be located no closer than 16' apart but may be located to within 8' of a building.
6. Trees shall be placed to avoid interference with the construction, maintenance and operation of public and private utilities and services above or below ground as determined by the utility companies and the City Engineer or designated representative.
7. Any tree planted within the street right-of-way shall have single trunk, with a minimum of 4' from grade to the first branch at the time of planting and shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 151 of the Code of Ordinances.

By Ordinance, no person shall plant in any parking or street any softwood tree, fruit bearing tree or any tree of the kinds commonly known as Cottonwood, Poplar, Box Elder, Chinese Elm, Evergreen, Willow, Oak, Russian Olive and Black Walnut.

No pine or evergreen trees should be planted in the parking area or within 20' of the property line. These trees spread at the bottom making them difficult to see through. When they are closer to the street, they become a visibility and safety problem.

Homeowners must keep their trees pruned at least 10' above the sidewalk and 14' above the street (*Chapter 151*). To avoid power lines, trees that will be fully grown over 30' should not be planted under the lines.

The State Urban Forester recommends this list of trees for planting in the space between the street and lot line. Small trees have a mature height of up to 25', single stem and a minimum trunk diameter of 1.5 inches, spaced 16' apart and include Fruitless Crabapples, Hornbeam, Amur Corktree, Amur Maple, Red Bud, Serviceberry, Japanese Tree Lilac, Japanese Pagoda Tree, Magnolia and Washington Hawthorn.

Medium trees have a mature height of up to 25' to 40', single stem and a minimum trunk diameter of 1.5 inches, spaced 30' apart and include River Birch, Little Leaf Linden, Black Cherry, Ginko and Redmond Linden.

Large trees have a mature height of over 40', minimum trunk diameter of 1.5 inches at a point 6 inches above ground level, spaced 30' apart and include Honeylocust (thornless and podless varieties), American Linden, Hackberry, White Ash, Green Ash (Summit and Patmore varieties) and Norway or Rubrum Maple. Experts suggest that large trees should not be planted in the minimal spaces.

Don't forget – always look up before you plant a tree. In addition, call Iowa One Call – 1-800-292-8989 for location of underground utilities.

TREE PLANTING PERMIT
(Chapters 151 and 165.41 of the Clear Lake Code of Ordinances)



15 N 6th St * P.O. Box 185 * Clear Lake, IA 50428 * 641-357-5267 (P) * 641-357-8711 (F) * www.cityofclearlake.com

DATE: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Home Address: _____

Type of Tree: _____

Diagram of Placement:

Signature of Applicant

THIS IS YOUR PERMIT WHEN SIGNED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

Approved: Building Official: _____

Date: _____

Don't forget - call Iowa One Call - 1-800-292-8989 for location of underground utilities.