

Tree Planting Guide



1

Look for overhead utilities. Don't plant too close to power lines; Xcel energy recommends small trees (<25 feet) be planted 20 feet away from lines, and 50 feet away for larger trees (>25 feet).

2

Avoid traffic hazards. Plant trees at least 10 feet from fire hydrants and utility poles, 15 feet from streetlights, and 30 feet from stop signs and traffic lights.

3

Check for underground utilities. Call Gopher State One Call before digging. Trees should be planted at least 10 feet from gas, water, and sewer lines- roots can damage pipes!

4

Plant diverse species when possible. Having many tree varieties in one area helps reduce the impact of disease. Also consider what trees grow best in our climate- USDA hardiness zone 4.

5

Be mindful of planting location. Planting close to property lines can lead to disputes with neighbors when trees grow; too close to the street can lead to root damage during street repairs.

6

Understand boulevard planting rules. Permission must be granted from the City Administrator to plant trees in the boulevard (within 15 feet from the curb).

Choosing a Tree by Size

Short and skinny:

Maximum height of 18 feet, width of 20 feet

- American Hazelnut
- Common Chokecherry
- Wild Plum
- Crabapple
- Dogwood
- Nannyberry

Medium and wide:

25 to 40 feet in height, width of 40 feet

- Blue Beech
- River Birch
- Ohio Buckeye
- Ironwood
- Catalpa
- Eastern Redbud (Minnesota strain)

Medium and skinny:

25 to 40 feet in height, width of 20 feet

- Black Cherry
- Black Spruce
- Pin Cherry

Tall and wide:

Minimum height 45 feet, width of 40 feet

- Balsam Fir
- Bitternut Hickory
- Black Walnut
- Bur Oak
- Chinkapin Oak
- Hackberry
- Kentucky Coffeetree
- Paper Birch
- Red Pine
- Swamp White Oak
- Tamarack
- White Oak
- White Pine

Tall and skinny:

Minimum height of 45 feet, width of 20 feet

- Arborvitae
- Blue Spruce
- White Spruce