

Chapter 2.35

DESIGN STANDARDS FOR STREET TREES

The Department of Parks and Recreation is assigned responsibility for administration of these design standards.

Section 1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The selection, planting, maintenance and removal of trees, shrubs and hedges along the public ways within the City of Lincoln substantially affect such matters as pedestrians and vehicle safety, the location and maintenance of utility services, tree maintenance costs, the incidence of tree diseases, and the general appearance of the cityscape; therefore, it is hereby found and determined that such selection, planting, maintenance and removal are matters of city-wide concern over which the city must exercise the control set forth in the following standards and specifications.

1. Street trees planted on City right-of-way (i. e. between the curb and sidewalk, behind the sidewalk, behind the curb with no sidewalk) shall generally be located as follows to avoid conflicts with traffic control signs, sight triangles, above- and below-ground utilities, and existing trees:
 - a. Street trees on corner lots shall be located 25 feet from the property corner adjacent to the street intersection.
 - b. Twenty-five (25) feet from stop signs.
 - c. Fifteen (15) feet from street light poles.
 - d. Ten (10) feet from fire hydrants.
 - e. Five (5) feet from driveways.
 - f. Five (5) feet from storm sewer inlets
 - g. Five (5) feet from manholes
 - h. Four (4) feet from water shut-off boxes
 - i. Three (3) feet from gas shut-off valves
 - j. Five (5) feet from underground utility service lines going from utility mains to homes/buildings. The location of the service lines shall be considered, for distance purposes, to be the surface of the ground above the service line.
 - k. Five (5) feet from traffic control signs
 - l. Four (4) feet from sidewalks where parking areas are greater than eight (8) feet wide.

If the street tree cannot be planted in compliance with the above requirements, an alternate location for the street tree may be approved by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Spacing between street trees to be determined by the Parks and Recreation Department.

2. Planting locations will be marked by the City. Installation of street trees shall be coordinated with the City Arborist prior to any street tree being planted.
3. The subdivider shall contact the Parks and Recreation Department Forestry Division for the species of street trees for each street.
4. All street trees, when planted, shall not be less than one inch in caliper.
5. There shall be at least one (1) street tree per lot unless the lot is less than 50 feet in width in which case the trees would be spaced for major streets according to Traffic Sight Distance Standards and Street Design Speed as follows:

Major Street Design Speed	Tree Spacing Feet
25 mph	35-40
30 mph	40-45
35 mph	45-50
40 mph	55-60
45 mph	60-70
50 mph	70-75
55 mph	80+

For non-major streets, the trees would be spaced as follows:

- a. Small Trees: Thirty (30) to thirty-five (35) feet from the nearest existing trees, public or private and spaced forty (40) feet from each other, unless otherwise approved by the City Arborist.
- b. Medium Trees: Forty (40) to forty-five (45) feet from the nearest existing trees, public or private, and spaced forty (40) to forty-five (45) feet from each other, unless otherwise approved by the City Arborist.
- c. Large Trees: Forty-Five (45) to fifty-five (55) feet from nearest existing trees, public or private, and spaced fifty (50) to fifty-five (55) feet from each other, unless otherwise approved by the City Arborist.

Corner lots shall require two or more street trees depending on the length of frontage on each street for such lots.

Lots with 100 to 150 feet of frontage shall require two (2) street trees and for each additional 50 feet of frontage one (1) additional street tree.

6. The same species of tree should not be used on streets which are generally parallel and within five (5) blocks apart, unless otherwise approved by the City Arborist.

7. If a species of tree has been approved on a temporary dead end street, the same species of tree should be used on the extension of the street into the new subdivision.
8. More than one species of tree may be allowed to be planted on the same street provided the designated street tree for that same street is according to the Master Street Tree Plan and other compatible species are those identified as an approved grouping of street trees from the most current approved trees for streets for Lincoln, NE.
9. In order to encourage solar access, where subdivision or community unit plans have easements, covenants, or other controlling regulatory measure to protect solar access to building envelopes then the design standards may be modified to allow approved smaller or dwarf variety trees of the same genus on the north side of east-west streets, provided however that trees of the same species be used if possible.
10. Plants shall be nursery grown, first class material, straight single stemmed and must meet the standards set forth in "American Standard for Nursery Stock" (ANSI Z60.1-2004 or most current edition) and as further specified herein. Plant Material shall be obtained from established commercial licensed nursery growers and installed by licensed nursery and/or landscape contractors.

(Resolution A-84549, September 24, 2007).