

RECOMMENDED CARE OF NEW TREES

Dear Pickerington Resident:

The City of Pickerington, Service Department is requesting your assistance with the care of the new tree planted in front of your residence. The City plants trees in the public right-of-way to help beautify the City and add value to your property. We request the homeowner's help in caring for the trees that border your residence.

Every effort has been made to minimize future maintenance of the new tree by properly matching the tree to the surrounding site. Overhead wires, underground utilities and tree lawn width are considered when selecting and planting trees.

The first two years are the most important in the life of a new tree. Here are some things you can do to help keep the tree healthy. For the first year and during dry periods in the second year:

- 1. Water thoroughly every 7-10 days unless it receives at least 1" of rain. Keep in mind (especially during dry spells) well drained soil will need watered more often than clay soil and do not water if soil is wet or damp to the touch. Water with 10 to 20 gallons of water depending on the size of the tree and how well the soil will drain.
- 2. <u>Mulch</u> the tree with 2" thick and 3' wide circular layer of wood chips once the present mulch begins to disappear. This helps conserve the moisture and, most importantly, protects the tree against lawn mower damage. Mulch or dirt should not be against the tree trunk as this can cause bark suffocation and root crown rot.

Thank you for your assistance.