



Attachment B 3-Year Tree Maintenance Plan Template for Newly Planted Trees

For guidance on design, planting, and care please see the document "Project Design, Planting and Care Requirements".

Project Coordinator name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Year and Season of Planting:

of Trees to be Planted:

Size (caliper for deciduous, height for conifers):

Type of Stock to be Planted (Bare root, etc.):

Describe how the activities below will be completed.

1. Tree Planting

- a. Describe who will be responsible for inspecting nursery stock on delivery to ensure trees meet specifications and will inspect trees after planting to ensure trees are planted at the correct depth.

2. Tree Maintenance Personnel

- a. Describe who is responsible for maintenance.

- b. Volunteers, homeowners or inexperienced staff that will provide maintenance should receive basic training and literature on proper maintenance techniques. Is training needed and how will you do it? Would you like materials in languages other than English and if so, what languages?

- c. How and when will you inspect tree maintenance work periodically to make sure it is being done correctly?

3. Tree Watering Process

- a. Describe in detail how trees will be watered, and the time period and frequency of watering. Watering: All plants should be thoroughly watered at the time of planting. Weekly supplemental watering is often needed while the ground is thawed (and occasionally during a warm, open winter) for the first 1-2 years of planting, followed by an adjusted watering schedule for years 3-5. The amount of watering required will vary with the type of tree, type of soil, time of year, weather conditions, and if the site is receiving additional irrigation. Avoid over-watering, especially in poorly drained soils.

Newly planted trees should receive the equivalent of one inch of rainfall per week during the growing season. It is best to water trees thoroughly and slowly with enough water to fully moisten the root ball. If rainfall is adequate during the growing season (1 inch per week) supplemental water is not required.

4. Mulching Trees

- a. Mulching trees is important for retaining moisture in the Great Plains climate. Organic mulches are required (ex: hardwood mulch). Rock, black plastic and landscape fabric is not allowed. Will you mulch your trees and if so, what will you use for mulch and how will you maintain mulch?

5. Staking and Guying Trees

- a. Explain if staking is necessary due to mowing, vandalism, or wind conditions, and describe what kind of staking you will use and plans for inspection and removal.

6. Tree Protection-Guards and Cages; protection from herbicide damage

- a. Young trees in an urban environment can easily be damaged by human activity, animals and equipment. Mower and weed eater damage can be especially detrimental to trees. In some areas, rabbits and deer are particularly problematic. In these instances, tree

guards and caging are appropriate. Herbicides (24-D, Dicamba etc.) applied to the surrounding landscape when leaves are young can significantly harm the tree. Herbicides can drift or volatilize. In these instances, changing herbicide application timing and practices and separating trees from turf helps. Describe how young trees will be protected.

7. Checking Tree Health

- a. The grantee will check trees every 6 – 12 months to identify and address problems. Describe inspection process and follow-up

8. Pruning

- a. Structural pruning of young trees is important to long-term tree health and can save money in the future. Lower branches should be retained to improve the caliper of the tree, dead or broken branches removed, and a central leader should be determined. Describe your pruning maintenance cycle for the first 5 years.

9. Tree Warranty

- a. It is up to the grantee if a warranty from the nursery for replacement (due to poor condition or mortality) is included. The grantee should be prepared to fully replace all trees that are in poor condition or die prior to inspection at the end of the project grant agreement unless loss was due to a natural disaster.

I understand and agree with the replacement requirements above.

10. Trees on Private Property

- a. **If your grant is providing trees for planting on private property you are you must** maximize the likelihood of tree establishment and long-term survival of any trees planted, ensure landowners are aware of and give permission/access for work on their property, and include a statement that releases the federal government and the Nebraska Forest Service from any liability associated with work completed on private property.

I understand and agree with the private property requirements above.