
TREE CARE GUIDELINES

Trees that are planted along the streets and in the terraces can live a very long time if they are cared for properly. The Town of Grand Chute will provide pruning of the trees planted in medians, boulevards, and terraces. There are a few steps that you as the property owner can take to ensure that the trees grow well and enhance your property and streets for many years.

Proper Watering Practices

1. Established trees benefit from a deep watering once a week. When watering, use low pressure flow to let water soak to a depth of at least 12 inches.
2. Young trees need a deep watering of one to two times a week, depending on the weather.
3. Care must be taken to make sure too much water isn't applied. (Over watering is just as unhealthy for a tree as under watering.)
4. To keep water from evaporating from the soil, apply two- to four- inches of wood chips or organic mulch around the base of the tree.

The Importance of Mulching

Mulch is a valuable tool for your tree's health and growth. Proper mulching provides the following for trees:

1. Mulch insulates the soil helping to provide a buffer from heat and cold temperatures.
2. Mulch retains water helping to keep the roots moist.
3. Mulch keeps weeds out to prevent root competition.
4. Mulch prevents soil compaction.
5. Mulch reduces lawn mower damage.

Proper Mulching Techniques

1. For well-drained sites, apply a two- to four-inch (five- to ten-cm) layer of mulch (less if poorly drained). Coarse mulches can be applied slightly deeper without harm. Place mulch out to the edge of a tree's crown or beyond. Remember, if a tree had a say in the matter, its entire root system (which usually extends well beyond the drip line) would be mulched.



2. If mulch is already present, check the depth. If sufficient mulch is present, break up any matted layers and refresh the appearance with a rake. Some landscape maintenance companies spray mulch with a water-soluble, vegetable-based dye to add color to faded material.
3. If mulch is piled against the stems or tree trunks, pull it back several inches/centimeters so that the base of the trunk is exposed. Composted wood chips can make good mulch, especially when they include some bark and leaves. Fresh wood chips also may be used around established trees and shrubs. Avoid using fine, non-composted wood chips as soil nitrogen may be taken up by the roots as the wood chips decompose.

If you have any questions regarding your tree, please call the Town of Grand Chute at 920-832-1581.