FAQ’s Concerning City Street Trees

Who do I contact about street trees and other trees on public property?

- Planting, Trimming, Maintenance
  Community Forestry (402) 441-7847,
  weekdays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
- Tree Related Emergencies-
  Lincoln Police Department, (402) 441-6000,
  after hours/weekends/holidays
- Vandalism/Vehicular Accidents-
  Lincoln Police Department, (402) 441-6000
- Power Lines-
  Lincoln Electric System (LES), (402) 467-7678

Can I plant street trees on the City right-of-way?
Yes, but you need a no-fee planting permit to do so. Call Community Forestry at (402) 441-7847.

What kind of street trees can I plant and where can it be planted?
The City of Lincoln has a street tree master plan which identifies tree species and planting locations on public property. Please call Community Forestry at (402) 441-7847 for more information. Street trees must have a minimum trunk diameter of 1”.

Can I request to have or not have street trees planted on the City right-of-way adjacent to my property?
Yes

Who is responsible for watering city street trees?
The owner of the property abutting the City right-of-way where the street trees are located is responsible for the care of the tree.

Can I remove a street tree from the City right-of-way?
Yes, but you must obtain written permission from Community Forestry.

Can street trees only be pruned by the City?
No, individual property owners may prune street trees located on city property, provided it’s done properly.

Are the planting, pruning and/or removal of a City street tree done by the Parks and Recreation Department charged to the adjacent property owner?
City tree pruning and removal done by Community Forestry is at no charge to the property owner. Planting of City street trees is done on a cost-share basis (see Street Tree Voucher Program (hotlink to Street Tree Voucher Program.doc)

How long should I keep mulching my street tree with woodchips?
Trees should be mulched for at least 5 years from the time it is planted. Research has shown that such mulching can nearly double tree growth in that time.