



Water:

Water is the single most important responsibility you have when caring for your street tree. Make sure that your tree is getting at least 20 gallons of water per week especially during the hot, dry months. Soak the tree pit with a hose a couple of times, allowing the water to be absorbed by the surrounding soil/mulch between each time. You can also use a slow drip irrigation bag or (2) 5 gallon buckets with holes drilled in the bottom of them, fill them twice a week and you should be ok. Keep watering (depending on rainfall) until the ground freezes for the season. If you have an irrigation bag, fill twice a week until the ground freezes.

Mulch:

Keep a layer of mulch around your tree. This insulates the tree's roots and helps retain moisture in the soil after watering. It also keeps the appearance of a well-cared for tree. There should be a 3" space around the trunk of the tree that is free of mulch. This is important and should remain that way until re-mulching. Do Not pile mulch up against the trunk of the tree!

Cleanliness:

Removing litter and weeds from the area around your tree promotes both the health and appearance of the tree; weeds will pull water away from the tree, and chemicals from trash can give your tree diseases. Likewise, animal waste is toxic to trees. You are encouraged to ask your neighbors to curb their dogs, and it is beneficial to place a wire fence around the mulch bed surrounding your tree. While it is not recommended, if you decide to plant flowers in the tree pit please be careful not to damage the young tree roots and make sure you add more water accordingly.