

TREE PLANTING & MAINTENANCE



We have planted a tree(s) on city property near you. Here is what you should know.

- The City of Abbotsford will be responsible for all necessary pruning of the tree(s) for its entire life.
- If you see something that needs attention, please contact the City of Abbotsford's Urban Forestry section at 604.853.5485 or use the QR code to report an issue online.

Tree Pruning Schedule

Early, regular pruning creates a healthy, properly structured, mature tree. Structural pruning will be completed after planting at regular intervals. External factors such as inclement weather or drought can affect healthy trees and lead to limb or tree failure. As we cannot always predict if these incidents will occur, we encourage you to notify us if you see any concerns. We would prefer residents or landscape professionals let us know rather than addressing the problem themselves.

Additionally, the City will provide the following tree maintenance for the first few years after planting:

Watering

Supplemental tree watering using waterbags typically starts in June and finishes at the end of September but is dependent on the amount of precipitation. The City completes scheduled supplemental watering during the first few years of a tree's life. After this time, we appreciate any voluntary help from residents with watering trees during dry periods of 2 weeks or greater. Please let us know if you see any city trees that appear to be struggling during dry conditions

Mulching

Mulch is added to each tree well at the time of planting to a depth of approximately 10cm (4 inches)* and again for a couple years after, as needed.

*Voluntary weeding during this time by residents or landscape professionals, if desired, is appreciated. If caring for the tree well during this time, please do not plant anything, change the grade, or add/remove any mulch.

The City will cease maintenance of the tree wells a few years after planting which will be evident by the removal of tree stakes. Voluntary weeding or maintenance of the tree well by residents or landscape professionals after this time is always appreciated.

If maintaining a tree well on a city tree please do not change the grade or remove any mulch. If adding mulch, please do not exceed a depth of 10cm (4 inches) and leave a 10-15cm (4-6 inches) mulch free zone around the tree trunk.

Tree Support and Protection

Newly planted trees are staked for support. The tree stakes will remain in the ground for a few years after planting to provide protection from lawn maintenance equipment and in the event that additional support is needed as the roots systems establishes. Tree guards will stay on the base of the tree, until outgrown, to protect from lawn maintenance equipment damage.

If you have any questions, regarding the new tree(s) planted please email Trevor Houchen (Arboriculture Coordinator) at thouchen@abbotsford.ca

URBAN FORESTRY

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abbotsford.ca/trees

