

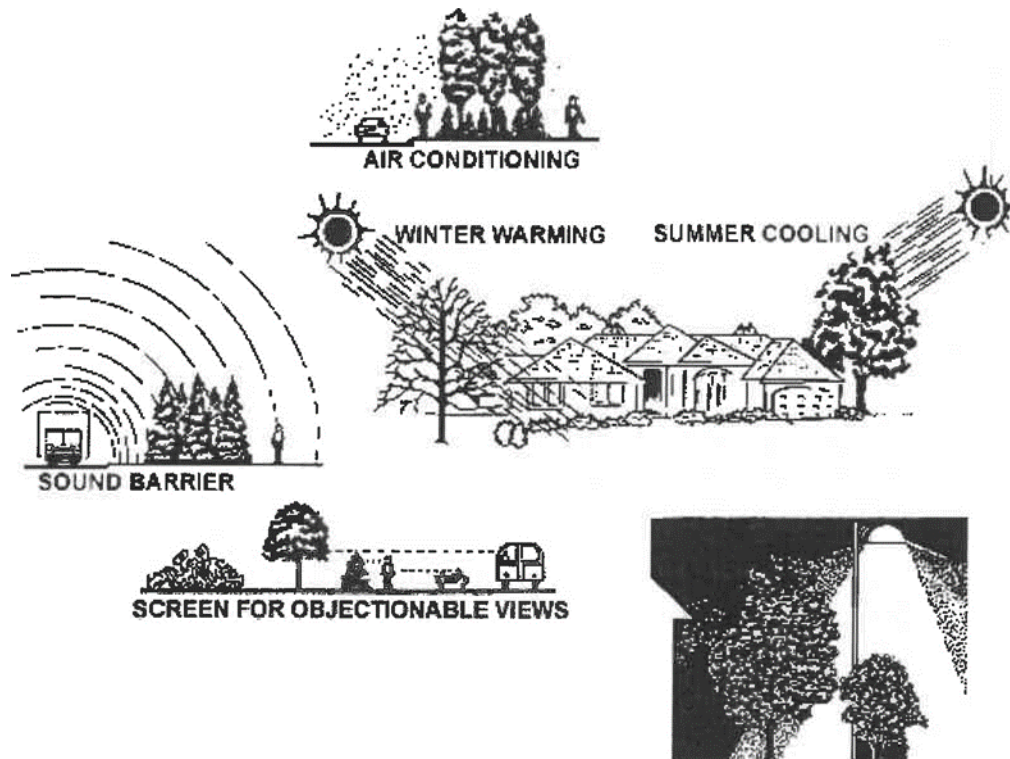


Urban Tree Policy 01-2021

Background

Trees play a significant role in our quality of life and amplify the beauty of our town for both residents and visitors. The trees that grow in the Town of Pilot Butte are part of our urban forest, including trees on both private and public property.

There are many trees in the Town of Pilot Butte with historic value. Benefits of established trees include shade, windbreaks, visual interest, wildlife habitats and more, illustrated below:



As a profession, urban forestry is the systematic management and cultivation of trees in an urban environment. The Beautification Committee with the assistance of the Public Works Department of the Town of Pilot Butte is responsible for the planting, maintenance and protection of trees on public property, including boulevards and parks

Purpose

To establish the criteria for pruning, removing, replacing and planting trees on public property and trees shared with private property owners, as well as protecting established trees of historic value and ensuring public safety.

Definitions

"Arborist" means a professional certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) in the practice of arboriculture;

"Arboriculture" means the cultivation, management and study of individual trees, shrubs, vines and other perennial woody plants;

"Boulevards" means trees planted on the Boulevard will be considered Public Land

"Committee" means the Beautification Committee of the Town of Pilot Butte and anyone acting or authorized by the Administrator to act on his or her behalf;

"Council" means the Council of the Town of Pilot Butte;

"Pest" includes insect pests, and any other Tree related pest so declared under The Pest Control Act;

"Planting" Planting refer to any tree, shrub, bush or other plant material

"Private Tree" means a Tree on Private Land;

"Public Land" means any real property owned, maintained or controlled by the Town;

"Public Tree" means a Tree on Public Land and owned by the municipality;

"Public Works Foreman" means the Public Works Foreman of the Town of Pilot Butte and anyone acting or authorized by the Public Works Foreman to act on his or her behalf;

"Relocation" includes all necessary measures required to remove, transport and re-plant the Tree at another location;

"Removal" includes stump removal, clean-up and site restoration;

"Sight Lines" means a specified area along an intersections approach and across the included corners allowing an unobstructed view of approaching vehicles and pedestrians;

"Street" means any road, street, road allowance or lane vested in the Crown in the right of Saskatchewan, or set aside for the purpose of the Crown in the right of Saskatchewan pursuant to any Act, but does not include a provincial highway within the municipality as designated pursuant to the provisions of The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997;

"Town" means the Town of Pilot Butte;

"Tree" means a living woody plant with one or more stems and a minimum caliper width of 2.5 centimetres and a minimum height of 1.5 metres.

Tree Planting

All trees planted in the Town of Pilot Butte should be of a species that are suited to the climate zone and soil conditions. Whenever possible, species diversity should be considered in reforestation.

See Appendix A - Recommended Species for Planting

Planting on Public Land

The Town of Pilot Butte's residents are encouraged to plant trees on the frontages of Town property in residential areas to help enhance their neighborhood. However, application for approval must be made to the Town with written approval required prior to commencement of planting.

Steps to be taken for approval to plant on public land:

1. Application must be made in writing to the Administrator;
2. All trees planted must conform to the criteria placed on the planting of trees as determined by this policy;
3. Final placement of trees will be at the discretion of the Administrator with staking done to assist the homeowner in the best location of new trees;
4. Failure to comply could result in some or all of the trees planted being removed from the property on which they are located with the cost being the sole responsibility of the property owner.

See Appendix A - Recommended Species for Planting

Planting on Private Land

The Town of Pilot Butte's residents are encouraged to plant trees on private property in residential areas.

Steps to be taken for planting on private land:

1. Ensure the location of the trees planted will not interfere with the Sight lines, if applicable.
2. Contact Sask 1st Call (National 'Call Before You Dig' Portal) at 1 (866) 828-4888 or www.sask1stcall.com to locate underground utilities.
3. Be aware of overhead lines. Planting near overhead lines will likely require pruning that could deform or result in the death of large trees.

See Appendix A - Recommended Species for Planting

Planting in Park Areas

Where possible, trees will be planted in parks to allow the urban forest to grow. The trees/shrubs should be planted in groupings to complement each other and other species. Consideration of respective growth habits must be considered when choosing the trees to be planted at any particular site and preparation of landscape designs must be made prior to commencement of work. The Town of Pilot Butte has full control over all species planted in park areas.

Tree Pruning & Removal

Removal of Trees on Public Land

The Administrator or authorized representative may authorize the pruning and/or removal of any Public Tree.

The Administrator may authorize the pruning and/or removal of a Tree on Public Land upon receiving a written request from an interested person and upon giving due consideration to:

- the reason for the request and the need for removal of the Tree;
- any reasonable options that would not require removal of the Tree;
- the possibility of relocating the Tree;
- the historic, environmental or other intrinsic value of the Tree in its current location;
- a recommendation from a certified arborist, if deemed necessary; and
- public safety.

If the Administration deems the removal necessary, the Town of Pilot Butte will be responsible for all costs relating to the removal and replacement of the tree(s).

Trees Spanning Privately Owned Property and Public Property

The Administrator shall authorize the pruning and/or removal of any tree spanning privately owned property and public land.

The Administrator may authorize the pruning, removal or relocation of a Tree(s) spanning privately owned land and public land upon receiving a written request from an interested person and upon giving due consideration to:

- the reason for the request and the need for removal of the Tree;
- any reasonable options that would not require removal of the Tree;
- the possibility of relocating the Tree;
- the historic, environmental or other intrinsic value of the Tree in its current location;
- a recommendation from a certified arborist, if deemed necessary by the Administrator; and
- public safety.

If the removal, relocation or pruning is deemed necessary by the Administrator, the Town of Pilot Butte notify neighbouring landowners prior to consultation with an arborist (if necessary) and will share the cost with the private property owner. A minimum of two quotes must be obtained prior to commencing

any work. The cost share will be 50% - Town of Pilot Butte and 50% - private property owner, including any fees incurred during the consultation with a certified arborist. If the Town is required to provide additional services such as supplying staff time, machinery or equipment, purchase of trees, transportation or any other incidentals, those costs will be deducted from the Town's share.

If the removal or relocation of a tree is approved by the Administrator, but is not deemed a necessity, the Town will not share in the cost of its removal or relocation. Healthy viable trees should not be removed.

Protection of Public Trees

General

The Town Administrator may authorize qualified volunteers to prune or maintain trees on public property.

No person, unless authorized by the Administrator or his authorized representative shall:

- plant a Public Tree without authorization;
- damage, disturb, prune or remove any Public Tree;
- attach any notice, bill, poster, sign, wire, rope, cord, nail or other object to or around any Public Tree;
- alter the grade level or drainage pattern in any manner so as to interfere with the access of water, air or nutrients to any Public Tree;
- commence or continue any work or activity which damages or interferes with the root system or upper structure of any Public Tree;
- Apply pesticide or any chemical to or within a two (2) meter radius of a sapling or a radius equal to the crown spread of a public tree.

Any person who is found to have pruned, cut or altered the appearance of a public tree, or administered any form of chemical that would cause the death of the tree, shall be responsible for all costs that may be incurred for proper pruning or the removal of the tree, including the replacement of the tree.

Pesticides

The Town of Pilot Butte will not apply or administer any pesticide to a Public Tree.

Dutch Elm Disease Regulations

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) is a deadly fungus that can kill an Elm tree in as little as three weeks. The disease clogs the water-conducting vessels in the tree, starving it of moisture. Once a tree is infected with DED it needs to be removed and disposed of properly by either burying it or burning it.

Every year the Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association (SDEDA) implements a pruning ban from April 1 to August 31.

Any requests for pruning and/or removing any Elm trees during the pruning ban must provide a written request to the Administrator.

Reforestation

The purpose of reforestation is to replace trees and supplement the existing forest areas with additional trees where the population is low.

Replacement Ratio

For each tree that is removed, two trees shall be planted in its place. Replacement trees planted should be 6 feet tall or larger, whenever possible.

Replacement Location

If it is not practical to plant the new trees in the same location, the Administrator will decide on an appropriate place within the Town to locate the trees.

Replacement Species

The preferred species of trees to be planted are described in Appendix A - Recommended Species for Planted.

Authority

The Administrator will execute authority over and administer The Urban Forestry Policy. The Administrator has the authority to enforce this policy and to appoint any other person as his/her designate.

Appeal

Appeals regarding decisions made through this policy must be made in writing to the Administrator.

Failing a satisfactory response from the Administrator, an appeal may be made to the Town of Pilot Butte Council.

Resources:

- City of Regina Forestry Bylaw #2002-48, www.regina.ca
- Town of Lumsden Urban Tree Policy
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, www.agr.gc.ca
- Dutch Growers Saskatoon, www.dutchgrowers.ca
- Government of Saskatchewan, Publication Centre, [www. publications.gov.sk.ca](http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca)
- Town of Indian Head Urban Tree Policy

Appendix A

Recommended Species

Please note that the recommended species for private yards are a small list of suggestions only and many other varieties are suitable and allowed.

BOULEVARDS – (Town Owned Property)

Tree Species	Scientific Name	Height	Description
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	15-20 feet	Smallish, oriental, - looking tree having dense foliage and spreading habit. Very tough. Vivid scarlet autumn color makes this an excellent ornamental planting
Black Ash	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	30-60 feet	Has a tall trunk with soft ash-gray bark and favors wet soil.
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	50-60 feet	Glossy, green, summer foliage turns yellow in fall, but drop too quickly to provide effective color. Green Ash develops a broad crown with age.
Ivory Silk Tree Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	20 feet	A heavily flowering tree, covered by large plumes of small white flowers and ark green leaves.
Manchurian Ash	<i>Fraxinus manshurica</i>	30-50 feet	Produces a very dense, oval to rounded, shapely crown. One-year twigs are golden colored. Lacy-textured foliage .
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	50 feet	Summer foliage is green on top and silvery underneath. Suggested uses for this plant include shade tree.
Swedish Aspen	<i>Populus Tremula Erec^{WD}, Narrow</i>	30-36 feet	Has narrow columnar growth habits, orange yellow fall color, a non-invasive root system and is cottonless. Suited for small yards.
Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	40 feet	Larger tree with big leaves, needs moisture

**** No White or Black Poplar Trees to be planted in the Town of Pilot Butte**

Appendix A

PRIVATE YARDS/OPEN SPACES/PARKS

Tree Species	Scientific Name	Height	Description
Acute Willow	Salix acutifolia Wild	30 feet	Shiny dark green leaves with a wide-spreading crown and trunk tends to have multiple stems.
Amur Cherry (Goldrush)	Prunus Maackii	30 feet	Has bronze, papery, peeling bark. It can be single or multi-stemmed . The White flowers are attractive, formal in drooping dense clusters, and followed by dark chokecherry-like fruit.
Amur Cork tree	Phellodendron amurense	40 feet	The Amur Cork tree has corky, ridged bark with orange-yellow branchlets. Leaves are dark green and glossy and somewhat aromatic.
Assiniboine Poplar	Populus x ,Assiniboine:	60 feet	A fast growing and prairie hardy poplar with no cotton or fuzz.
Bur Oak	Quercus macroarpa Michx	50-65 feet	Drought tolerant; moderately shade tolerant. It is a small tree with rounded crown supported by crooked and gnarled branches.
Littleleaf Linden	Tilia cordata	35 feet	Medium sized tree native to Europe, with a strikingly dense pyramidal to rounded crown. Desirable specimen tree in the landscape. The flowers are highly fragrant and attractive to bees.
Hawthorn	Crataegus	110-12 feet	The glossy foliage turns a brilliant orange-scarlet in fall and the small crabapple-like fruit persists into winter.
Japanese Tree Lilac	Syringa amurensis ppomca	20 feet	The Japanese Tree Lilac is the largest of the lilacs having large creamy white flower clusters. The leaves are dark green and have grayish undersides and yellow fall colour.

Appendix A

PRIVATE YARDS/OPEN SPACES/PARKS – Con’t

Tree Species	Scientific Name	Height	Description
Laurel Leaf Willow	Salix pentandra	26-50 feet	A large, rounded tree with glossy green leaves and furrowed bark.
Northern Blaze white Ash	Fraxinus americana	40-50 feet	Dark green foliage turns purple in fall. The growth habit is an upright oval shape during the juvenile stage, developing into an open, round-topped crown at maturity. New twig growth is dark purple. Fall color in shades of maroon.
Prairie Horizon Manchurian Alder	Alnus hisuta	30 feet	It is a rapid-growing, medium-sized tree with dark green leaves. The amazing bark is gray and almost beech-like.
Sabre Aspen	Populus grandidentata	40 feet	Attractive coarsely toothed green leaves that emerge as a velvety purple/red color, clear, smooth bark and an upright crown form.
Thunderchild Flowering Crabapple	Malus	15-40 feet	Thunderchild produces single, pale pink buds, opening to white flowers followed by dark red to purple fruit on a compact, upright, spreading, broad to oval rounded tree.
Swiss Stone Pine			

**** No White or Black Poplar Trees to be planted in the Town of Pilot Butte**

This policy was adopted on the 25th day of January, 2021.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR

Resolution No.: 2021-023

Bylaw No. Reference: None

