

Parks / Cemeteries (208) 612-8479

Recreation / Rentals (208) 612-8480

Aquatic Center (208) 612-8519

Administration (208) 612-8482

Zoo (208) 612-8470

Fax (208) 612-8179

THIS LETTER GOES OUT TO ALL HOMES IN THE SPECIFIED ZONE. YOU ARE NOT IN VIOLATION BECAUSE YOU RECEIVED THIS LETTER AND ONLY REQUIRES ACTION IF YOU HAVE TREES THAT DO NOT COMPLY WITH CITY CODE.

November 18, 2020

RE: Tree Trimming in Right-of-Ways for Public Safety

Dear City of Idaho Falls Resident:

Did you know it is best to trim trees when dormant? Now is the best time for their health. Our yearly specified zone inspection will be underway starting mid-January, 2021. This letter is to inform those whom have trees in the Right-of-Way or trees that could cause a public safety issue to please get them trimmed.

City Code 8-9-15: states "all limbs or foliage which overhang or project into any public street, sidewalk, alley or easement and which interfere with public travel or use of such public way or easement" need to be trimmed. This is necessary for public travel and improved visibility of the stop signs, traffic, signals, street sign names and permit emergency, sanitation and construction vehicles, etc. enough clearance to move through streets unobstructed.

If you have any trees on your property, please make sure each one complies with City Code. The City Horticulture & Urban Forestry Division will be inspecting all trees in this zone over the next few weeks. Per City Code 8-9-22 the City has the authority to abate the nuisance or tree(s) that are out of code and all costs and expenses related shall be billed to the property owner.

Branches cut in 4 foot bundles, weighing less than 40 lbs. can be left on curbs for scheduled pick up with Idaho Falls Sanitation. Please call (208) 612-8491 to schedule. Debris from trimming can be disposed of at the Bonneville County Hatch Pit for no charge.

Please reference the enclosed brochure for specific clearances. You can also use the QRL code at the bottom of the letter to view clearances online.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact our offices Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at (208) 612-8316 or (208) 612-8479.

Thank you for you cooperation.

All the best,

PJ Holm, Director

Department of Parks and Recreation

# CHAPTER 9 COMMUNITY FORESTRY

# SECTION:

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8-9-1: PURPOSE: The purpose of this Chapter is to promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting and maintenance, and removal of trees, shrubs and other plants within the City of Idaho Falls. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14)

8-9-2: DEFINITIONS: Whenever the following words or terms are used in this Code, they shall have the meanings ascribed below:

ANSI A300: That certain standard tree, shrub and other woody plant maintenance standard practice as set forth in ANSI A300 (Part I)—2001, as published by the American National Standards Institute, Inc., May 22, 2001 Edition.

ANSI Z133.1: That certain safety standard regarding the planting and maintenance of trees in proximity to utility lines as published by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. May 22, 2001 Edition.

within the City.

e Director to carry out the duties and functions

tree extending from the base of a tree in all p-line.

y Parks and Recreation Department or designee.

cifically approved by the Urban Forester to be

woody vegetation located in or upon any public e public right-of-way.

ree.

company or person engaged in the business of out the City, whose gross receipts are more than

proved public property owned by, dedicated to, e purpose of providing vehicular, pedestrian and , but is not limited to, streets, alleys, sidewalks,

lic property owned or managed by the City,

at or near the base and which at maturity is eight.

other woody vegetation whose critical root zone -of-way or whose branches overhang any public in adjacent property owner.

o stubs larger than three inches (3") in diameter top part (trunk and limbs) of a coniferous tree, ring the tree.

tiving one main stem or trunk and many branches fteen feet (15') in height and two inches (2'') in maturity shall not preclude its consideration as a Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord.

- 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15; Ord. 3007, 5-25-15; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18; Ord. 3332, 09-10-20)
- 8-9-3: CITY FORESTER: The Director may appoint a person to serve as City Forester. The City Forester shall have such duties and perform such functions as shall be prescribed herein and as required by the Director of Parks and Recreation. The City Forester is hereby authorized to:
- (A) Direct, manage, supervise and control the City street tree and park tree program for the planting, removal, maintenance and protection of all public trees and shrubs on all public areas and to supervise and assist the Parks and Recreation Department personnel in the planting, removal, maintenance and protection of said trees and shrubs;
- (B) To guard all public and private trees and shrubs within the City so as to prevent the spread of disease or pest and to eliminate dangerous conditions which may affect the life, health or safety of person or property. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15)
- 8-9-4: ESTABLISHMENT OF A SHADE TREE COMMITTEE: There is hereby created and established a Shade Tree Committee for the City, which shall consist of seven members who reside within the City. The Shade Tree Committee shall be comprised of six (6) at-large members and one member (1) who shall be a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Members of the Committee shall be nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by a majority of the members of the Council. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96) (Ord. 2403, 1-11-01); (Ord., 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2826, 11-12-09; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14)
- 8-9-5: TERM OF OFFICE: The term of the members of the Shade Tree Committee shall be three (3) years. In the event that a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, his or her successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of the term. Members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council and may be removed for good cause at the sole discretion of the Council, including but not limited to failure to regularly attend scheduled meetings of the Committee or other dereliction of duty. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96) (Ord. 2403, 1-11-01); (Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14)
- 8-9-6: OPERATION OF THE SHADE TREE COMMITTEE: The Committee shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep minutes of its proceedings. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14)
- 8-9-7: DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The Shade Tree Committee shall provide advice to the Director, Mayor, City Forester and Council as to the preservation, protection and management of the community forest of Idaho Falls, in accordance with the intent and purpose of this Chapter. The Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

in encouraging landscaping installation and iformation on the value of landscaping and the ition;

procedures to identify, mark, publicize and and private property;

n promoting appreciation of trees and the City d other activities;

of the community forest through planning and

and Divisions in every way possible to enhance

r obtaining monetary funds for tree purchases, es through local and federal assistantship grants

ne City's Forest. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, ; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15)

ED:

any public right-of-way or planting median or following species of trees:

Prunus virginiana 'Shubertii' Prunus sargentii

Malus spp.'Spring Snow/Thunderchild
Ulmus glabra 'Camperdownii'
Crateagus douglasii'
Crateagus mordenesis
Crateagus phaenopyrum
Carpinus, caroliniana
Syringa reticulata
Acer ginnala
Acer grandidentatum
Acer campestre
Prunus padus
Pyrus calleryana 'Cleveland/Princess'
Prunus cerasifera 'Newport'
Amelanchier alnifolia

Medium Trees

Amur Cork Tree

Beech, European

Birch, Heritage Catalpa, Northern

Elm, Smoothleaf (varieties)

Hackberry

Honeylocust, (thornless varieties)

Linden, American (varieties)

Linden, Littleleaf

Linden, Corinthian

Linden, Littleleaf Maple, Norway (varieties)

Maple, Red (varieties)

Oak, Columnar English

Walnut, English

Zelkova

Phellodendron amurensis

Fagus sylvatica

Betula nigra 'Heritage'

Catalpa speciosa

Ulmus carpinifolia 'Homestead/Frontier'

Celtis occidentalis

Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis

Tilia americana Tilia cordata

Tilia cordata 'Corinthian

Tilia cordata Acer platanoides Acer rubrum

Quercus robur Fastigiata

Juglans regia Zelkova serrata

Large Trees

Coffeetree, Kentucky

Honeylocust, Thornless (native

species)

Horsechestnut

Linden, American (native species) Maple, Norway (native species)

Oak, Bur

Oak, Bur/Gambel Hybrid

Oak, Bur/English Hybrid

Gymnocladus dioicus

Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis

Aesculus hippocastanum

Tilia americana Acer platanoides

Quercus macrocarpa

Quercus macrocarpa x gambelii Quercus macrocarpa x robur

Other species may be planted only with written permission from the Parks and Recreation Department. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96); (Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15)

#### MEMORIAL TREE REGULATIONS: 8-9-9:

- A. Species of Memorial Tree will be decided by the Urban Forester.
- B. The Parks Superintendent shall determine the location of a Memorial Tree.
- C. Any plaque associated with a Memorial Tree shall be metal or bronze, four inches wide by nine inches (4" x 9") long. The plaque shall be set in concrete five inches wide by ten inches long and with two inches thickness (5" x 10" x 2") at ground level and confined within the mulch area of the Memorial Tree ring. No other size of plaque shall be allowed.

with artificial decorations or flowers not more death dates a person memorialized and on any decorations shall be removed within seven (7). If decorations are not removed within seven te, the City may remove and dispose of the on. (Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

y person to plant any public or private tree under ad utility wire, or over or within five (5) lateral electric transmission or distribution line or other

Prunus virginiana 'Shubert'

Malus spp.
Ulmus blabra 'Camperdownii'
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis 'Imperial'
Syringa reticulata
Acer ginnala
Prunus padus
Sorbus aucuparia
Prunus cerasifera 'Newport'
Amelanchier alnifolia
Rhus typhina

en permission from the Parks and Recreation

ant any public or private tree in any location in a standards for planting and maintenance of n ANSI Z133.1.

onsible for damage to any tree or shrub located on or maintenance of City utility lines. Damage operly located within the public right-of-way or (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. -10-14; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

# 8-9-11: RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PRIVATE TREES:

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person owning a private tree or in control of a private tree to refuse or fail to take the following actions within a reasonable time after being directed to do so by the City Forester:
  - (1) Remove, prune, or reprune any tree located on such person's private property in a manner that removes, abates or otherwise lessens the likelihood of or resolves any pest infestation, dangerous condition or circumstance located within such tree, the existence of which constitutes a public nuisance, as defined in Section 8-9-18 of this Code.
  - (2) Remove, prune, or reprune any private tree located on such person's real property in a manner that provides for trees and shrubs to be trimmed and have vertical clearance of the branches of such tree to a height of not less than:
    - a. Eight feet (8') above any public sidewalk; and
    - b. Thirteen feet (13') from the back of the curb to Thirteen feet (13') toward the center line above any public street, alley, or right-of-way and thereafter angled up toward the center line to a height of not less than fifteen (15') feet at the center of the public street, alley, or right-of-way.
  - (3) Remove, control or abate any pest investing or otherwise located in or upon any private tree located upon the owner's private real property.
  - (4) Remove and properly dispose of all branches, twigs, leaves or other debris deposited upon public property by or at the direction of any person pruning, trimming or removing such private tree.

(Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

#### 8-9-12: LICENSING OF PRIVATE TREE SERVICE COMPANIES:

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any private tree service company to prune, trim or otherwise remove any public or private tree located within the City without having a valid, current license to engage in such business.
  - (1) Licenses shall be issued by the Clerk upon payment by the applicant of a licensing fee in an amount set from time to time by

uncil, and satisfaction by the applicant of the nents set forth below. Each license shall be of one (1) year and shall not be transferrable.

ce of any license, the applicant shall satisfy the lents:

copy of a certificate of insurance evidencing the current coverage of a commercial general plicy, having limits of not less than a combined t of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

copy of a certificate of insurance evidencing tho workers' compensation insurance, having ess than the Idaho statutory limits.

f an affidavit signed by the applicant certifying plicant has within its employ or has contracted borist certified by the International Society of re ("ISA") for the term of the license.

be revoked by the Council upon satisfactory following reasons:

al, pruning or trimming of any public or private the City by the licensee at any time while the es not have an ISA certified arborist on staff or tracted with a certified arborist.

trimming or pruning of any tree by the licensee loyee of the licensee who is not acting under the or control of an ISA certified arborist, and a written work plan approved by an ISA porist.

al, trimming or pruning of any public or private licensee or any person employed or acting under e's direction or control, in any manner which provisions of this Chapter.

he licensee to maintain the liability insurance or mpensation insurance required by this Chapter.

eep current any condition of licensure.

of this Chapter.

- (g) Providing false or inaccurate information relative to licensure.
- (B) Exemptions from licensure.
  - (1) Unless a person or company is a Private Tree Service Company, as defined in this Chapter, no license shall be required of a person or company:
  - (a) for occasional and incidental pruning of broken branches, trimming of ornamental shrubs, removal of tree branches or shrub branches that obstruct or interfere with paths, walkways, or gardens, and similar non-invasive care of trees and shrubs incidental to such person's or company's primary business; or
  - (b) where emergency tree or shrub trimming, pruning, or removal is reasonably necessary to prevent or lessen irreparable or serious damage to human life or property within five (5) days immediately following a storm event, accident, tree failure, or the like which causes the emergency.
  - (c) tree pruning below a fifteen foot (15') height, as measured from the base of the tree pruned. (Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

# 8-9-13: PERMIT REQUIRED FOR PRUNING OF PUBLIC TREES:

- (A) Unless exempt as provided by this Chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to perform or caused to be performed any of the following acts without having first obtained a permit from the Director or the Community Forester:
  - (1) Prune, cut or remove any portion of a public tree.
  - (2) Attach any object to a public tree in any manner which is reasonably likely to harm or materially injure the bark of such public tree.
  - (3) Cut, damage, or destroy the bark of any public tree.
  - (4) Dig, trench, excavate or place any hazardous, chemical or substance within the critical root zone of any public tree.

(B) The Director or City Forester may, as a condition for the issuance of such permit, require the applicant to post a cash bond or other security acceptable to the Director or City Forester, the condition for which is the permittee's removal of the stump of said tree within thirty (30) days of the date of the issuance of such permit. (Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

REET TREES: Street trees shall be classified in s listed in this Chapter. Street trees shall not be ll trees, twenty feet (20'); medium trees, thirty s may be planted closer to the backside of any ne following: small trees, two feet (2'; medium'). All trees planted shall follow the Clear View nce No. 1941, Sections 4-7. All distances shall it ground level. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, ; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

or foliage which overhang or project into any thich interfere with public travel or use of such the requirements of the City Zoning Ordinance Ways." All trees and shrubs planted shall follow inance, Ordinance No. 1941, Sections 4-7.

n the ground level to at least fifteen feet (15') or alley, or to at least eight feet (8') above the

eight of not less than:

valk; and

the curb to Thirteen feet (13') toward the center or right-of-way and thereafter angled up toward than fifteen feet (15') at the center of the public 07, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

UBS:

fficer, it shall be unlawful for any person to:

iblic tree;

r control to injure any public tree or shrub;

y public tree or shrub;

to, seep, drain or be emptied on or about any

iblic trees, in a manner which harms or which is tree;

- (6) injure, destroy, to cut or pick any flower or ornamental plant growing, standing or being on public property;
- (7) make or cause excavations in the soil near roots of public trees unless appropriate measures are taken to prevent exposed soil from drying out;
- (8) damage the roots of a public tree by compacting or filling on or around the base of the tree; or
- (9) to top, prune or trim any public tree, except in accordance with the provisions of ANSI A300.
- (B) Nothing herein shall prevent or prohibit the pruning, removal, treatment, care or maintenance of any public tree or shrub, provided such work complies with the provisions of ANSI A300. (Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)
- 8-9-17: STREET TREE CARE: The Department of Parks and Recreation shall have the right to remove, trim, destroy and control all street trees which are planted, grown or maintained in violation of the provisions of this Chapter. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove street trees within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to ensure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 3003, 4-23-15; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)
- 8-9-18: TREE TOPPING: It shall be unlawful for any person to prune or top any public tree except in accordance with ANSI A300. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

#### 8-9-19: PUBLIC NUISANCE DECLARED:

- (A) The City hereby declares the following actions, practices or objects to be a public nuisance:
  - (1) Any living or standing private or public elm tree or part thereof infected with the Dutch elm disease fungus Ceratocystis ulmi (Buisman) or which harbors any of the elm bark beetles Scolytus multistriatus (Marsham) or Hylurgopinus rufipes (Eichhoff).
  - (2) Any public or private dead elm tree or part thereof, including logs, branches, stumps, firewood or other elm material not buried, burned, sprayed with an effective elm bark beetle-destroying insecticide, or from which the bark has not been removed.
  - (3) The cultivation, maintenance or allowing to grow of any private or public tree which harbors any insect, disease or infestation by any living creature which poses a threat to the health or safety of any other public or private tree within the City or which poses a health or safety threat to any person or property.

efested by any insect, pest or disease which is a threat to the health of any other public or

de roots of which are growing beneath a public d to the safe and efficient pedestrian travel upon

ring or maintained in violation of the provisions

nuisance defined by this Chapter within twenty shall be guilty of an infraction for every forty-sance continues.

he owner(s) of the affected premises, as such essment rolls of Bonneville County, Idaho, and of the premises. Service of notice may be r(s), occupant(s), or person(s) in control of the ry, by posting in a conspicuous place upon the ably calculated to give notice to the owner(s), ty.

shall clearly state that the property contains a nt(s), or controller(s) shall abate the nuisance r, occupant, or person in control of the property urs of receipt of the notice, deliver in writing to nt of the nuisance and request an appeal hearing of a fee for the appeal in an amount established

ion Department determines that abatement of the tree or shrub, the Director may defer abatement n abatement notice (along with the proper fee for receipt of such notice. The Director's deferral of a day by which the nuisance shall be abated. eferral date is a violation of this Chapter. (Ord. -11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

ntent to appeal and payment of the appeal fee, a by the Board of Adjustment panel within twenty uring which appeal time no action shall be taken ppeal hearing, the appellant must show, by a

preponderance of the evidence, that there is an exception to abatement of the nuisance under this Chapter. The decision of the Board of Adjustment panel shall be final. Unless the Board of Adjustment panel finds an exception to nuisance abatement, abatement of the nuisance shall take place within forty-eight (48) hours following the decision by the Board of Adjustment panel. (Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2892, 02-02-12; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

# 8-9-22 CITY ABATEMENT:

- (A) City is authorized to use public funds to abate nuisance.
- (B) If the property owner(s) or occupant(s) or person(s) in control of the property fails to abate the nuisance within forty-eight (48) hours following a final decision regarding the nuisance, the City may enter the property and commence abatement pursuant to Idaho Code.
- (C) If the City abates the nuisance, all costs and expenses related to abatement shall be billed and assessed against the property owner and, if unpaid, shall be collectible by any lawful means including, but not limited to, creation of a special assessment collectible against the subject property, pursuant to Idaho Code.

### 8-9-23: ADOPTION OF ANSI A300 and ANSI Z133.1:

- (A) There is hereby adopted as an official code for the maintenance of trees, shrubs and other woody plants that certain standard maintenance practice as published in ANSI Standard A300 (Part I)-2001, as published by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. and approved on May 22, 2001.
- (B) There is hereby adopted as an official code, that certain safety standard for planting and maintenance of trees in proximity to utility lines, known as ANSI Z133.1, as published by the American National Standards Institute, Inc., May 22, 2001 Edition.

One (1) copy of ANSI A300 and of ANSI Z133.1 shall be filed with and maintained in the office of the City Clerk, for use and examination by the public. (Ord. 2964, 8-14-14; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

- 8-9-24: MAINTENANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANSI A300. It shall be unlawful for any person or licensed tree company to perform maintenance of trees not in accordance with ANSI A300. (Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)
- 8-9-25: PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS: Any person, entity or licensed tree company who violates any portion of this Chapter shall be guilty of an infraction, with each violation subject to an infraction fine in an amount set from time to time by Resolution of Council. Each tree that is maintained not in accordance with ANSI A300 shall constitute a separate violation of this Chapter, punishable by an infraction. Ord. 2964, 8-14-14; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)