

## 16. Right Tree, Right Place

1. When planting trees near or beneath roadside power lines, the Tree Warden recommends low-growing ornamental trees such as crabapple and dogwood and other appropriate tree species.

2. Medium-sized trees, which grow to heights of 25 to 45 feet, can be planted between 15 and 30 feet from the power lines. Examples include arborvitae and flowering cherry trees.

3. Large-growing trees, reaching heights of more than 45 feet should be planted at least 30 feet from the power lines. Oak, maple and pine trees are some examples.

### 4. Spacing Requirements For Tree Planting

i. The following requirements shall be followed when siting tree pits or planting sites along sidewalks and roads. These guidelines generally follow regulations of other agencies with jurisdiction or infrastructure on the right-of-way. These requirements are design and tree species dependent. The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines must also be followed.

ii. Do not plant in front of building entrances in order to permit easy access by the Fire Department.

iii. Do not plant in front of entrance doors or display windows of commercial or retail buildings so as not to unnecessarily block access for customers or impede viewing of display windows. Trees should be planted on the 'breaks' between buildings or windows if possible.

iv. Do not plant within bus stops.

i. Do not plant directly over water mains less than 20 inches in diameter.

Minimum horizontal distance from water main to tree trunk is 6 feet.

v. Minimum distance between trees (trunk to trunk) shall be 20 feet to 30 feet, depending upon the tree species and other local conditions.

vi. Minimum distance from a streetlight or utility pole to the tree trunk is 25 feet (this may vary with tree species).

vii. Minimum distance from a stop sign to the tree trunk is 30 feet.

viii. Minimum distance from other traffic signs to the tree trunk is 6 feet.

3 In accordance with CT General Statute Chp 450 Sec. 23-59

ix. Suggested distance from a parking meter back to tree trunk shall be no more than 5 feet, to allow for the swing of car doors.

x. Minimum distance from a curb cut or driveway to the edge of the pit is 2

xi. Minimum distance from a fire hydrant to the edge of the pit is 3 feet.

xii. Minimum distance from an oil fill pipe to the edge of the pit is 4 feet.

xiii. Minimum distance from to the tree trunk is 7 feet.

xiv. Minimum distance from a gas or water valve to the edge of the pit is 2 feet.

xv. Minimum distance from feet and the corner of a street intersection to the tree trunk is 40 the edge of the pit to any opposite obstruction (building wall, stoop, railing, property line etc.) is from 4 to 6 feet, depending upon local conditions and the amount of sidewalk traffic.

xvi. All tree pits must be contiguous to the street curb (except as noted below, or with the permission of the Tree Warden).

xvii. Trees may be planted on either side of sidewalks (if any exist) in lawn areas

where there is sufficient room between the property line and the street curb.

xviii. Additional design or spacing requirements may be imposed at the discretion of the Tree Warden reviewing your application depending on the location and site conditions.

#### e. Tree Pit Dimensions

i. Tree pits should be as large as possible to allow for ample growing space for the tree's roots and to reduce the likelihood of future sidewalk lifting. The standard street tree pit size is 5 feet by 10 feet. The overall width of a sidewalk can limit the size of a tree pit. Where a 5 feet by 10 feet tree pit is not possible, alternate dimensions must be approved by the Tree Warden.

ii. The installation of continuous tree pits is encouraged whenever possible, and design proposals that call for continuous tree pits may be given more flexible spacing requirements by the Tree Warden.