

The designation between a "street tree" and a "yard tree" can often be confusing to folks, and we apologize for that! Hopefully this clarifies things:

A yard tree is a tree that can be planted in the backyard or in the front yard, set back from proximity to the street. A street tree, on the other hand, is a bit different. Essentially, a street tree is a tree that is planted in proximity to the street. These trees are often planted in a parking strip (a.k.a., planting strip), but not always! If you don't have a parking strip, there is still a good chance that your home is eligible for street trees! Check out these examples below:

A.



B.



Examples of street trees where the street tree is behind a sidewalk attached to the curb (photo A) and the other street tree is behind the curb with no sidewalk (photo B).

Why plant a street tree?

A tree planted in close proximity to the street will allow the entire community to have access to its benefits.

- In the summer, street trees provide shade and cool the street and sidewalk, where neighbors walk and play.
- Trees can absorb the first 30% of rainfall through their leaves and bark, helping to take a load off of storm drain systems.
- Trees in the public right-of-way help to make the neighborhood an enjoyable environment for everyone to enjoy.
- Street trees help to remove pollution particulates from the air.
- By making a street look narrower, mature street trees help to slow traffic.

For additional details contact the Planning Department at planning@ci.wilsonville.or.us or 503-682-4960.

Information provided by Friends of Trees.