



Elkins Past IS Elkins Future
CITY OF ELKINS

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Mayor - Judith A. Guye

Elkins on Track to Become a Tree City

Friends of Trees

A group of concerned citizens formed the local Friends of Trees to help manage and care for trees. They developed a local tree inventory of street trees with the goal of creating a tree plan. They sponsor planting and pruning workshops working with the WV Division of Urban Forestry. They support public awareness activities such as a Forest Festival exhibit, an Arbor Day poster contest, and an Adopt-a-Tree program. Friends of Trees meet for lunch the third Tuesday of each month at Kissel Stop. Elkins was designed in the "Beautiful Cities" tradition with tree lined streets.



Sycamore Street

City of Elkins Tree Board

The Elkins City Council passed an ordinance in June 2008 to create a City Tree Board. The board was charged with developing a plan for the management and care of trees along the city streets together with local citizen groups. The Tree Board in conjunction with WV Urban Forestry will write a City Tree manual for best practices concerning planting, pruning and removing trees. The Tree Board applies for grants to provide young trees.

The Tree Board and the Mayor proclaim the city Arbor Day in conjunction with the National Arbor Day Foundation on the last Friday of April.

Tree Care on City Streets

To plant or remove a tree on city rights-of-way, please contact the Elkins Tree Board. To remove a tree, complete a removal request form located at the Elkins City Hall. The Tree Board will review your request at their next meeting and contact you.

If you plan to plant a tree along a city street or anywhere on your property, call this number to find out where the utilities lines are located on your property: 1-800-245-4848.

Suggested Street Tree List

Trees less than 30' high that need a tree lawn 2'X4' & 4' deep, suitable under power lines.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Crown Shape</u>	<u>Native Species</u>	<u>Soil Requirement</u>	<u>Fruits/Nuts</u>	<u>% of Elkins</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Redbud	Rounded	Native	Alkaline	No	.02% now	
Amur Maple	Oval		Most Soils	No		
Paper Bark Maple	Oval		Most Soils	No	7 Trees	
Serviceberry	Oval	Native	Most Soils	No		
Ivory Silk Tree	Oval	Japan	Most Soils	No		

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American Holly	Pyramidal	Native	Acidic ph 4-7.5	Yes		drought tolerant
American Hornbeam	Oval	Native	Most Soils	No		
Mountain Ash	Irregular	Native	Acid Soils	No	.5% now	Well drained soil
Sourwood	Pyramidal	Native	Most soils	No		
River Birch	Oval	Native	Most Soils	yes	.5% now	
Tamarack	Pyramidal	Native	Ph 5.5-6.5	No		Evergreen,

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American beech	Pyramidal	Native	Acidic	No	0.40% now	Well drained soil
Black Gum	Pyramidal	Native	Acidic	No		Well drained soil
Cucumber Tree	Oval	Native	Acidic	No		Well drained soil
Shagbark Hickory	Upright	Native	Acidic	Yes		Drought tolerant
Horse Chestnut	Oval	Native	Most soils	Yes		
Hackberry	Globose	Native	Most soils	Yes		Urban tolerant
Chinkapin Oak	Oval	Native	Acidic	Yes	1% now	
Northern Red Oak	Oval	Native	Acidic			
White Oak	Rounded	Native	Acidic			
Bur Oak	Rounded	Native	Most Soils	Yes		Urban tolerant
Sweet Gum	Pyramidal	Native	Acidic	Yes		
American Elm	Vase	Native	Most soils	No	0.01% now	
Tulip	Oval	Native	Most soils	No	0.05% now	Fast grower
Red Maple	Oval	Native	Wet soils	No	43%	Fast grower
Red Spruce	Pyramidal	Native	Ph 4-5.8	No		Shade tolerant

“The right tree for the right place”

If you are thinking about planting a new tree, you may want to avoid the following trees along city streets to help keep our city clean:

Ornamental fruit trees such as: Pear, Cherry, and Crabapple. Silver Maple and Norway Maple, Willow, Lombardy Poplar, and Walnut. Remember Dogwoods need a shady spot.

Designation as a Tree City

In December of 2008, the Tree Board applies to become a Tree City. The Tree City program was started by the Arbor Day Foundation to support communities interested in improving the quality and health of trees. About 3,310 cities are currently Tree Cities, with the number growing each year. Communities applying to become a Tree City must have the following criteria:

- A Tree Board
- A Tree Card Ordinance
- A Tree Budget of \$2/person
- Arbor Day observance & proclamation

Stop Tree Topping

Topping removes branches of a mature tree, causing large, open wounds that can lead to disease and decay. In most cases topping causes the tree to die. In fact, topping is probably the most harmful thing to do to the health of a tree.



Benefits of Urban Trees

- Urban trees reduce pollution found within cities.
- Urban trees save energy reducing utility cost.
- Urban tree roots reduce water runoff and erosion.
- Urban Trees reduce depression, stress and crime.

Adopt-a-Tree Program

Friends of Trees has a tree adoption program for trees recently planted throughout the city. Saplings usually need pruning, watering, and general monitoring for about three years. The Adopt-a-Tree program lets volunteers adopt a young tree for the first critical three years of its life. If you want to adopt a tree or would like more information about the program, contact Friends of Trees.

Get Involved

Last year volunteers helped to create a Tree Inventory that showed that there are about 2074 trees along city streets. The volunteers noted that about 33% of the trees in Elkins are in poor condition. There are many other interesting and fun projects that volunteers can help with. If you are interested in becoming involved, contact Friends of Trees or the Tree Board.

Contact Information

E-Mail: elkinsfriendsoftrees@gmail.com