



# Native Tree Rebate Program



The City of Ames has implemented a Smart Watershed Program to increase local awareness of the importance of protecting our local streams and lakes. The program promotes methods to capture, infiltrate, and reduce storm water runoff in residential areas. Planting native trees is one of these methods.

## What is an Urban Tree Canopy?

The canopy of a tree or group of trees is the area of leaves and branches that create shade under the tree(s). Like umbrellas, trees reduce the amount of sunlight and rain reaching the ground. Trees in urban environments are particularly important for intercepting rainfall before it becomes stormwater runoff. Tree leaves, branches, stems, and roots catch falling rain, filter out pollutants, and absorb stormwater.

## How Can You Determine if Your Property is Suitable for a Tree Planting Project?

### On Private Property:

To give your new tree enough room for healthy growth and to avoid interference with utilities and structures, be sure to plant it:

- At least 3 feet from underground utilities, fences, walkways, driveways, decks, and patios.
- At least 7 feet from the stems of small trees and shrubs.
- At least 10 feet from overhead utilities and trunks of other large trees.
- At least 15 feet from structures

### Within Street Right-of-Way:

- Follow the Street Tree Planting Guidelines in this application below

## What are the Benefits to Property Owners and Communities?

- Trees located within 50 feet of a structure can boost property values.
- Buildings shaded by trees have lower air conditioning costs and evergreen trees can act as a wind buffer, protecting buildings from heat loss.
- Trees clean polluted air and make communities quieter by absorbing sound.
- Tree roots reduce stormwater through evapotranspiration. Water is taken up by the roots and released back into the atmosphere via the leaves as water vapor.

## Can You Do This Project Yourself?

Yes. Native tree planting and basic tree care practices can be done by the property owner. However, some tree care is best left up to professionals, such as work that cannot be performed from the ground, work that cannot be performed with hand tools, and any work within 10 feet of any kind of overhead utility line.

To qualify for the rebate trees on **Private** property must be one of the following native tree types:

## **QUALIFYING IOWA NATIVE TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

**(Adapted from ISU Forestry Extension: Trees and Shrubs Native to Iowa)**

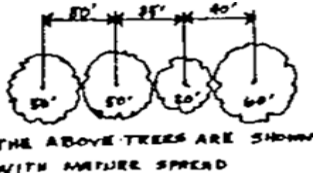
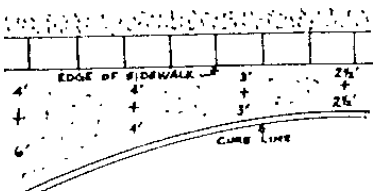
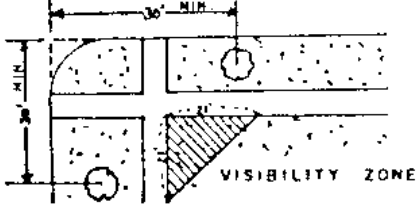
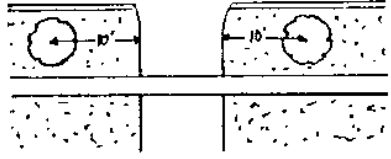
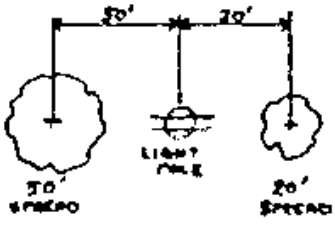
<b>American Basswood</b>	<i>Tilia Americana</i>	<b>Margaret's Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus margaretta</i>
<b>American Elm</b>	<i>Ulmus Americana</i>	<b>Mexican Plum</b>	<i>Prunus Mexicana</i>
<b>American Hazelnut</b>	<i>Corylus Americana</i>	<b>Mountain Maple</b>	<i>Acer spicatum</i>
<b>American Hornbeam</b>	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	<b>Nannyberry</b>	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>
<b>Balsam Fir</b>	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	<b>Northern Pin Oak</b>	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>
<b>Balsam Poplar</b>	<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	<b>Ohio Buckeye</b>	<i>Aesculus glabra</i>
<b>Beaked Hazelnut</b>	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	<b>Pagoda Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>
<b>Bigtooth Aspen</b>	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	<b>Paper Birch</b>	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
<b>Bitternut Hickory</b>	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	<b>Pear Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus calpodendron</i>
<b>Black Cherry</b>	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	<b>Pecan</b>	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>
<b>Black Maple</b>	<i>Acer nigrum</i>	<b>Pignut Hickory</b>	<i>Carya glabra</i>
<b>Black Oak</b>	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	<b>Pin Cherry</b>	<i>Prunus pennsylvanica</i>
<b>Black Walnut</b>	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	<b>Pin Oak</b>	<i>Quercus palustris</i>
<b>Black Willow</b>	<i>Salix nigra</i>	<b>Post Oak</b>	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
<b>Blackhaw Viburnum</b>	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	<b>Prairie Crabapple</b>	<i>Malus ioensis</i>
<b>Blackjack Oak</b>	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	<b>Prickly Ash</b>	<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>
<b>Boxelder</b>	<i>Acer negundo</i>	<b>Pussy Willow</b>	<i>Salix discolor</i>
<b>Buffaloberry</b>	<i>Sheperdia argentea</i>	<b>Quaking Aspen</b>	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
<b>Bur Oak</b>	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	<b>Red Maple</b>	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
<b>Butternut</b>	<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	<b>Red Mulberry</b>	<i>Morus rubra</i>
<b>Canada Plum</b>	<i>Prunus nigra</i>	<b>Red Oak</b>	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
<b>Canadian Yew</b>	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>	<b>Red-Osier Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>
<b>Chinkapin Dwarf Oak</b>	<i>Quercus prinoides</i>	<b>River Birch</b>	<i>Betula nigra</i>
<b>Chinkapin Oak</b>	<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	<b>Rock Elm</b>	<i>Ulmus thomasii</i>
<b>Chokecherry</b>	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	<b>Rough-Leaf Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus drummondii</i>
<b>Cockspur Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	<b>Roundleaf Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus rugose</i>
<b>Common Juniper</b>	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	<b>Roundleaf Serviceberry</b>	<i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i>
<b>Common Pawpaw</b>	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	<b>Saskatoon Serviceberry</b>	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>
<b>Common Persimmon</b>	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	<b>Shagbark Hickory</b>	<i>Carya ovata</i>
<b>Dotted Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus punctata</i>	<b>Shellbark Hickory</b>	<i>Carya laciniosa</i>
<b>Downy Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus mollis</i>	<b>Shingle Oak</b>	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
<b>Downy Serviceberry</b>	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	<b>Showy Mountainash</b>	<i>Sorbus decora</i>
<b>Eastern Red Cedar</b>	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	<b>Silky Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus obliqua</i>
<b>Eastern Redbud</b>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	<b>Slippery Elm</b>	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>
<b>Eastern Wahoo</b>	<i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i>	<b>Speckled Alder</b>	<i>Alnus incana</i>
<b>Gray Dogwood</b>	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	<b>Sugar Maple</b>	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
<b>Hackberry</b>	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	<b>Swamp White Oak</b>	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>
<b>Honeylocust</b>	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	<b>Sycamore</b>	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
<b>Hoptree / Water Ash</b>	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	<b>White Oak</b>	<i>Quercus alba</i>
<b>Hortulan Plum</b>	<i>Prunus hortulana</i>	<b>White Pine</b>	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
<b>Inland Serviceberry</b>	<i>Amelanchier interior</i>	<b>Wild Plum</b>	<i>Prunus Americana</i>
<b>Ironwood / Hophornbeam</b>	<i>Ostria virginiana</i>	<b>Witchhazel</b>	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
<b>Kentucky Coffeetree</b>	<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	<b>Yellow Birch</b>	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>

**Note: Some of these varieties may not be commercially available or be in limited supply.**

## QUALIFYING TREES WITHIN CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	CULTIVAR/SELECTIONS	MINIMUM PARKING WIDTH (FT)	MINIMUM SPACING (FT)	MATURE HEIGHT (FT)	MATURE SPREAD (FT)
<b>SHADE TREES</b>						
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis	<a href="#">Chicagoland</a> <a href="#">Prairie Pride</a> <a href="#">Windy City</a>	8	40	75	50
Ginko	Ginkgo biloba	<a href="#">Autumn Gold</a> <a href="#">Presidential Gold</a> <a href="#">Golden Colonnade</a> <a href="#">Princeton Sentry</a> <a href="#">Halka Magyar</a>	8	50	60	35
Thornless Honeylocust	Gleditsia triacanthos	<a href="#">Northern Acclaim</a> <a href="#">Skyline</a> <a href="#">Shademaster</a>	8	35	45	30
Kentucky Coffeetree	Gymnocladus dioicus	<a href="#">Kentucky Coffeetree</a>	8	50	60	40
Sweetgum	Liquidambar styraciflua	<a href="#">Sweetgum</a>	8	50	60	40
Blackgum	Nyssa slyvatica	<a href="#">Blackgum</a>	8	40	50	30
Tuliptree	Liriodendron tulipifera	<a href="#">Tuliptree</a>	8	40	75	35
London Planetree	Platanus x acerfolia	<a href="#">Bloodgood</a> <a href="#">Exclamation</a>	8	50	50	40
Swamp White Oak	Quercus bicolor	<a href="#">Swamp White Oak</a>	8	50	75	60
Scarlet Oak	Quercus coccinea	<a href="#">Scarlet Oak</a>	8	50	75	70
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa	<a href="#">Bur Oak</a>	8	40	75	50
Northern Red Oak	Quercus rubra	<a href="#">Northern Red Oak</a>	8	40	75	50
American Linden	Tilia americana	<a href="#">Boulevard</a> <a href="#">American Sentry</a> <a href="#">Front yard</a> <a href="#">Legend</a>	8	35	70	45
Silver Linden	Tilia tomentosa	<a href="#">Silver Linden</a>	8	50	50	40
Littleleaf Linden	Tilia Cordata	<a href="#">Glenleven</a>	8	30	50	35
Sycamore	Platanus occidentalis	<a href="#">Sycamore</a>	8	40	100	50
American Elm	Ulmus americana	<a href="#">New Harmony</a>	8	40	60	50
Elm	Ulmus	<a href="#">Accolade</a> <a href="#">Triumph</a>	8	40	60	50
<b>LOW-GROWING TREES- USE ONLY WHEN VERTICAL HEIGHT OBSTRUCTIONS DO NOT ALLOW TREES AS NOTED ABOVE</b>						
Eastern Redbud	Cercis canadensis		5	25	30	30
Flowering Crabapple	Malus spp.	<a href="#">Adirondack</a> <a href="#">Spring Snow</a> <a href="#">Harvest Gold</a> <a href="#">Pink Spires</a> <a href="#">Red Jewel</a> <a href="#">Centurion</a>	5	20	20	20
American Hophornbeam	Ostrya virginiana		5	25	40	20
Japanese Tree Lilac	Syringa reticulata	<a href="#">Ivory Silk</a> <a href="#">Summer snow</a>	5	25	30	20
<b>TREES NOT ALLOWED</b>						
Ash	Birch	Catalpa	Cottonwood	Birch		
Evergreen/Conifers	Female Ginko	Maple	Mulberry	Poplar		
Russian Olive	Siberian Elm	Willow	Deciduous shrubs	Multiple stem plant forms		

## STREET TREE PLANTING GUIDELINES

<p><i>Spacing Between Trees.</i> No trees shall be planted closer than distance of their full spread from the next tree in the parking. Minimum spacings will be measured from center to center of each street tree.</p>	
<p><i>Placement in Parking Strip.</i> No tree shall be planted nearer than 2½ feet to the curb and sidewalk line and centered in parkings 8 feet and less in width. Planting in parkings of 8 feet in width and over shall be planted 4 feet from the edge of the sidewalk.</p>	
<p><i>Intersections (Corner Lots).</i> No tree shall be planted closer than 30 feet from corner at intersections and must be at least 20 feet back of the property corner.</p>	
<p><i>Driveways.</i> (a) Residential. No trees shall be planted closer than 10 feet from driveway. (b) Commercial. To be judged on case-by-case basis.</p>	
<p><i>Minimum Spacing From Light Standard or Transmission Pole.</i> No tree shall be planted closer to a standard or pole than the width of its spread. The distances will be measured from the center of the street tree to the center of the standard or pole.</p>	
<p><i>Area Requirement Per Tree.</i> At least 9 square feet of ground shall be maintained for each tree and no impervious material shall be placed nearer than 30 inches to the trunk of the tree.</p>	



# SMART WATERSHEDS

FOR CLEAN RIVERS AND STREAMS

## Native Tree Rebate Program

### Program Steps:

1. Identify areas of your property where a tree could be installed within planting guidelines. For more information about trees in the City of Ames go to [www.cityofames.org/living/trees](http://www.cityofames.org/living/trees)
2. Prepare a sketch of the proposed tree planting.
3. **Street trees planted within the Street right-of-way also need a Street Tree Planting Permit** approved by the Ames Parks and Recreation Department prior to installation. Follow the requirements found at <https://www.cityofames.org/living/trees/street-tree-planting-permit>
4. Purchase tree(s) and mulch. **Tree must be from approved TREE LIST (see pages 2-3 of this application).**
5. Contact Iowa One Call 1-800-292-8989 to have your yard flagged for utilities prior to tilling or digging in your yard.
6. Plant the tree according to approved horticultural methods. See [www.arborday.org/trees/planting/containerized.cfm](http://www.arborday.org/trees/planting/containerized.cfm)
7. Complete the City of Ames Native Tree Application.
8. Submit the completed application form to the Public Works Department and include:
  - Sketch showing the location of the tree relative to the house, driveway, sidewalk and street
  - Receipts for materials.
  - Photo of planted tree.
9. Your application and supporting materials will be received by the Public Works Department, and if your application meet the requirements for approval, a check will be mailed to you.

### Native Plant Nurseries:

#### Country Landscapes

[Countrylandscapes.com](http://Countrylandscapes.com)

56985 Lincoln Highway

Ames, IA 50010

(515) 232-6864

#### Iowa Native Trees and Shrubs

[lowanativetreesandshrubs.com](http://lowanativetreesandshrubs.com)

Zach Burhenn

[ints@minburncomm.net](mailto:ints@minburncomm.net)

Woodward, IA

(515) 664-9633

#### Menards

[Menards.com](http://Menards.com)

700 SE 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Ames, IA 50010

(515) 232-1986

#### Earl May Garden Center

[Earlmay.com](http://Earlmay.com)

[Store33@earlmay.com](mailto:Store33@earlmay.com)

1601 S. Kellogg Avenue

Ames, IA 50010

(515) 232-2929

#### Lowe's

[Lowe.com](http://Lowe.com)

120 Airport Road

Ames, IA 50010

(515) 2332-0404

**This list is not all inclusive. Check with other local stores and on-line suppliers for Iowa native trees availability.**



# NATIVE TREE REBATE APPLICATION FORM



**Tree(s) Must Planted BEFORE this form is submitted**

*All information must be completed to avoid claim denial or processing delays.*

CUSTOMER INFORMATION			
Applicant		Mailing Address (if different than installation address)	
Installation Address		City	State      Zip
City	State	Zip	Name on Utilities Account
Ames Utilities Account Number	Contact Person (if different)	Contact Person Phone No.	Rebate Recipient Phone No.
Building Type <input type="checkbox"/> Single-Family <input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured Home <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Family <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial			Email Address
How did you find out about the Smart Watershed Rebate Program? <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Insert <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Ames Utilities <input type="checkbox"/> Internet <input type="checkbox"/> Word-of-Mouth <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Vendor <input type="checkbox"/> Other			

MATERIAL INFORMATION		
<b>Tree #1:</b> Type _____ Height _____ (min 4 ft.) Caliper _____" (min 1") Purchase Location _____ Purchase Date _____	<b>Tree #2:</b> Type _____ Height _____ (min 4') Caliper _____" (min 1") Purchase Location _____ Purchase Date _____	<b>Mulch Type</b> _____ Purchase Location _____ Purchase Date _____

COST AND REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION	
<b>Cost (material only, do not include labor):</b> Tree # 1 \$ _____ Mulch \$ _____ Tree # 2 \$ _____ Mulch \$ _____	<b>Reimbursement:</b> Tree # 1 with Mulch \$ _____ (maximum \$ 100.00) Tree # 2 with Mulch \$ _____ (maximum \$ 100.00)
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED (MAXIMUM \$100.00/tree or \$ 200.00 total) \$ _____</b>	

REQUIRED RECEIPTS ATTACHED?	
Tree(s) Receipt Attached? _____	Mulch Receipt Attached? _____

CUSTOMER AGREEMENT	
I certify that I am a customer of the City of Ames utilities, and that the Native Tree(s) was (were) planted after March 1, 2020 at the address specified above. I <b>acknowledge that I planted native Iowa tree(s) using approved methods and that these measures will help improve the infiltration capacity of my property resulting in less runoff of stormwater generated from my lawn.</b> I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions on the back of this form. All statements made in this application are correct. I understand that City of Ames reserves the right to inspect and verify this native tree improvement before issuing a rebate.	
Customer Signature	Date
Include copy of sales receipt, sketch plan and mail to City of Ames Native Tree Program, 515 Clark Ave., Ames, IA 50010.	

**IMPORTANT:** Please read "Terms and Conditions" on the reverse side before completing this form.

For City of Ames Use Only	
Amount \$ _____	Date Verified _____ Verified By _____ Approved _____
Account No. Public Works _____	

# NATIVE TREE REBATE APPLICATION FORM

(continued)

## Compliance Checklist/Terms and Conditions

<u>Owner</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
_____	_____	<b>Tree(s) must be an approve IOWA NATIVE species from the list part of this application.</b>
_____	_____	Participant must be a City of Ames utilities customer. Homeowners and businesses are eligible upon application by property owner. Trees installed as required by the City Site Plan and Subdivision Ordinances through the planning process are not eligible for reimbursement. Landscape contractors are not eligible (homeowner must apply).
_____	_____	Tree(s) must be planted on property within the corporate limits of Ames.
_____	_____	Properties (household or business address) are eligible for up to 2 trees/year.
_____	_____	Trees must be a minimum of four feet (4') high at time of purchase and shall be a minimum of one inch (1") caliper [as measured one (1) foot above ground level] at the time of planting.
_____	_____	Provide a photograph showing the installation of the tree with this application.
_____	_____	Provide an itemized and dated receipt with this rebate application.
_____	_____	Rebate application submitted to the City within 30 days of planting.
_____	_____	<b>Mulch:</b> The applicant must mulch around the base of the tree a diameter of three (3') feet and two (2") inches deep, with a shredded wood or wood chip type mulching material. The cost of this mulching material may be included in the cost of the tree provided that the cost does not exceed the maximum rebate amount.
_____	_____	Street trees planted within the Street right-of-way also need a Street Tree Planting Permit approved by the Ames Parks and Recreation Department prior to installation. Follow the requirements found at <a href="https://www.cityofames.org/living/trees/street-tree-planting-permit">https://www.cityofames.org/living/trees/street-tree-planting-permit</a> .

- The Maximum rebate allowed is \$100/tree or \$200 total, including mulch.
- Rebate is for materials only. City will not reimburse labor costs.
- Applicant is solely responsible for the purchase of materials and tree planting.
- Homeowners should check with neighborhood associations to clarify covenants addressing vegetation.
- It is recommended that you inform your neighbors of your landscaping plans.
- It is recommended that downspouts be directed to the areas to reduce rainfall runoff and improve infiltration of stormwater.
- Rebate checks will be issued to utility account-holder in existing buildings.
- Rebates may be subject to income tax. Consult your tax advisor for more information.
- Rebates are subject to the availability of funds.
- This program is subject to change or cancellation without notice.

**Disclaimer.** City of Ames makes no warranties, expressed or implied, with respect to any of the plants and other materials applications purchased or installed, including, but not limited to, any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. In no event shall City of Ames be held liable for any incidental or consequential damages or injuries resulting from defective materials or installation. City of Ames reserves the right to cancel or change programs at any time. City of Ames acceptance of an application does not guarantee payment of rebate or acceptance of financing.

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### **Smart Watersheds**

City of Ames Public Works Department  
Liz Calhoun (515)239-5575; [Liz.Calhoun@cityofames.org](mailto:Liz.Calhoun@cityofames.org)  
Jake Moore (515)239-5287; [Jacob.Moore@cityofames.org](mailto:Jacob.Moore@cityofames.org)  
515 Clark Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010