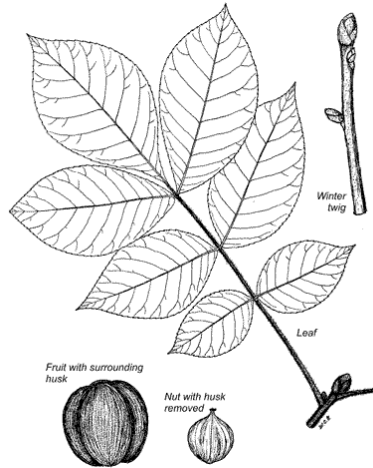


CITY OF Iowa Falls

The Scenic City

2024 Tree Board Spring Information Sheet



Arbor Day - Earth Day - Tree Give Away! April 20!

The Iowa Falls Trees Forever Tree Keepers will be offering small trees that will be **FREE** but they will require planting, watering, protection, and other maintenance; Tree Keepers will provide lots of information to help with this. They will also help with protection and mulch.

Saturday April 20 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM or until they are all gone
at the City of Iowa Falls Garage (across from the fire station)

For more information including trees available and planting information see:
cityofiowafalls.com/tree-adoption

Scenic Shade for the Scenic City: Street Tree Planting

Tree Keepers is also planting street trees (trees between the sidewalk and the curb) for homeowners on a continuing basis. To find out more and to let us know that you're interested in a street tree see forms at: cityofiowafalls.com/tree-adoption

WANT TO PLANT A TREE?

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

Yes, **if** you are planting the tree on public land -- this includes the right-of-way between the sidewalk and the street; this area between the sidewalk and the street is also called the “parking”. Trees planted in the parking are referred to as “street trees”. Trees planted inside the sidewalks don’t need permits.

HOW DO I GET A PERMIT?

Pick up an application at City Hall or get it from the city’s website: *cityofiowafalls.com*. Once returned to City Hall, the application will be considered by the Tree Board. If approved, you’re ready to plant your tree or trees!

WHEN’S THE BEST TIME TO PLANT?

A great time to plant is spring time. Iowa Falls Trees Forever Tree Keepers will be making trees available for free adoption on April 20. So **now** is a good time!

WHAT AND WHO ARE THE TREE BOARD?

The City of Iowa Falls established the Tree Board in June of 1991 to provide assistance to the community in areas of planning, planting, and care of trees. Five Iowa Falls citizens are appointed to the board for 3-year terms. Currently the Tree Board is:

Mick Parker, chair	Teresa Birdwell
Sandy Foland	Jim Herzog
Thomas Johnson	

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TREES AND TREE PLANTING?

1. See *How to Plant a Tree* on the next page.
2. Go to the North Park tree display and its informational kiosk; ask at City Hall; talk to a Tree Board member.
3. Look at some of these resources:

Trees Forever

for instance: treesforever.org/document/how-to-plant-a-tree-step-by-step/

Iowa DNR & ISU Extension

for instance: www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/forestry/planting_careguide.pdf

City of Iowa Falls

for instance: cityofiowafalls.com/tree-board, or cityofiowafalls.com/tree-adoption

Iowa DNR State Forest Nursery

for instance: nursery.iowadnr.gov

WHY PLANT A TREE?

The City of Iowa Falls and its residents are in the process of removing ash trees that are dying from the emerald ash borer. There are/were more than 1,000 ash trees in Iowa Falls alone, dead, dying, or removed. **So trees need to be planted!** Please consider planting a tree.

The City of Iowa Falls is treating some ash trees in the parks to maintain them for future generations to see.

HOW TO PLANT A TREE

1. MAKE A PLAN:

Select the desired species of tree for planting. Select the location. Keep the following in mind during your selection:

Diversify.

To reduce loss from pests and disease **plant a different tree** than what's predominantly in the area.

Location! Location! Location!

Look up↑ Don't plant near a power line unless it's a small tree.

Look up↑ how big the tree gets. Don't plant it too close to your house.

Strongly consider a native tree species – they've evolved to grow here.

Consider the conditions of the soil and moisture of your planting location. Pick a tree to fit those conditions.

Call 811.

Always call or click before you dig.

2. PLANT AND MAINTAIN YOUR TREE:

Plant your tree. But you're **not** done then. Make sure you do the following for a good, healthy tree:

Look Up↑

Make sure you know how to plant your type of tree properly.

Alliant Energy, Trees Forever, and others have good guides online to help you.

Mulch It!

Mulch helps retain moisture in the ground for your tree.

Mulch will protect your tree from accidental damage from the lawn mower.

Mulch cuts down on competition from other plants when the young tree is growing.

Look Up↑ online more specifics about mulching your tree.

Protect It!

Deer and rabbits love young trees. Add a wire fence and a protective sleeve.

Protections will need to be removed when they start to restrict the outward growth of the tree.

Tags on the tree can also restrict growth, remove them too.

Water It!

New trees, for at least 2 years, require about an inch of rain a week, or 10 gallons of water.

A 5 gallon bucket and a rain gauge make this a lot easier.

Look Up↑ online more specifics about watering your tree.

Prune It!

For many reasons, trees often need pruning after a couple years of growth.

Pruning can extend the life of your tree if done properly.

Look Up↑ online more specifics about pruning your tree.

WHY PLANT A TREE? MATURE TREES INCREASE PROPERTY VALUES AN ESTIMATED 10% BY IMPROVING CURB APPEAL!

DID YOU KNOW?

- EAB is the 3rd major tree near extinction wave that has spread across the U.S. since 1900. Perhaps 3 billion American Chestnuts died during the early 1900's from chestnut blight. Tens of millions of elms have died from Dutch elm disease (DED) since the 1930's.

- Emerald ash borer (EAB) will soon have killed an estimated 500 million ash statewide. The City of Iowa falls has cut down more than 220 ash trees.

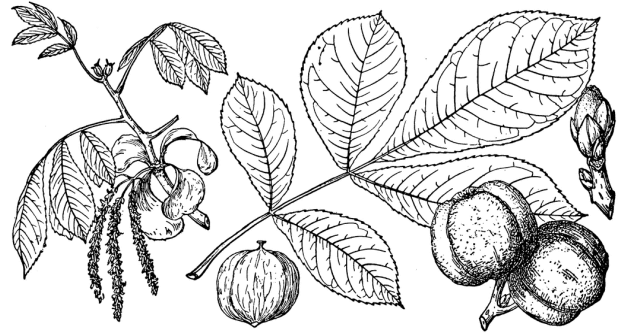
- EAB is a small green beetle native to Asia. Dutch elm disease, while spread by beetles, is caused by a fungus that is thought to have originated in Asia. Chestnut blight is also a fungus that originated in Asia but it spreads by wind-borne spores. In their native ecosystems, none of these afflictions cause major harm.

- Trees with native species on several continents are particularly susceptible to catastrophic diseases or pests. Maples trees are native to 4 continents. As of 2019, 32% of the city trees in Iowa Falls are maples, 736 trees. Kentucky coffeetrees, on the other hand, are native only to North America. Iowa Falls has less than 10 coffeetrees.

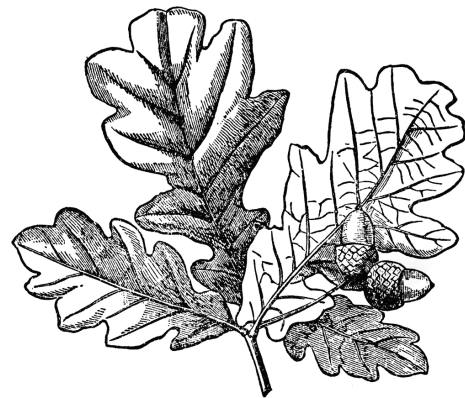
- Tree benefits include: Trees improve water quality and decrease runoff. Trees sequester CO₂. Trees provide habitat and food for birds, butterflies, beetles, and bees! Tree shade reduces cooling cost. Tree shade and evapotranspiration reduce the heat island effect, keeping Iowa Falls cooler.

Let's plant more trees, but let's diversify!

NAME THAT TREE



Identifiable by their nuts, an example of these trees is shown above and another is shown on the cover. These two species are native over a wide range in Iowa. The species above is also identifiable by its bark which forms vertical strips that curve away from the trunk at one end and some bats will live under it. Answer below.



Identifiable by their nuts, which have a special name, and distinctive leaves, an example is shown above. These trees are referred to as “keystone species” because of their enormous energy contributions to an ecosystem. They are part of the 5% of trees in North America that provide 75% of the food for wildlife. Answer below.