

Stewardship is an ethic that embodies cooperative planning and management of environmental resources

The City of Oakdale is implementing an Ash Phloem Reduction/Structural Removal Program that will allow the City to mitigate the disruption to its urban forest caused by the inevitable infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Taking a proactive approach to Emerald Ash Borer will enable the City to address public and private needs in an efficient and effective manner.

Implementing this program will allow the City to distribute costs associated with certain and massive tree death, based on the history of EAB elsewhere in North America, over a manageable time period, and it will lessen the social and economic impact that an extensive loss would have on the quality of life in our community.

Implementing this program will prevent catastrophic losses of canopy cover in the future by diversifying the species composition of Oakdale's urban forest.

Implementing this program will enable the City of Oakdale to maintain its urban forest population and the many benefits that trees provide.

The City of Oakdale is encouraging residents to take part in establishing the boulevard trees that will replace the precious canopy cover that is lost in one way or another to Emerald Ash Borer. Read on to see how easy it is to be a steward of the environment without even leaving your front yard!



"Helping to maintain an urban forest that is a healthy, dynamic, diverse, and cohesive ecosystem through community stewardship."



TREE CITY USA



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

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Forest Protection Reserve – Planning and
Preparedness Grants Program

Boulevard Tree Stewardship

The City of Oakdale would like to encourage residents to take an active role in the establishment of their newly planted boulevard tree. Each tree is equipped with a 20 gallon Tree Gator watering bag, a staking system, and a 6' mulch ring. The Tree Gator makes watering a cinch, the staking system aids in support and protection, and the mulch moderates soil temperature and helps retain soil moisture. To take a stewardship role in the establishment of your boulevard tree all you need to do is follow the watering instructions! Adopting the watering schedule of a boulevard tree allows you to take control of the most critical factor in the growth and establishment of your boulevard tree. If you are interested please contact your City Forester at (651) 501-5302.



Tree Gator watering bag

Moisture

The most critical factor in the establishment of recently planted trees is moisture. If you add too much water you can drown the tree and if you add too little you can cause leaf scorching, embolisms, wilting, die back, or death. In order to make watering as straight forward as possible we installed bare root stock with Tree Gator watering bags. Bare root stock is planted into the existing boulevard soil so there are no surrounding soil / root ball soil moisture loss issues. Filling the Tree Gator with water a few times a week during the growing season is all that is required. See the table below for instructions. Contact your City Forester with any questions.

Filling Frequency Per Week	Precipitation	Average Temperature Fahrenheit
0	Greater than 1 inch/week	Less than 90 degrees
1	Between 1/2 inch and 1 inch/ week	Less than 90 degrees
2	Less than 1/2 inch/week	Less than 90 degrees
3	No precipitation	*Greater than 90 degrees* *Supersedes other factors*

Establishment

After two growing seasons your boulevard tree should be fully established and will only require supplemental irrigation when rainfall totals are less than one inch per week. The tree staking system will be removed towards the end of the second growing season.

Miscellaneous

- Tree Gators need to be removed and stored inside for winter.
- Whenever possible remove the Tree Gator between watering.
- Pull any weeds that grow in the mulch.
- Keep mulch from coming in contact with the trunk of the tree. (Mulch has the tendency to settle in around the root flare.)
- ***Do not apply fertilizers!***
- Notify the City Forester if any staking issues arise.
- Notify City Forester of any damage to your boulevard tree.
- Enjoy watching your tree grow.