

City of Driggs
**Tree Planting Guide
& List of
Recommended
Species**



TREE CITY USA®

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Prepared by the Driggs Tree Committee
Illustrations by Alan McKnight

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The following information has been prepared by the City of Driggs Tree Committee to help you successfully plant and grow trees. We are glad you share our desire to improve and beautify Driggs by planting trees.

The following List of Recommended Species is divided into three sections: Evergreen Trees, Deciduous Trees, and Large Shrubs. The two tree sections are further divided into: Native/Local Species and Non-Native Species.

The distinction between native and non-native species is important. Local tree species have evolved over thousands of years and are ideally suited to the long winters and high altitude of Teton Valley. In contrast, non-native species have been introduced to the valley and are less well adapted. Although all the non-native species recommended have proven to be extremely hardy, they nonetheless are inherently less hardy than the native/local species and may suffer from winter damage, or even winter kill, if a particularly severe winter were to occur.

However, some of the recommended native species may also have difficulty growing in Driggs, because of their need for highly acidic soils. In the Species Descriptions, we have noted which species need acidic conditions.

Please note that this List of Recommended Species is not an exhaustive listing of trees and large shrubs that will grow in Driggs. Indeed, if you drive around town, you will notice examples of several species not included here. The aim of this list is to recommend a variety of hardy, well-adapted trees and large shrubs that are virtually certain to survive and thrive in our rigorous Zone 3 climate.

The Recommended Species list provides information about the height and spread of each species at maturity, as well as “other” information concerning wildlife value, ornamental value as a flowering species, and the best species to plant along public rights-of-way.

The height and spread information included herein represents an average size for the species. The actual size of a mature tree in your yard may vary significantly from this average, depending upon the micro-climate influencing its

growth. In fact, when grown in Teton Valley most species will only reach about two-thirds of their “average” size.

On the following pages you will find the List of Recommended Species, along with a drawing and brief description of each species (organized alphabetically by scientific name). The species descriptions are followed by general information about tree selection, planting and maintenance. The last section of this Guide briefly describes the City’s Tree Ordinance, which pertains to trees growing on city-owned property and rights-of-way.

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LIST OF RECOMMENDED SPECIES

Common Name	Botanical Name	Height x Spread	Other*
EVERGREEN TREES			
<i>Native/Local Species</i>			
Rocky Mtn. Juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	30 x 20	
Engelmann Spruce	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	60 x 20	S
Limber Pine	<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	25 x 20	
Lodgepole Pine.....	<i>Pinus contorta 'Latifolia'</i>	80 x 25	
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	80 x 30	
<i>Non-Native Species</i>			
Bristlecone Pine.....	<i>Pinus aristata</i>	15 x 15	
Colorado Blue Spruce ..	<i>Picea pungens 'Glauca'</i>	70 x 30	
Mugo Pine	<i>Pinus rostrata</i>	40 x 30	
Scotch Pine.....	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	50 x 30	

DECIDUOUS TREES

<i>Native/Local Species</i>			
Rocky Mtn. Maple.....	<i>Acer glabrum</i>	25 x 20	
Bigtooth Maple	<i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	25 x 20	
Mountain Alder.....	<i>Alnus tenuifolia</i>	25 x 20	
Water Birch.....	<i>Betula occidentalis</i>	30 x 30	
Black Hawthorne.....	<i>Crateagus douglasii</i>	20 x 15	F, W
Narrowleaf Cottonwood.	<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	60 x 40	
Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	40 x 15	
Common Chokecherry ...	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	25 x 20	W, S

*OTHER

W = Wildlife value. Species with high value for wildlife either because they hold their fruit late into winter or because they develop thickets of branches attractive to nesting birds.

LIST OF RECOMMENDED SPECIES

Common Name	Botanical Name	Height x Spread	Other*
DECIDUOUS TREES			
<i>Non-Native Species</i>			
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	20 x 15	S
Box Elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>	40 x 40	
European Birch.....	<i>Betula pendula</i>	40 x 20	
Cutleaf Weeping Birch ..	<i>Betula pendula 'Dalecarlica'</i>	40 x 30	S
Flowering Crabapple ...	<i>Malus species</i>	20 x 20	F
Black Cottonwood.....	<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	100 x 60	
Canada Red Cherry	<i>Prunus virginiana 'Schubert'</i>	25 x 20	F, S
Golden Weeping Willow.	<i>Salix alba</i>	50 x 50	
European Mtn. Ash.....	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	35 x 15	W, S
Brandon Elm.....	<i>Ulmus americana 'Brandon'</i>	50 x 30	S
Siberian Elm.....	<i>Ulmus pumilia</i>	70 x 40	

LARGE SHRUBS

<i>Native/Local Species</i>			
Western Serviceberry ..	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	15 x 15	F, W
Mountain Mahogany ...	<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	20 x 20	
Nanking Cherry.....	<i>Prunus tomentosa</i>	10 x 10	F, W
Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus scopulina</i>	15 x 10	F, W

*OTHER

F = Flowering. These flowering species are very attractive during their periods of bloom

S = Street Trees. These species are recommended for planting along public rights-of-way.

Acer ginnala

AMUR MAPLE (20' x 15') *A good street tree.*

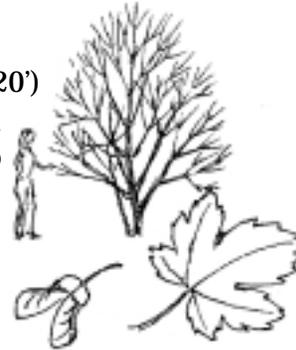
This species is one of the most cold-hardy maples, and certainly one of the most adaptable. Grown as a multi-stemmed large shrub or small tree, it serves many landscape purposes. In its finest form, the tree is "limbed up," exposing the smooth gray bark and creating an artistic, sculptural element. The leaves change from a rich, dark green to brilliant red in fall. Fragrant, creamy white flowers appear with the new foliage in April and May, and the wings of the fruit often turn handsome red in August and September. It is one of the first woody plants to leaf out in the spring. Very tolerant of dry and alkaline soils. Fine plant for raised planters, narrow tree lawns, and difficult sites. Low branched globe form.



Acer glabrum

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAPLE (25' x 20')

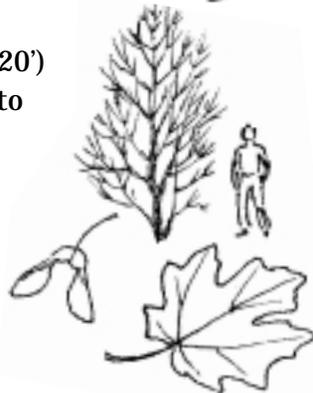
Deciduous shrub or small tree. Dark red twigs. Fruit tinged red. Beautiful orange to yellow fall color. Multi-trunked clumps may be only 6 ft tall or up to 30 ft. under ideal conditions. Favors moist-wet sites and does well on north exposures.



Acer grandidentatum

BIGTOOTH MAPLE (25' x 20')

A small shrub or tree native to higher elevations of central and southern Rocky Mountains. Likes moist soil sites. Usually found with Ponderosa Pine. Flowering is in April or May. Fruits do not mature until late August or September.



Acer negundo

Box Elder (40' x 40')

Fast growing with weak wood and abundant fruit. Grows in a variety of soil types. Seeds readily, suckers badly and is subject to breakage. Leaves turn yellow in fall. 'Variegatum' (Variegated Box Elder) is smaller than the species and highly regarded in the Northwest. Combination of green and creamy white leaves stands out in any situation. Large, pendant clusters of white fruit are spectacular. Round oval form.



Alnus tenuifolia

MOUNTAIN ALDER (25' x 20')

Alders are fast-growing, moisture-loving, short-lived shrubs or trees. Interesting display of tassel-like, greenish yellow male flower catkins before leaves. Female flowers develop into small woody cones that decorate bare branches in winter. Roots can be invasive. Autumn foliage yellow-green. Young leaves of 'Aurea' are yellowish; winter stems reddish yellow. 'Laciniata' is a cut-leaf cultivar.



Amelanchier alnifolia

Western Serviceberry (15' x 15')

Drooping clusters of flowers in early spring are showy but short-lived. Purplish new foliage turns deep green, then yellow and red in fall. Small fruits are popular with birds. Roots not aggressive, shade not dense. Give sun, ordinary good soil, moderate water.



Betula
BIRCH

Birch trees have a graceful habit and small-scale, finely toothed leaves. All birches need ample water at all times and a regular feeding program. All are susceptible to aphids that drip honeydew so are not trees for a patio or to park a car under. Poor tolerance for drought. Small, conelike fruit hangs on branches through the winter.

Betula occidentalis
Water Birch (30' x 30')

Bark smooth, shiny, cinnamon brown. Deep green leaves turn pale clear yellow in fall. A native streamside tree, it likes moisture but needs good drainage as well. This species is more resistant to wood borers than other species.



Betula pendula
European WHITE Birch (40' x 20')

Probably the most frequently planted deciduous tree in West. Delicate and lacy. Upright branching with weeping side branches. Average mature tree 30-40 ft. high, spreading to half its height. Bark on twigs and young branches is golden brown. Bark on trunk and main limbs becomes white, marked with black clefts. Rich green, glossy leaves.



Betula pendula 'Dalecarlica' ('Laciniata')
Cutleaf Weeping Birch (40' x 30') A good street tree.

Leaves deeply cut. Branches strongly weeping; graceful open tree with an elegant appearance. Does best in moist, well-drained soil but will tolerate wet or dry soils. pH tolerant. Prune in summer or fall. Flowers and fruit are insignificant. Catkins will drop in the fall. Bark is brownish when young changing to white. Leaves are glossy dark green in summer then turn yellow in fall.



Cercocarpus ledifolius
MOUNTAIN MAHOGANY (20' x 20')

Semi-evergreen tall shrub or small tree. Very drought tolerant. Distinguished in fall by long-lasting small fruit topped by a long, twisted, feathery, tail-like plume that sparkles in sunlight. Excellent hedge or small tree of character. Leaves leathery, resinous, dark green above, white beneath, with in-rolled edges. Plant in full sun and well-drained soil. Autumn foliage green.



Crateagus douglasii
Black Hawthorne (20' x 15')

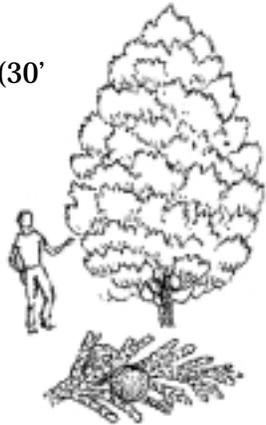
Hawthornes are members of the rose family known for their pretty spring flowers and showy fruit in summer and fall. They have thorny branches. Slow growing. Drought tolerant in maturity. Oval/rounded form. Birds enjoy the black, crabapple-size fruit.



Juniperus scopulorum

ROCKY MOUNTAIN JUNIPER (30' x 20')

A reliable tough evergreen with bluish-green leaves that are scale-like and held close to the twigs. This drought and heat tolerant species is valued mainly for its use as a screen or high hedge. Forms a very dense, symmetrical crown. It has a short trunk that divides close to the ground into several upright main limbs. Drought tolerant in maturity. Pyramidal form.



Malus species

FLOWERING CRABAPPLE (20' x 20')

Flowering crabapples are the most useful and least troublesome of flowering trees. Over 800 cultivars are known, featuring handsome pink, white, or red flowers and fruit which is edible, showy, or sometimes both. Select your preferred variety based on flower color, fruit color and persistence (fruit clinging or falling in winter). Locally recommended varieties include 'Hopa,' 'Kerr Roseybloom,' and 'Royalty.'



Picea pungens 'Glauca'

Colorado BLUE Spruce (70' x 30')

Large evergreen with very stiff, regular, horizontal branches forming a broad pyramid. Color varies from dark green through all shades of blue green to steely blue. 'Glauca' is the silvery blue variety.

Picea engelmannii

ENGELMANN SPRUCE (60' x 20')

A good street tree where there's room for a large tree.

Most common native spruce in Idaho. It grows as tall as the Colorado Spruce, but stays narrower, making it a good choice for smaller yards. Pyramidal form. Generally greener than Blue Spruce. Prefers deep, loamy soils with high moisture content.



Pinus aristata

BRISTLECONE PINE (15' x 15')

A wonderful novelty plant for that special garden niche; however, growth is extremely slow. Generally, this species is dwarf, shrubby and picturesque. Succeeds in infertile, dry or rocky soils in a range of pH levels. One of the oldest trees on earth; specimens range from 4,000 to 5,000 years old. Irregular form.



Pinus contorta latifolia

Lodgepole Pine (80' x 25')

Tall, narrow evergreen. Very hardy and widely adaptable. Performs best on moist, well-drained, sandy or gravelly loam soils. Needs acidic soil.



Pinus flexilis

Limber Pine (25' x 20')

A good street tree.

Thick trunk, open round top, many limber branches that may droop at decided angle to trunk. Hardy, drought tolerant.



Pinus rostrata

MUGO Pine (40' x 30')

Fast growing pine with a tight, symmetrical shape. Tolerates alkaline soils, may grow up to 2' per year.



Pinus sylvestris

Scotch Pine (50' x 30')

Very hardy with bluish-green needles. However, needles often turn red-brown or yellow in cold winters, but recover in the spring. Reddish bark. Adapts well to a variety of soil conditions. Picturesque pyramidal-irregular form.



Populus angustifolia

Narrowleaf Cottonwood (60' x 40')

Fast-growing, tough deciduous tree. Best with regular deep watering. Roots are invasive. Do not plant near water lines, sewer lines, septic tanks or leachfields. Willow-like leaves on slender branches have golden yellow fall color. Pyramidal form.



Populus tremuloides

Quaking Aspen (40' x 15')

Fast growing tree with smooth, whitish bark. Dainty, light green, round leaves that flutter and "quake" in the slightest air movement. Brilliant golden yellow fall color. Needs moist soil. Apt to suffer from borers. Invasive roots.



Populus trichocarpa

Black Cottonwood (100' x 60')

Native along mountain streams and wet lowlands. Fast-growing, tall, spreading tree. Heavy limbed with dark gray, furrowed bark; wood very brittle. Leaves deep green above and distinctly silver beneath; attractive when ruffled by breeze. Male trees shed quantities of catkins; female trees release myriad cottony seeds if male trees are present.



Prunus tomentosa

NANKING CHERRY (10' x 10')

Nanking Cherry is sold for its edible scarlet fruit, but in the northern states it is one of the first shrubs to flower and is worth using for that reason alone. Broad-spreading and densely twiggy, becoming more open and picturesque with age. It is not a bad idea to prune the lower limbs to expose the exfoliating reddish brown bark. Fragrant white flowers, 3/4 inch in diameter, appear on leafless branches in early to mid-April. The fruit ripens in June and July. Very adaptable to soils. Provide full sun. Useful in mass plantings or in the shrub border. Extremely hardy.

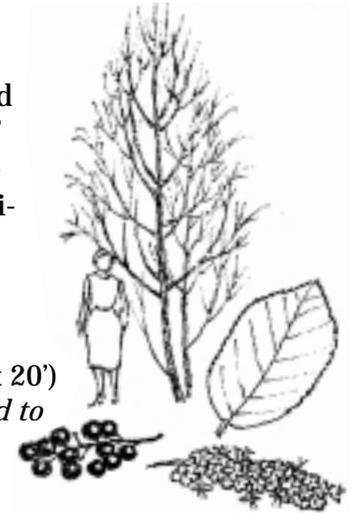


Prunus virginiana

COMMON CHOKECHERRY (25' x 20')

A good street tree if suckers are pruned to preserve tree form.

Suckering large shrub or small tree. Very hardy, fast growing. White flowers are clustered in spikes that hang from branches. The black fruit is used for making jams, jellies, pies, sauces and wines and is eaten by many birds. Tolerates high pH and clay soils. Good display of autumn color. 'Nevada Red' is an attractive red leaf variety of the common chokecherry. Upright/pyramidal shape.



Prunus virginiana 'Schubert'

CANADA RED CHERRY (25' x 20')

A good street tree if suckers are pruned to preserve tree form.

A variety of the common chokecherry with leaves that open green then turn red/purple as they mature.

Pseudotsuga menziesii

DOUGLAS FIR (80' x 30')

Douglas Fir is a tall, airy, spire-like, soft-textured tree. Sharply pyramidal form when young. Ends of branches swing up. Pointed wine-red buds form at branch tips in winter. Reddish brown cones. Prefers moisture-retentive, acidic soils but is quite adaptable. Does well in sun or shade. Great variation in needle color. Opt for the best bluish green forms, which are considered more cold hardy.



Salix alba

Golden Weeping Willow (50' x 50')

Very fast growing, will tolerate any soil, requires plenty of water. Invasive roots. Yellow twigs with bright green leaves that turn bright yellow in the fall. Tree can be messy because twigs break off easily in high winds.

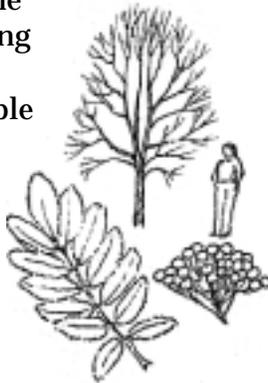


Sorbus aucuparia

EUROPEAN MOUNTAIN ASH (25' x 15')

A good street tree.

This is the most widely available mountain ash species in the United States, and the brilliant display of orange-red fruit justifies any attempt to grow it. The habit is erect and oval in youth, becoming ovate or spherical with age. Foliage changes to yellow, red, and reddish purple in fall. Bark is shiny gray-brown and smooth, becoming slightly roughened on old trunks. Showy, white flower clusters occur in May with red fruit ripening in late August and September. Provide acid or high pH, moist, well-drained soils; keep stress to a minimum.



Sorbus scopulina

MOUNTAIN ASH (15' x 10')

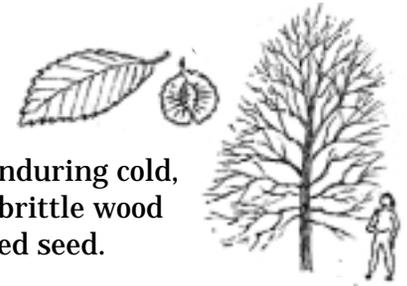
This is the native species found in the mountains surrounding Teton Valley. White flower clusters, orange berries, and yellow and orange fall color make this a great landscape shrub.



Ulmus pumilia

Siberian Elm (70' x 40')

Extremely hardy and tough, enduring cold, heat, drought and poor soil. Has brittle wood and weak crotches. Papery winged seed.



Ulmus americana 'Brandon'

Brandon Elm (50' x 30')

A good street tree.

Fast growing, vigorous tree adaptable to adverse soil conditions. Native to Canada. A good shade tree with a vase shape.



Plan Before You Plant

Trees provide many benefits, including: shade, beauty, wind-break, privacy, cleaner air, less noise and higher property values. However, if the wrong tree is planted in the wrong place, it can become more of a liability than an asset.

The importance of matching the tree and its growth requirements to the planting site cannot be over-emphasized. The best planting procedures known will not save a tree that is poorly suited to the planting site. The tree must be able to tolerate factors such as unfavorable soil conditions, inadequate or excessive water levels and space or shade limitations. *Selecting a tree that meets the site conditions is the single most important factor in guaranteeing its success. Applying sufficient water after planting is the second most important factor.*

Begin your planning by making a sketch of your property showing existing vegetation, utilities, sidewalks and driveways. When planting more than one tree or groups of trees, be conscious of the different space requirements for each species. Be sure to group those needing similar growing conditions to-

gether (i.e. water, light and soil types). In Idaho you must call Digline at 1-800-342-1585 before digging.

If you are planting trees within or adjacent to a public right-of-way, you must select a species that will not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular access.

Upon completion of your site analysis, you can select a particular species of tree to fit your site and needs. Do do this you must carefully consider:

- **Landscaping purpose.** *To provide shade, color, a screen from the wind or to enhance wildlife habitat.*

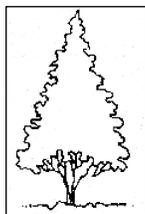
- **Planting site.** *Are overhead or underground utilities present? Make sure you give your tree adequate room to grow. Try to envision it 10-50 years into the future. How close is the tree to structures and other trees near the planting area.*

- **Soils.** *Soils can be highly variable in urban areas. Most soils in Driggs are generally very gravelly. Too much or too little drainage often causes trees to decline and die.*

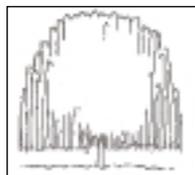
- **Maintenance.** *All trees need regular watering, routine pruning and periodic inspection for pests and disease. Planning now can save time and money later.*

Once the species of tree to be planted has been chosen, it is time to select the actual plant at the nursery. To have success with a tree it is important to start with a healthy plant. Look for a tree that displays vigorous growth at the nursery. It should have well formed leaves, and an even, well-spaced branch structure. Check the plant for any mechanical damage and reject any that have torn bark, broken branches or other obvious damage.

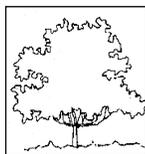
Tree Forms. The tree forms pictured below are examples of tree shapes at maturity. It should give you a good idea of how the tree



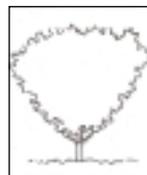
Pyramidal



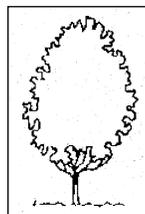
Weeping



Spreading



Vase



Oval

will look and help you plan its inclusion in your landscape. These forms are referred to in the species descriptions in this guide.

Tree Planting Instructions

The three most common types of planting stock found at local nurseries are in containers, bare root, or balled and burlapped (B&B). Planting procedures will vary depending on the type of stock selected. Each has advantages and disadvantages, but a sturdy tree will result by carefully following the procedures outlined below.

1 Dig hole 2-3 times as wide as the root ball and the same depth as the tree was planted in the nursery. Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven. This helps the roots become established in the native soil. Continue with the steps below, depending on the type of stock you are planting.

- **Container Stock.** Gently remove container and inspect the root ball for circling roots. If only a few are found, gently separate and spread them outward. Eliminate masses of circling roots by cutting 2-4 vertical slices on the root ball sides to a depth of one-half inch and cut a shallow “X” on the bottom of the root ball. Cutting circling roots in this way allows growth of new roots into the surrounding native soil. Place the root ball in the planting hole, making sure that the top is level with, or slightly higher than, the surrounding ground.



IMPORTANT NOTE OF CAUTION: *If trees are purchased in giant peat pots, they must be removed from the pots before planting. Our cold winters prevent these large peat pots from breaking down and tree roots cannot grow through the pots, leaving the tree permanently root-bound and short of water. (This not a problem for the smaller peat pots used for flowers and herbs because they are thin enough to decompose when planted.)*

- **Balled & Burlapped.** Carefully set the tree into the planting hole so that the top of the root ball is level with or slightly higher than the sur-

Balled & Burlapped (B&B)



rounding ground. If the tree is in a wire basket, completely remove it, if possible, or remove the upper one-half after the tree is in its final planting position. Take care not to damage the roots or disturb the integrity of the root ball. Adjust the position using pressure on the root ball; don't move it by twisting the trunk. Straighten the tree and stabilize it by adding soil around the bottom portion of the root ball. Cut and remove all twine, and cut the burlap half way down the root ball.

• **Bare Root.** Be sure to keep plants out of the sun and the roots moist at all times! Prune away any damaged or broken roots. Place the tree in the hole upon a mound of soil and at the same depth it grew in the nursery. Spread the roots out evenly over the mound of soil; do not allow the roots to curl up or clump together. Add soil until the tree can stand by itself. Hold it straight while the hole is being filled. Gently push soil under and between roots with your hands to remove large air pockets. If the tree settles in the hole, gently pull it back to the proper depth.

Bare Root



② Stand back and inspect the tree from several sides to make sure it's straight. If not, move the tree in the hole until it stands straight. Backfill with soil around the roots until it is half full. Water sparingly to settle the soil and remove air pockets. Lightly tamp the soil with a shovel handle to compress the soil around the root ball, taking care not to damage the roots. Continue adding soil until the hole is filled. *Do not* cover the top of the root ball with soil.

③ With the remaining soil, build a basin around the edge of the filled hole. Fill the basin with water several times and allow it to soak into the root ball between each filling. Add soil where excessive settling has occurred.

④ Fill the basin with 2-3" of mulch. Do not place mulch directly against the trunk as this may promote trunk rot.

⑤ Unless you live in a windy area, it is not necessary to stake the tree. If you do stake, remove them after one year. Stake if the root ball is fractured or the trunk is not stable.

MAINTAINING HEALTHY TREES

Once a tree is planted there are several things that must be done to help ensure its survival. Most of the threats to the health and life of young trees can be avoided or reduced with a few simple precautions. Please read the following post-planting care tips carefully.

WATERING. Watering the tree deeply and regularly during the first year or two is critical to its establishment. The gravelly soils found in Driggs do not hold water well, which means that plentiful irrigation is needed to assure that young trees have the water they need. Apply about 1.5" twice a week, rather than watering daily; this will promote deep and healthy root growth. Ideally, you will use a drip irrigation system or a hose turned to a very slow drip. If using a sprinkler, place a shallow pie pan under the tree canopy and water the area until 1.5" accumulates in the pan. Depending on your sprinkler system, this may take several hours. Significant rainfall can replace irrigation. Water more often during periods of drought or when temperatures go above 80°. Begin watering your trees in the spring when the soil starts drying out and continue regular watering through July. In order to slow growth before winter, you should taper off your watering during August and then withhold water during September, until after the first killing frost. After that frost, you should resume watering and make certain the soil around the tree remains wet until winter freeze-up.

MULCHING. Mulching is a must! Mulch with wood chips, grass clippings, gravel, straw, compost or soil pep to help retain soil moisture and reduce weeds. Mulch also protects the tree from lawn mowers and weed whackers. Mulch with 2"-3" of material at a diameter slightly larger than the dripline of the tree. Keep mulch a few inches away from the tree trunk to avoid trunk rot. As mulch decomposes, it enriches the soil and provides organic matter and beneficial microorganisms.

FERTILIZING. Fertilizers are natural or synthetically produced elements applied to the soil or foliage of plants to supply nutrients necessary for normal or accelerated growth. With the exception of nitrogen, fertilizing with other nutrients is usually not required unless a known deficiency exists. As long as your trees have normal leaf size and color and appear to be growing well, the nutrients in the soil are probably adequate. However, evergreen trees will often benefit from the addition of iron, especially if their needles have taken on a slightly yellowish color. Over-fertilization can contribute to ground water contamination and pollution of nearby bodies of water.

If nitrogen is to be applied, slow release granulated fertilizers are recommended as they will limit the chances of root “burning,” which can be caused by some of the quick release, high concentrate, nitrogen fertilizers. Natural organic forms of nitrogen are your best choices for fertilizing.

PRUNING. Pruning is the most common tree maintenance procedure. Pruning to improve structure or enhance vigor is associated with mature or aging trees. When planting young trees, prune to remove the dead, broken or crossing branches. Cut the branches to just outside the branch collar. Avoid flush cuts or stubs. Do not apply wound dressings to the cut area after pruning. It is not necessary and may impede the tree’s natural healing process. Prune only in the early spring or late fall.

PESTS. Some of the more common forms of pests include insects, mites, bacteria, fungi and viruses. There are many organisms in the landscape that are considered pests because of the amount of damage they cause the host plant or because they may be present in such large numbers that they become undesirable. However, some of these organisms *do not* harm plants but are truly beneficial to the host plant and are a valuable component of the ecosystem.

Many pest problems occur as a result of improper watering, poor plant stock, or an inferior planting site. Trees that are poorly adapted to a particular site are usually the ones most affected by pests. Choosing the appropriate tree and planting

it in an environment capable of sustaining good growth will significantly reduce many pest problems.

In selecting the trees recommended in this guide, we have chosen only species which are well-adapted to conditions in Teton Valley. Although certain pests are associated with some of these trees, the proper growing conditions and maintenance will promote a tree’s best protection against pests: *good health*.

WEEDS & HERBICIDES. Keep the area around your tree free of weeds and other competing plants. Use mulch to suppress the weeds or remove them by hand when possible. Avoid the use of herbicides near the tree as certain formulations may seriously injure or kill the tree. If you do decide to use herbicides, avoid getting any on the leaves, branches, trunk or near the root area of any plant you wish to keep. *Beware of fertilizers containing weed killers.* These types of “weed and feed” fertilizers *should not* be used over areas where tree roots are growing, as they can seriously injure or even kill trees. Remember that tree roots extend well beyond the perimeter of the outermost branches.

Hazard Tree Recognition

A hazard tree is defined as any defective tree, or tree part, that could injure people or damage property if it were to fail or fracture. A hazard tree has one or more defects which decrease its structural integrity and gives it an increased potential for failure. Defects that are visible or detectable include cracks, decayed wood, weak branch unions, cankers, poor tree architecture, root problems and dead trees or branches.

A defective tree is not considered hazardous unless there is a nearby target that it could hit. A target could be a person, vehicle, building, picnic table, recreation equipment, etc.

Hazard Tree = Defective Tree + Target.

An inspection is a systematic method of examining and rating trees. The purpose of a hazard tree inspection is to detect

defective trees in target areas, assess the severity of the defects and recommend corrective actions before tree failure occurs. Inspection priorities are based upon human mobility within the target area, the duration of site occupancy, and the level of site maintenance. Remember that safety is paramount in both your yard and the community forest.

Regulations Concerning Public Trees

The City of Driggs has adopted a Tree Ordinance regulating the planting, maintenance and removal of trees and shrubs located on city-owned property. The intent of this ordinance is to encourage tree planting on public land and to protect trees that are planted on city-owned property.

In general, city-owned property includes unpaved areas along street rights-of-way and city park areas. Most of the streets in Driggs have an 82.5' wide right-of-way (excepting the Wallace Way and Creekside subdivisions). If you suspect your yard includes trees planted in the right-of-way, consult the Tree Map found at City Hall to learn which trees are "public trees" subject to protection under this ordinance.

You cannot prune or remove any public trees without first obtaining a permit at city hall. You must also obtain a permit before planting trees within the public right-of-way.