



What Are Your Trees Worth?

The Wall Street journal reported that in Portland, Oregon, homes with at least one mature street tree sold for an average of \$7,300 more than comparable houses. Even neighboring houses within 100 feet of street trees sold for \$1,688 more.

Kirkwood is well known for the trees that line our neighborhood streets and shelter our yards.

In addition to our property value, trees work for us by:

- Replacing carbon dioxide with oxygen
- Cooling our homes and streets
- Reducing home energy costs
- And, of course, adding incomparable beauty to our City.

Tree Planting Tips

Fall is the perfect time to plant trees in our area. There is plenty of time before the summer heat to establish a strong root system. Use the **Kirkwood Street Tree Guide** to select a tree that will thrive in your spot. Find it on the City Website at: www.KirkwoodMO.org/StreetTreeGuide.

Good directions for planting require more space than we have here. See "Planting and Care" at www.arborday.org/trees.

Avoid common planting errors:

- Choose the right location—far enough away from buildings and away from utility wires.
- Don't plant too deep. Place the point where the trunk widens for the roots (the root flare) at soil level, not below.
- Mulch to save soil moisture, but keep the mulch a few inches away from the trunk.
- Leave the lower limbs for the first few years. Your new tree needs the leaf surface area to fuel its early growth.
- Water during summer dry spells.

The Kirkwood Urban Forestry Commission Advocate Award

"In recognition of those whose exceptional efforts have encouraged and sustained effective urban forestry practices."

Congratulations to Monsignor John M. Costello, recipient of the 2015 KUFC Advocate Award for his outstanding care of the trees on the grounds of Saint Peter Church, 243 W. Argonne Drive.

Think Trees:

The best time to plant an oak tree is twenty years ago, but the next best time is today.

Be Considerate of Walkers

Kirkwood requires property owners to keep sidewalks or walkways on easements free of tree limbs and shrubbery. An area seven feet high and four feet wide must be clear. Please remember to keep your trees and shrubs trimmed. [City ordinance 16-2(d)]

Kirkwood's Urban Forestry Commission is a Volunteer Citizen Board

- Promoting a high standard of long-term planning, maintenance, and perpetuation of Kirkwood's publicly owned trees.
- Encouraging responsible management and maintenance of privately owned trees.
- Advising Kirkwood's City Council on suggested amendments to current City ordinances and practices that affect the planting, maintenance, and removal of trees on public and private property.

You can request a street tree, view our Tree Selection Guide, and learn about the many ways trees work for us on our page on the City's Website: www.kirkwoodmo.org/UrbanForestry.