

## Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Bark	Found only on woody plants, bark is an external layer of dead cells protecting living tissue beneath. It is thin and easily damaged on young plants and young plant parts (twigs).
Bark, Corky	With age, trees like oaks, elms and ashes develop thick, "corky" bark. On mature trees it may be more than an inch thick. Maples and fruit trees (crabapples, ornamental cherries) are an examples of trees that are somewhat slow to shift to corky bark and even at maturity it tends to be less thick that the previous examples.
Bark, Thin	Some trees (and most shrubs) never develop thick, corky bark. Examples include American beech, ironwood or blue beech ( <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> ), sycamores and planetrees. As such, they are more vulnerable to trunk damage by mowers, string trimmers, use as sign-posts, etc.
Berm	aka tree lawn
Boulevard (outside of Wyoming)	aka tree lawn
Boulevard (in Wyoming)	handy "cut through" sidewalks the run <i>between</i> properties, encouraging walking access to schools
Canopy	The branched, leafy portion of a tree. The portion that casts the bulk of the tree's shade.
Clear Trunk	When purchasing trees, sometimes a specification is written to address minimum height of the lowest branch. This can be especially important with trees that tend to branch low (like redbuds). Buyers need to know to procure trees from nurseries that train them for street use vs. landscape use.
Clearance	As a street tree grows, limbs that extend over pavement must be pruned for clearance. Typically, this is to 8' on the pedestrian side (or lawn-mowing side if no sidewalk exists) and 14' on the street side. Since flexibility of limbs and weight of foliage/ fruit can bring a limb into the clearance zone, the height to where the lowest limb attaches to the trunk may exceed these numbers.
Clearance, Utility	This is the distance that needs to be (established? maintained) between electrical service lines and any possible grounding object.
Compost	Added as top-dressing or cultivated into soils, compost is a valuable soil amendment. Composts are always organic and derive from sources ranging from aged animal manures to partially decayed plant/ vegetable materials. The leaf compost available from the City each March is high in biological activity and low in lignan, so as a top-dressing, provides little protection from compaction in ROW sites (vs. landscape beds). Degradation/ natural soil incorporation occurs within months, so use should be followed by an application of mulch. An annual application of compost is an excellent way passively improve soil characteristics, whether in the ROW or landscape. See also "mulch".

Devil Strip	aka tree lawn
Drip Line	The imaginary circle on the ground that is "drawn" as a gentle rain begins to drip off outermost leaves, but has not yet begun to drip through the canopy.
Easement, Utility	In some areas, utility line service runs through backyards. There are no publicly-owned trees in these corridors.
Forest, Community	Alternate term for urban forest. Often, usage embraces the broadest concept of the urban forest, indicating engagement <i>all</i> trees owners, not simply municipal tree managers.
Forest, Urban	In the broadest sense, the urban forest is comprised of all publicly and privately owned trees within an urban/ suburban area. Whether found around playgrounds, along streets, in home landscapes, on commercial properties, around schools and churches or in woodlands covering hundreds of acres in a county park, all are elements of the overall urban (community) forest.  Often, the term is used to focus discussion on <i>only</i> those trees owned and managed by a governmental entity -- city, town, village, township, etc.
Forestry, Urban	Urban forestry is the professional management of subsets of urban trees to attain optimal growth and longevity in order to maximize eco-system services, public health benefits, and a variety of social benefits for the community at-large. This generally applies to publicly-owned trees -- those along streets and in city and county parks -- and can involve one or several governmental entities.  While private trees in urban areas are considered part of the community or regional urban forest, and vastly out-number public trees, they only fall under the influence of public management in select circumstances.
Herbicide	A chemical product with plant-killing properties.
Herbicide, Burn-Down	A chemical product that will scorch above-ground portions of herbaceous plants (annuals or perennials). Single applications are not likely to kill established perennials.
Herbicide, Non-Selective	An herbicide that, if applied correctly, will kill most any type of plant.
Herbicide, Selective	An herbicide that has a mode of action that limits the spectrum of plants affected. Some herbicides selectively kill broadleaf plants growing within a stand of grass. Others selectively kill grasses growing among broadleaf plants. Still others kill sedges without killing surrounding grass or broadleaves.
Miles, Curb	The miles of road-edge in the community. It is a distance used by Public Works to describe street-sweeping needs and it can be used to develop a rough idea of linear distance over which trees can be planted.

Miles, Lane	<p>The miles of driving and parking lanes in the community. It is a distance used by Public Works to describe snow-plowing needs.</p> <p>The length of Springfield Pike through town is ~1.65 miles. Curb-miles = 2 x 1.65. Lane-miles = ~4 x 1.65.</p>
Mulch	A material applied over soil to conserve moisture, suppress weeds, prevent compaction and more. Can be organic or inorganic. Coarse, woody mulches are "structural", preventing compaction and slowly degrading to become organic material within the upper inches of soil. See also "compost".
Parkway	aka tree lawn
Planting Strip	aka tree lawn
Pruning, Electrical	See "clearance, utility"
Pruning, Pediatric	This is the training work that's done by the City in the first decade or so after planting that establishes clearance over pavement, defines lowest "permanent" scaffold limbs and sometimes influences aspects of canopy shape.
Pruning, Structural	This is the pruning work done by City crews that helps establish a strong trunk, and stout, well-spaced, well-attached primary limbs as the tree matures.
Rain Shadow	The area within the drip line of a tree that remains dry during brief showers or before a rain lasts long enough for water to begin dripping through the canopy.
Right-of-Way	<p>aka ROW. ROWs provide public passage for vehicles and pedestrians, delineate areas for utility infrastructure, and establish municipal responsibility. From a Public Works and administrative point of view, the ROW measures from the center of the roadway.</p> <p>In urban forestry, the definition generally excludes roadbed, instead encompassing the strip of land from the curb or edge of street to the mapped edge of the abutting property. If a sidewalk is present, it is typically included in the ROW.</p> <p>&gt;&gt; Where there is no sidewalk, the extent of the ROW is generally identifiable by the presence of public utilities like fire hydrants, some storm sewer heads, utility poles and/ or surface boxes (in areas with underground utility service).</p> <p>&gt;&gt; Whether a sidewalk is included or not, the width or depth of this strip varies considerably from street to street.</p>
ROW	Abbreviation for "right-of-way". See right-of-way
ROW, Brushy	These ROWs are found in woody sections of town where there is no sidewalk for definition.
ROW, Groomed	This is the most common type of ROW, characterized by turf that receives mowing/maintenance similar to that in the front yard of the abutting property.

ROW, Landscaped	These ROWs are uncommon (and sometimes unwelcome).
Scaffold Limb	Scaffold limbs are the stout, structurally resilient, lower, primary branches that emerge from the trunk of a tree. Some training "toward" these limbs may occur in the nursery, but most are selected by assessment and pruning during the first decade or so after a tree is planted. Limbs that get removed during this training period are ones with poor angle of attachment and/ or too-close spacing (vertically or radially) compared to a better-candidate limb.
Service Life	<p>In general terms, this is the functional lifespan one can expect from a piece of equipment before having to replace it. In terms of municipal infrastructure this applies to park benches, swing sets, water mains, fire hydrants, street signs, sidewalks, road surfaces, road beds, street trees and so on.</p> <p>The service life of a tree in the ROW is considerably different than the expected life of the same tree in a shaded yard with loamy soil. Some trees can be expected to have a long <i>average</i> service life in the ROW (40-60 years), while others are in a medium range (25-40 years) and others are recognized as short-lived (15-25 years).</p> <p>Based on data from the City of Cincinnati, when the service life of a tree exceeds 17 years, the ecosystem services it has delivered to the community have fully paid for its purchase, planting, pruning, removal, stump-grinding &amp; site prep for the replacement. Since Wyoming doesn't face the same challenges of creating canopy in concrete canyons, an <i>average</i> service life in excess of 17 years would not be an unreasonable expectation.</p>
Soil, Compaction	Compression of soil solids that effectively obliterates natural pore spaces in soil, thereby impairing root proliferation. Ideally, soils by volume, are 50% solids and 50% space. Compacted soils have significantly less space by volume and without much effort, can attain the density of concrete.
Soil, Macropores	An "ideal" soil is about evenly divided into solids and spaces. The larger spaces are called macropores and they allow water to penetrate easily. When soils are not saturated, plants can easily pull water from macropores and ambient air is drawn in, bringing O <sub>2</sub> required for respiration within roots and allowing those same roots to release CO <sub>2</sub> . When macropores are drained and plentiful, CO <sub>2</sub> can easily move out and O <sub>2</sub> can diffuse in to the soil. If macropore numbers or size are suboptimal, this diffusion between ambient air and soil air is impaired limiting root growth. Normal O <sub>2</sub> level in ambient air is 20%. If soil O <sub>2</sub> drops to 5%, root growth stops. If it drops to 2%, root tips begin to die, explaining one reason soil compaction is so bad for plants.

Soil, Micropores	An "ideal" soil is about evenly divided into solids and spaces. Of the 50% of soil volume made up of spaces, about 50% of <i>that</i> (so, 25% of total volume) should be in micropores. Micropores are slower to drain than macropores, so hold water longer, allowing plants to mine these "reserves" between rains. When soil compaction reduces the volume of micropores, plants are more likely to experience moisture stress between rain/irrigation events.
Tree	A woody plant that, by nature or training, is grown with one or a few <i>unbranched</i> trunk(s), so the leafy head (canopy) can be managed to permit some degree of passage beside or below.
Tree Cemetery	aka tree lawn
Tree, Park	Though it will vary with specific location, trees within this subset of public trees can be allowed to grow with multiple trunks and with branches sweeping close to ground.
Tree, Public	One owned and managed by a governmental entity like a village, town, city, township, county, state, parish, commonwealth, etc.
Tree, Street	Typically, this subset of public trees must be able to gain such height that, as canopy expands beyond the tree lawn, necessary urban/ suburban clearance can be attained -- minimum 8' on the pedestrian side and 14' on the street side.
Tree lawn	The unpaved, generally grass-covered portion of the ROW available for planting public shade trees. It may or may not be defined on one edge by a sidewalk and the other by a curb. Known in other parts of the country as the planting strip, parkway, boulevard, berm, verge, devil-strip, tree cemetery, etc.  In Wyoming the tree lawn can vary in width from about 2.00' to more than 10'.
Verge	aka tree lawn