



## Welcome to Wyoming, OH -- Tree City USA since 1994

Whether you've moved here from across the county, across the country or across the world, we're glad you chose our community!

The way "street trees" are funded and managed in municipalities varies widely, *even within this region*. The following will summarize and orient you to how things are handled in Wyoming.

### **The Basics**

At less than three square miles, Wyoming has nearly 130 named streets and approximately 66 "curb miles." The public right-of way (ROW) is that space along roads where you find fire hydrants, utility poles, gas valves and other infrastructure equipment. ROW width varies, even along a single street.

Street trees are those growing in the ROW. If there is a sidewalk, the tree is in the strip of lawn between the sidewalk and curb. If there is no sidewalk, the tree is usually within 10 feet of the curb.

### **The City's Responsibilities**

Street trees are planted, maintained, and owned by the City. Tree work is performed by our Public Works crews, under direction of an on-staff ISA Certified Arborist®. Management is akin to managing range cattle -- overall "herd" health is the objective as economics cannot support the level of care and attention typically afforded to individual landscape trees or purebred livestock.

After planting, the City performs short-cycle pruning to establish scaffold limbs and optimal structural form. Later, long-cycle pruning raises the clearance for pedestrians and traffic, while maintaining form. If a tree begins to decline and becomes a threat to public safety, the City attends to removal, stump grinding, and replanting, usually in the following year.

Clearance around communication lines (phone, cable) is done by the City during normal maintenance pruning cycles. The dangerous work around electrical lines is the responsibility of Duke Energy contract crews. Duke arborists coordinate with the City arborist on pruning cycles.

The City collects leaves raked to the curb in the fall and offers to return them as compost in the spring. When some severe storms damage street trees throughout the community, the City provides prompt cleanup. Random dead limbs or decline of a ROW tree can be reported under "Repairs" here -- <https://www.egovlink.com/wyoming/action.asp>. When sidewalks are being repaired, City specs for the contractor address root management to minimize damage to the tree.

Unlike some communities in other states, our staff arborist is not available to advise you regarding trees on private land. This region has many highly skilled and credentialed arborists who can help you. For basic info on why and how to choose an arborist, see -- [https://www.treesaregood.org/portals/0/docs/treecare/hire\\_arborist.pdf](https://www.treesaregood.org/portals/0/docs/treecare/hire_arborist.pdf)

## **What We Ask of You**

Because we're proud to have held Tree City USA standing since 1994, we ask that you help street trees thrive and reach a maximum service life by watering when droughty, maintaining a wide, shallow mulch zone around the trunk, and protecting the trunk from damage. The longer they live, the bigger they grow and the greater ecosystem services they deliver.

By sharing the responsibility for tree care, we can maintain a vigorous urban forest that cools streets and sidewalks, captures particulate air pollutants, slurps up storm water, and sequesters carbon, ensuring Wyoming remains the beautiful, leafy community it's always been.

## **Tree City USA**

There are four core standards of sound urban forestry management established by the Arbor Day Foundation that communities across the country must meet in order to be designated a Tree City USA. They are:

1. A community must have a tree board or department responsible for the care of all trees on city owned property.
2. A community must have a tree care Ordinance that establishes a tree board or forestry department, or both.
3. A community forestry program must have an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita.
4. A community must have an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.

Interested in more info? Check out this tab at the City's website:

Home Page>Departments>Public Works>Your Trees Our Trees

<https://wyomingohio.gov/departments/public-works-department/your-trees-our-trees/>