



**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

TO: Algonquin Residents and Businesses with New Parkway Trees
FROM: Department of Public Works
RE: Care of New Trees

The Village of Algonquin has recently provided a new tree in the parkway of your home or business. The tree has been provided and installed with care and we now ask that you assist us in the maintenance of this tree so that it will beautify your home and the Village for years to come.

Please take the following steps in tree care until the tree becomes established in about five years:

- * Provide about 25 gallons of water to the entire root zone of the tree at each watering. Watering is desirable once every 7 to 10 days. Allow the water to run slowly, almost trickle, during the watering process. A single application of the desired weekly amount of water is preferred as opposed to numerous applications of smaller amounts. This will allow water to penetrate to the deepest root structures. The “saucer” of dirt around the tree’s main stem is intended to retain the water near the base. If trees are planted in the springtime, or thereafter, watering should commence right away and should continue, once a week, throughout the summer and fall, until the tree has lost most of its leaves. Watering frequency and amounts may vary depending on precipitation received during the week. Please note: Over-watering of a newly planted tree can be as harmful as under-watering.
- * DO NOT FERTILIZE THE NEW TREES. Trees will not require additional nourishment for two years. At that time, tree food stakes (available at any garden center) can be driven into the ground at the drip line of the tree about every two years. Four food stakes, spaced evenly, should be fine. The drip line is the imaginary point at which rainwater would drip from the outermost leaves and branches. Over-fertilization will burn young undeveloped root growth and retard or kill the tree.
- * An organic mulch watering “saucer” has been provided and should not be removed. The purpose of organic mulching is to regulate soil temperatures, retain needed moisture for root regeneration, as well as provide valuable nutrients to the soil. We also request your cooperation with abstaining from planting flowers, ground cover, shrubs or any other plants around the tree. This will prevent injury to the tree's root zone and aid in survival.
- * Newly planted trees require only minor corrective pruning during the first 2 to 3 years of growth. Should you notice broken or dying branches, or experience irregular growth problems, please contact the Public Works Department.

Following these simple steps should result in the development of a healthy and beautiful tree that you can enjoy for years. If you should have any further questions concerning care of your new tree, please feel free to call the Public Works Department for information at 658-2754