



THE TOWNSHIP TREEBUNE

Street Trees, the Responsibility of the Township

Ferguson Township actively manages over 4,800 street trees in addition to the thousands of trees located within Township-owned parks and natural areas. Street trees are located in the Township rights-of-way, most which are generally located between the sidewalk and curb or, if no sidewalk is present, a portion of the lawn area adjacent to the roadway. By ordinance, street trees are the property of the Township, with the Township taking responsibility for their care and maintenance in accordance with the Township Urban Forestry Management Plan. The plan calls for an aggressive, proactive pruning cycle with reactive pruning as problems are reported.

Please refrain from performing any pruning, removals or mulching on the street trees adjacent to your property without a permit, otherwise, fines may be incurred.

Given the age of the Township's urban forest, the most common challenge property owners have with street trees is canopy clearance, particularly over sidewalks and driveways. The standards for tree care have evolved to minimize the short and long-term stressors pruning plays on trees. Please contact the Township if street tree pruning is required, and a Certified Arborist will respond to resolve any issues.

If you have a question as to whether or not a tree is in the public right-of-way, simply contact the Township Arborist and a determination can be made.

The Township has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day foundation. This designation recognizes the commitment and financial contribution the Township has made to ensure its urban forest is healthy and sustainable. Our efforts ensuring proper maintenance and preservation will ensure this accreditation continues.



Pruning in Overlook Heights Neighborhood

Please visit the Treebune article archive at www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/treebune for past issues and interesting facts regarding your street trees and some helpful resources on tree maintenance.

For additional helpful links regarding the care of trees, please visit www.treesaregood.org. If you have any questions regarding your street trees, email arborist@twp.ferguson.pa.us or call 238-4651.