

# How to Have Happy and Healthy City Trees

Thanks to CK Johnson, certified Tree Keeper #1052, for this useful information

Trees are beneficial in many ways – esthetics, produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide, help cool the air, flood control and their leaves/bark, when mulched, add nutrients to the soil.

Choose the correct tree:

- Deciduous or evergreen
- Shrubs and bushes are also trees
- Right size for the area to be planted in. Trees need air, water, good soil and space for their roots to spread
- Correct type of tree for the light that is at the particular site

Correct watering:

- Soak the top foot of soil around the tree at least once a week.

Good Soil:

- Healthy soil vs. city soil – city soil is clay, sand and debris
- Healthy soil is: full of rich hummus, which holds water and feeds the tree

Protect your Tree

- Lawnmowers can damage roots that are close to the surface
- Roots are 2-3' from the crown of the tree trunk
- Mulch in what is known as a donut; the tree is the "hole" leave 2-3' and then mulch around the tree
- Mulch keeps moisture in, doesn't allow weeds, that compete for nutrients and water, to grow