

Is your tree thirsty?



Summer is a great time to kick back, relax and enjoy some shade under a tree. But this month can be hard on trees and they can use our help. Watering your trees properly is one of the best ways to keep them healthy and stress free.

When to Water:

- * During a summer afternoon, up to half of the water can be lost to evaporation. The best time to water is in the morning or evening, when the roots have a chance to absorb most of the water.
- * How often you should water will depend on the size of your tree, soil conditions, and weather conditions. Newly, planted trees require much more water than mature trees.

Watering New Trees in the Summer:

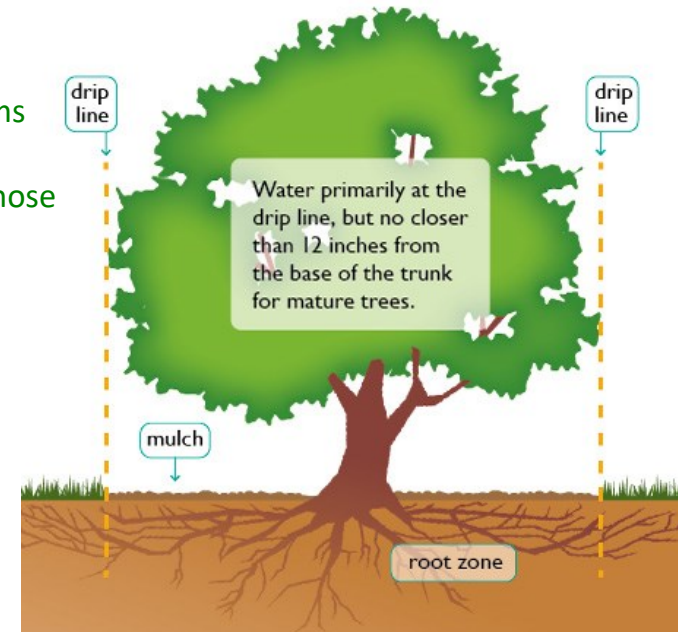
- * Young trees should be watered every three to four days during prolonged periods of heat.
- * For newly planted trees, soak the root ball directly under the tree and about 3 feet around the root ball to encourage root growth.

Watering Mature Trees in the Summer:

- * Even established trees need to be watered. They have more established root systems that can be 18" to 24" deep and they soak up the most water around their drip line.
- * For older trees, water deeply once a week around the drip line with a slow-running hose for 15 minutes or you can use a slow release watering device.

Consider Using Mulch:

- * Applying mulch around your trees can help keep the soil cool and trap moisture.
- * Mulch can be applied in a 2" to 4" layer around the base of the tree to the drip line; but keep the mulch about a hands-width away from the trunk.



TREE QUESTIONS?
Contact the
Public Works & Utilities Department
(509) 962-7230

