

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Street Tree Management Division



GUIDELINES FOR MARKING STREET TREE PITS

Pit Sizes

- Minimum – 3' x 3'
- Preferred – 4' x 4' for small trees or 5' x 5' for larger trees
- Variations – 3' x 5' and others

Location Restrictions

- Not in front of steps, doorways, or alleyways
- 15' from light poles, utility poles, street signs and fire hydrants
- 30 feet from stop signs and traffic lights
- 15'-30' from other trees (depending on mature size and form)
- 30' from street corners
- 5' from driveways
- 5' from man-hole covers, storm drains, and main utility lines
- edge of tree pit 18" minimum from residential utility lines (or soil must be hand dug)
- edge of tree pit should be at least 36" from steps, stoops, or walls to allow 3' of unobstructed sidewalk. (This is mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act.)

Other Restrictions

- Only small species will be approved under utility wires.
- No planting in-between handicap parking signs.
- Buildings or houses that are "For Sale" will not be approved.
- Locations where the sidewalk is in disrepair will not be approved.