



February 27, 2019

RE: Tree Trimming in Rights-of-Way for Public Safety

Dear City of Idaho Falls Resident:

Enclosed, please find a tree trimming brochure for your review. For public safety, the City of Idaho Falls is taking a proactive approach to assure that trees and other limbs in the public right-of-way comply with City Code.

All limbs or foliage which overhang or project into any public street, sidewalk, alley or easement and which interfere with public travel or use of such public way or easement need to be trimmed according to City Code.

This is necessary to allow for safe public travel and improved visibility of stop signs, traffic signals, street name signs and permit the Public Works Department vehicles and other construction equipment enough clearance to move through the streets unobstructed.

Please make sure all trees on your property comply with the City Code no later than Friday, April 12th, 2019. Code Enforcement personnel will be conducting inspections for compliance after this date.

For best results, pruning of limbs should occur before the trees or shrubs begin to bud. Branches can be left on the curb in four (4) foot bundles, weighing no more than 40 lbs. You may call Idaho Falls Sanitation at (208) 612-8491 to schedule a pick-up date. Limbs can also be disposed of at no charge by taking them to the Bonneville County Hatch Pit landfill.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our offices at your earliest convenience Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at (208) 612-6479.

Thank you for your cooperation.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg A. Weitzel".

Greg A. Weitzel, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

**CITY OF IDAHO FALLS
OFFICIAL CITY CODE
CHAPTER 9
COMMUNITY FORESTRY**

8-9-15: TREES AND SHRUBS OVERHANGING PUBLIC PROPERTY:

All owners, or persons in control of private real property upon which a street tree or shrub is growing, shall remove or trim, at his or her expense, all limbs or foliage which overhang or project into any public street, sidewalk, alley or easement and which interfere with public travel or use of such public way or easement or which do not satisfy the requirements of the City Zoning Ordinance entitled "Clear View of Intersecting Streets and Ways." All trees and shrubs planted shall follow the Clear View Section of the City's Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 1941, Sections 4-7.

- (A) Trees and shrubs shall be trimmed from the ground level to at least fifteen feet (15') above any public street, public easement or alley, or to at least eight feet (8') above the curb and sidewalk.
- (B) Clearance of the branches of a tree to a height of not less than:
 - (1) Eight feet (8') above any public sidewalk; and
 - (2) Thirteen feet (13') from the back of the curb to Thirteen feet (13') toward the center line above any public street, alley, or right-of-way and thereafter angled up toward the center line to a height of not less than fifteen feet (15') at the center of the public street, alley, or right-of-way. (Ord. 2207, 8-8-96; Ord. 2486, 3-27-03; Ord. 2738, 2-14-08; Ord. 2877, 8-11-11; Ord. 2968, 9-10-14; Ord. 3194, 6-28-18)

8-9-16: ABUSE OF PUBLIC TREES AND SHRUBS:

- (A) Unless authorized by an appropriate public officer, it shall be unlawful for any person to:
 - (1) injure, deface, disfigure or destroy any public tree;
 - (9) to top, prune or trim any public tree, except in accordance with the provisions of ANSI A300.

8-9-22 CITY ABATEMENT:

- (A) City is authorized to use public funds to abate nuisance.
- (B) If the property owner(s) or occupant(s) or person(s) in control of the property fails to abate the nuisance within forty-eight (48) hours following a final decision regarding the nuisance, the City may enter the property and commence abatement pursuant to Idaho Code.
- (C) If the City abates the nuisance, all costs and expenses related to abatement shall be billed and assessed against the property owner and, if unpaid, shall be collectible by any lawful means including, but not limited to, creation of a special assessment collectible against the subject property, pursuant to Idaho Code.