

City of New Carlisle

Street Tree Specifications

Street trees are a welcome addition to any community, as well as the business or home that they front. To insure that the selected trees are correct for their location, several steps should be taken in the planning stages. The correct tree in the correct place will grow relatively maintenance free and insure years of enjoyment.

Step One: Vertical analysis. Analyze the site where the tree will be planted. Estimate the vertical clearance allowable, as well as the spread of branches that will not interfere with power lines or nearby buildings or other trees. (Figure 1)

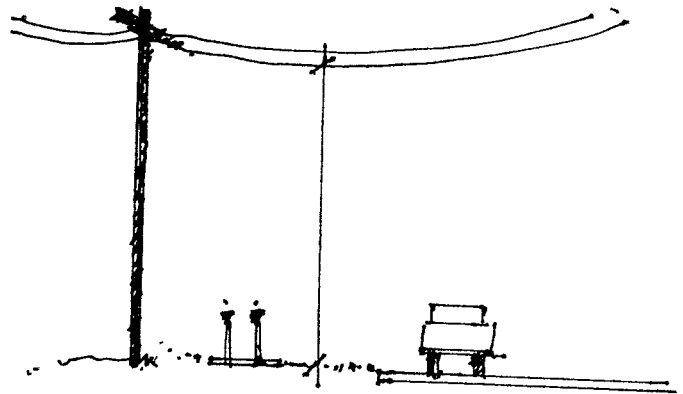


Fig.1-Vertical clearance

Step Two: Street / Sidewalk. The City of New Carlisle requires minimum vertical clearances of 10' for sidewalks and 13' for streets. (Figure 2) The tree species you select will depend on the space between the street and the sidewalk, and how low that tree branches. Once the tree is selected according to vertical and horizontal area allowable, the spread of the tree will dictate spacing. Spread sizes given usually take 15 to 20 years to achieve, so the trees can be planted slightly closer together for quicker massing. For example, if trees are selected that have a 20' spread, they can be planted as close as 15' on center or as far away as needed. (Figure 3)

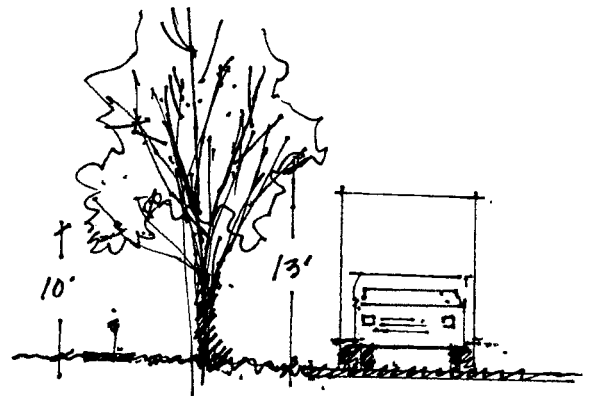


Fig. 2-Street/Sidewalk clearance

Step Three: Selecting your tree. Below is a list of trees that would do well in "urban conditions."

Norway Maple: Grows 50 feet tall, with a 35' spread. A very large tree, especially in spread, and should be used carefully. Norway Maple provides dense shade due to an abundance of leaves. Some "cultivars" of this tree include:

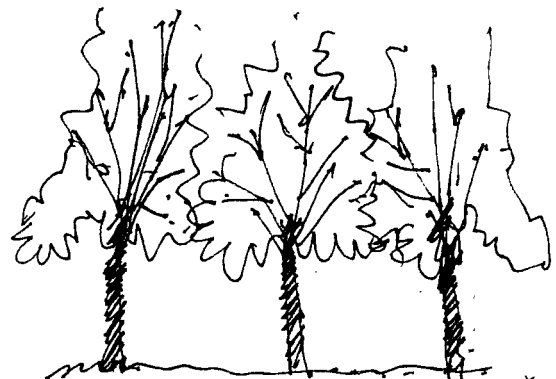


Fig. 3-Tree spacing

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Littleleaf Linden: A more formal, conical shaped tree. Growing up to 50' tall, with variable spread. Nice green leaf color.

Greenspire: 45' tall, by 30' spread. Nice shape, with fragrant blooms. (Figure 9)

Thornless Honey Locust: An open-shaped tree, variable in both height and spread, according to the cultivar. Extremely salt and pollution tolerant. For street trees, seedless and thornless varieties are recommended, as both can be messy and dangerous.

Imperial: Compact grower, reaching 35' tall, with a 25' spread. (Figure 10)

Skyline: 45' tall by 35' spread. An excellent shade tree with good yellow fall color. (Figure 11)

Sunburst: Grows 35' tall with a similar spread. New foliage is yellow, gradually turning to green. (Figure 12)

Ginkgo: A beautiful, slow growing tree that does well in urban conditions. Disease and insect resistant, but may be too large for street tree plantings, except in areas where it has room to "spread out."

Autumn Gold: Conically shaped, reaching 50' tall with a 30' spread. Golden yellow fall color is nice. (Figure 13)

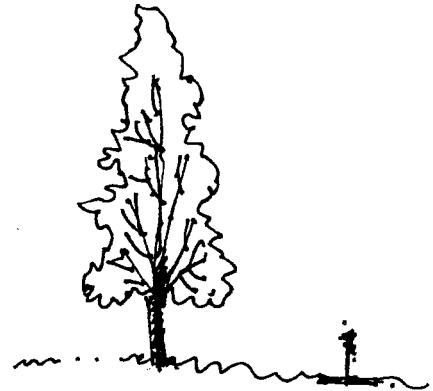


Fig. 7-Armstrong Maple

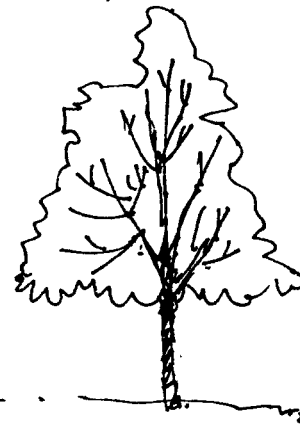


Fig. 8-October Glory Maple

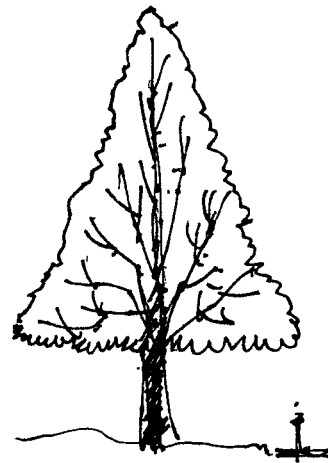


Fig. 9-Greenspire Linden

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Chanticleer: Grows 35' tall with a 20' spread, with good reddish purple fall color. Stronger branches and white blooms in the spring. (Figure 17)

Cleveland Select: A very good street tree, growing 35' tall by 15' spread. Tolerant of drought and pollution. (Figure 18)

Although this list is arguably incomplete, these trees will give good results. All tree sizes are maximum height for unpruned trees, which can be reduced if regular pruning is done. Tree information taken from Studebaker Nurseries' catalog, Scarff's Nursery's wholesale catalog, and Manual of Woody Landscape Plants by Michael A. Dirr.

Step Four: Purchasing your tree(s). Check around the local nurseries and garden centers for availability while making your selection. Knowledgeable sales personnel will explain guarantees and give planting instructions, as well as any special care they recommend. Patronizing a store that can give these extras and stand behind their product will be profitable in the long run. Trees are sold according to height or diameter of the trunk, called caliper. (Figure 19) A larger tree will have a better chance of survival than a small one, but make sure you don't get more tree than you can handle without damaging the trunk or ball.

Step Five: Planting. As a general rule, plant the tree where it was growing in the nursery. This level should be evident by a line on the trunk or the top of the ball. Dig



Fig. 13-Autumn Gold Ginkgo

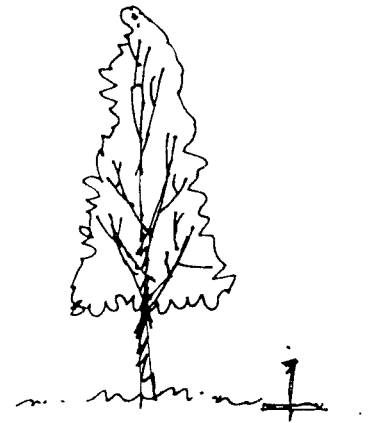


Fig. 14-Fastigiata Ginkgo

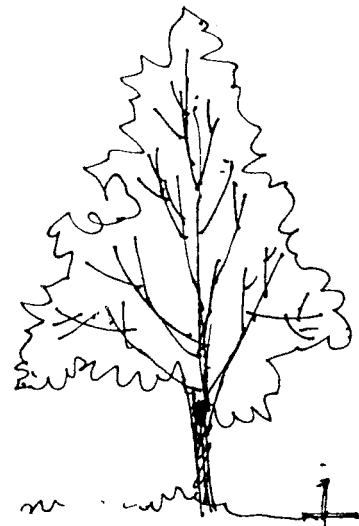


Fig. 15-Bloodgood Plane Tree