



City of Monticello
Parks, Arts & Recreation
505 Walnut Street
Monticello, MN 55362

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Email: parks.info@MonticelloMN.gov



Get involved in your community today by adopting a Park or a Trail!
Contact the Monticello Parks Department

ADOPT A PARK 763-295-2711

PLANTING TREES FOR WILDLIFE



A common thread that runs through the fabric of America is our love for wildlife. Whether it is a squirrel in our backyard or a hovering marsh hawk hunting the edges of a city park, wildlife is a valued resource to protect and enjoy.

But to share our communities with wildlife takes understanding and planning. Not surprisingly, trees play an important role. By understanding a few basic principles, you can attract songbirds and other desirable wildlife to your home or neighborhood.

Whatever the wildlife, whether a song sparrow or a butterfly or a squirrel, the key to its presence is habitat - the place where it lives. Habitat consists of three important elements, all of which are necessary in order for wildlife to find a home.

- ◆ **FOOD**
Having a wide variety of trees with high food value is the single best way to increase your pleasure in viewing wildlife.
- ◆ **WATER**
Water is as essential for



wildlife as it is for humans. Provide it and you will be rewarded with more birds, butterflies, and other wildlife.

- ◆ **COVER**
Cover provides protection for breeding, nesting, sleeping, traveling, and hiding from enemies. Ideal cover for a wide range of animals is provided by dense plantings of conifers. In urban settings, even a single spruce tree will help.



**Plant a Memorial Tree
Create a Lasting Tribute**
A Greener Way to Give

- Through Monticello's Memorial Tree Program, friends and relatives can provide a unique dedication to loved ones by placing a tree in one of the beautiful city parks in Monticello or in Monticello's Riverside Cemetery. This historical dedication will provide a lasting remembrance in honor of a loved one and enhances the meaning of a tree to observers.
- People of all ages visit our parks on a daily basis to utilize trails, play sports, enjoy playground activities and picnics, or just to relax and get away from the stresses and pressures of everyday life.
- Whatever the reason for visiting our parks, your generous gift will be recognized and appreciated by the Monticello Park System. The City of Monticello would like to thank you for considering this heartfelt dedication.

BARE ROOT TREE PLANTING



TREE CITY USA®

Inside you will find all the details you need in order to properly plant and care for your new trees. If you have any questions, please contact City Forester at **763-295-2711**.

Thank you for utilizing the opportunity to purchase trees through our Spring Tree Program. You will find that these are high quality nursery trees and we are certain that you will be pleased with your purchase.

By planting trees, you are making a significant contribution to improving the quality of our environment. Trees are of vital importance

because of their ability to absorb harmful toxins from the air, such as carbon dioxide and filter them to return oxygen to the atmosphere. Trees also serve as important filters of water. Trees can reduce the impact of storms and flood waters by slowing the movement of water and soil erosion through their roots.

Monticello shares your beliefs in the benefits of trees. Monticello has achieved Tree City USA status by meeting core standards set forth by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Our community is committed to caring for

and managing public trees, community forestry, and public education and awareness. We believe that trees, conservation and the environment are an important part of life in this community.

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GUIDE

CALL before you Dig it's the LAW!
Call 2 Working Days Before You Dig

1-800-252-1166 gopherstateonecall.org

Uniform Color Code

- WATER
- SEWER
- GAS
- ELECTRIC
- PHONE & CABLE

Mark your proposed dig area with white paint or a white stake

Dormant Trees: Yes, they're alive!

To be sure they arrive in a strong, healthy condition, your bare-root trees are shipped only when they are dormant in the spring. The roots have been dipped in a hydrating gel to keep them moist during shipping.

When you receive your trees, deciduous trees will generally be leafless and evergreens may have a few yellow needles from winter cold.

A tiny scratch in the bark will reveal a living layer of green - your assurance that the trees are still very much alive even though they are "asleep".

Parks Department Employees



Parks, Arts & Recreation Director Tom Pawelk

Spring Trees Have Arrived!

Monticello's Spring Tree Program has been a success for several years.

Each winter we send out a tree order form to all city residents. The order offers a variety of trees available from beautifully fragrant flowering crab trees to vividly bright fall colored maple trees.

If you haven't taken advantage of this program, we encourage you to do so in the future. This is a great opportunity for residents to purchase top quality nursery trees at a reduced cost.

Planting trees benefits everyone! You can teach our children the benefits of creating a healthy environment for

future generations. It also shows your support and pride in our community!

If you have any questions about our Spring Tree Program, please contact Parks, Arts & Recreation at 763-295-2711.

MULCHING

A newly planted tree's best friend is mulch. It is very important to remember to mulch your tree after you have planted it. Mulch is valuable for your tree's health and care because:

- Mulch insulates the soil helping to provide a buffer from heat and cold temperatures.
- Mulch

retains water helping to keep the roots moist.

- Mulch keeps weeds out to help prevent root competition.
- Mulch prevents soil compaction.
- Mulch reduces lawn mower damage.

FREE

mulch is available to residents in the compost bins at the Public Works Department

TREE PRUNING



After selecting the right tree and carefully planting it, early pruning is the most important thing you can do for a young tree.

So when is the best time to prune your trees? Winter pruning or pruning during dormancy is the most common practice. It results in a vigorous burst of new

growth in the spring. It is usually best to wait until the coldest part of winter has passed.

If your purpose for pruning is to enhance flowering then you should prune trees that bloom in the spring after their flowers fade. Trees and shrubs that flower in mid to late summer should be pruned in early winter or early spring.

Do Not prune your trees in the fall because decay fungi spread their spores profusely in the fall and healing of wounds seems to be slower in the fall.

How to Plant your Bare-Root Trees

1

UNPACK TREE



Unpack your trees, remove all packing materials and carefully untangle the roots.

5



FILL SOIL AROUND TREE

Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly, but not tightly packed. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water.

2

SOAK IN WATER



Soak the roots in water 3 to 6 hours. Do not allow the roots to dry out.

6



ADD MULCH

After the water has soaked in, spread protective mulch 2-inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touch-

3

DIG A HOLE



Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crowding. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3-feet in diameter.

Fertilizer?

DO NOT use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your bare root trees. Such products will kill your young trees!

4

PLANT TREE



Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, without crowding the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments such as peat or bark. Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your new trees.

7



WATER NEW TREES

The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, generously water the trees every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.