



MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

450 W BUSINESS PARK RD
SHELTON, WA 98584
360-427-9436
WWW.MASONCD.ORG

My New Tree: Where Should I Plant It?

Before you choose a tree for pick-up, there are a few important considerations to keep in mind. Great trees start with “Right Tree, Right Place!”

1. First, make sure you have enough room for the tree to grow. Consider the mature height and spread of the tree you are choosing when thinking about a location. Most trees offered spread between 20 and 40 feet.
2. Sun vs. Shade - is your yard in the shade all day or do you have blasting sun all after- noon? A combination of the two? Think about how much sun the site gets throughout the day to help inform your tree choice since some trees may prefer afternoon shade.
3. Water requirements for trees vary. However, young trees require about 15 gallons per week through our dry months (May - September). Make sure you understand the responsibility of watering before you take a tree home.
4. Power lines—do you have them in your front and/or backyard? Planting a conifer type tree under a house wire may be less forgiving than if planting a shade tree. Be aware of powerlines in the street too if you have very small front yard. Again, consider mature height and spread.
5. Other utilities to consider may be underground. In the state of Washington, these utilities can be located for free. Make sure you “Call Before You Dig” at 811. Or visit www.washington811.com to request a free utility locate. If utilities are present, it is recommended planting 15 feet away from underground utilities such as gas and water.
6. Planting near a building is okay but it is recommend not planting closer than tree's crown, generally between 20 and 40 feet.
7. Planting near a known property line? If the tree's crown is expected to reach 20 feet in diameter at maturity, it would seem wise to plant it at least 10 feet (half of its width) from the neighbor's property so it stays entirely on your side

Thank you to Portland Parks and Recreation for allowing us to share this information.