Make the Commitment to be a Steward for Your Tree

Using the calendar, plan on each month spending time to care and check on your tree(s). Trees in the first year and up to three years need to be tended to just as you tend to your flowers or other garden plants. Please follow the calendar and the steps to help your tree become bigger and stronger so you can continue to visit it for years to come. Remember the life span of a tree, depending on variety, can be 20-100 or more years.

January
- Inspect trees for disease, insects or vandalism*
- Pick up free mulch from local county landfill

February
- Inspect trees for disease, insects or vandalism
- Call 311 for dead street tree or park tree removal

March
- Remove winter mulch soaked with salt or dog waste
- Apply three to four inches of mulch around base of the tree to form a ring
- Celebrate National Wildlife Week

April
- If planted near the street or sidewalk, wash salt off trees while the ground is still frozen
- Celebrate Arbor Day and Earth Day

May
- Water weekly if the soil around the trees is dry *(Water each tree with 15 to 20 gallons of water)*
- Using a hand trowel, loosen the top two to three inches of soil around tree roots
- Plant small flowers or bulbs around the base of your trees

June
- Inspect depth of mulch. Mulch should be three to four inches thick
- Water weekly
- Inspect trees for disease, insects or vandalism
- Pull weeds
### TREE CARE CALENDAR CONTINUED

#### July
- Water weekly
- Pull weeds
- Inspect for insects and diseases

#### August
- Water weekly
- Pull weeds
- Inspect for insects and diseases

#### September
- Water weekly
- Remove stakes and ties from trees that have been in the ground for more than two years

#### October
- Water young evergreen trees before the ground freezes
- Plant bulbs around the base of your trees
- Refresh mulch ring around the base of your trees
- Take a “Little” to an urban forest

#### November
- Water young evergreen trees before the ground freezes
- Inspect trees for disease, insects or vandalism

#### December
- Place Christmas tree branches around trees to absorb salt and dog waste