



COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM

ROW TREE CARE REIMBURSEMENT PROJECT

Description: The City has seen many residents come forward with requests for help with right-of-way tree care and removal. The city street tree ordinance states the homeowners are responsible for the care of trees in the right-of-way adjacent to their home, which may sometimes be difficult for homeowners to budget for. Due to the increase in requests and the serious need for tree work to be done in the right of way, city council approved a one-time reimbursement program to assist residents with tree care expenses. This program is intended to provide limited financial support to treat, prune, and/or remove and replace high risk trees in order to provide a resilient urban tree canopy for today and future generations.

Other Eligibility Criteria:

- Financial assistance is available to City of Glenwood Springs residential property owners only.
- Only one grant request per parcel and per resident will be approved each calendar year.
- Tree must be assessed by a City employed certified arborist to determine eligibility. ISA standards and application will be used to determine qualifying level of need for assistance. Trees must meet site suitability and risk rating criteria.
- Trees must be in the adjacent public right of way of the parcel owner requesting assistance.

Qualifying Details: Candidacy of trees to be considered for approval is determined via a free risk assessment and list of qualifying factors predetermined through ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) standardized hazard assessments and census based socioeconomic data to help determine what areas and trees are in greatest need. Candidacy of contractors is determined by approved vendors who are selected via the City's Request For Proposal process to help reduce costs to both the city and to residents.

Award Details: A maximum of \$2,000 can be paid for qualifying trees, and will be paid directly to qualifying vendors that are contracted with the city. Upon application approval or parcel selection, the parcel owner will receive a quote for services. Up to \$2,000 may be approved for removal and replacement, up to \$1,200 for pruning (for hazard or health), OR up to \$500 for treatment may be approved. The parcel owner must sign an agreement with the approved contractor selected by the City to pay any remaining amount due beyond the approved amount. Stump removal will not approved for financial assistance, but can be paid for at the owners expense. **UPON APPLICATION SUBMISSION: Please allow up to 30 days for a response.** Applications are being reviewed on a monthly basis to help prioritize greatest risk and most qualifying trees first.

***Site Suitability is based on areas with vulnerable populations, low existing tree canopy, median household income, populations below poverty, higher unemployment rates, and lower rate of residents with a GED. Census blocks with vulnerable populations, lower income, and populations below poverty are prioritized the highest of all site conditions.*

***Risk Rating is based on tree condition, likelihood of failure, likelihood of impacting a target, and consequence of failure.*

In order for an applicant to qualify, they must have a Site Suitability Level of Low-Medium or High; and a Risk Rating of Moderate to Severe. Applicants will be prioritized based on the site suitability and risk ratings on a monthly basis.



ROW TREE CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FORM

COMPLETE AND RETURN TO [TREE.HOTLINE@COGS.US](mailto:tree.hotline@cogs.us)

The City of Glenwood Springs is committed to helping maintain the beauty of our urban canopy. As part of this commitment, the city has funds available to assist residents with tree trimming, treatment, and replacement of trees in the public right-of-way (ROW). Funding is limited and based on a risk assessment and site suitability.

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. Available to City of Glenwood Springs residential property owners only.
2. Trees must be in the adjacent public right of way of the property owner requesting assistance.
3. Only one grant request may be approved per parcel and per resident each calendar year.
4. A reimbursement of up to \$2,000 may be approved for removal and replacement, up to \$1,200 for pruning (for hazard or health), OR up to \$500 for treatment may be approved.
5. Tree/s must be assessed by a City employed certified arborist to determine eligibility. ISA standards will be used to determine qualifying level of need for assistance.
6. Parcel owner and City contracted tree care company are responsible for submitting all permitting ([tree removal permit](#) and/or [ROW permit](#)), and for ensuring public safety, barricades and cleanup.
7. If tree/s are removed, any approved replacement tree/s must be planted using [right tree right place guidelines](#). Replacement trees must be from the City approved list or approved by the City arborist.
8. Acceptable replacement tree varieties can be found in the Landscaping Guide on the [Parks & Recreation Gardens and Forestry Page](#). Please select a replacement tree that is "suggested for streets".
9. Parcel owner must agree to allow the City to work directly with the City approved contractor and only contact the city arborist with questions or concerns about tree work requested through this financial assistance project.
10. Parcel owner must sign an agreement to pay the approved contractor (provided by contractor) any remaining amount owed beyond the approved financial assistance amount.
11. Parcel owner must respond to approved application status announcement within 14 days or forfeit their place on the priority list.

If Parcel owner agrees to all rules and requirements please read the statement below and sign and date to acknowledge a full understanding of the terms.

I hereby apply for participation in the City of Glenwood Springs' Tree Care Financial Assistance Project and agree to comply with the conditions herein.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

To be completed by applicant:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Applicant Name: | |
| Applicant Phone:: | |
| Applicant Email: | |
| Site Address: | Notes about the Tree/s needing attention: |

Please check all boxes that may apply to your request:

| |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have _____ (quantity) Pine, Spruce, or Ash trees that I suspect may be infested with Bark Beetles or other pests. <input type="checkbox"/> I suspect that _____ (tree quantity) may have some kind of pathogen, nutrient deficiency or soil issue that needs assessed and resolved. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to remove _____ (tree quantity) that is unattractive or in my way. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to remove _____ (tree quantity) that looks to be hazardous due to age, disease, or pest problems. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to prune a tree that is blocking my view. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to prune a tree that is structurally unsound. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to prune, approximately ____ (#) trees with branches UNDER 15ft tall. <input type="checkbox"/> I want to prune, approximately ____ (#) trees with branches OVER 15ft tall. |
|---|

As a rule of thumb, fast-growing trees have a short life span and require more maintenance. Use the Glenwood Springs Landscaping list as a guideline and talk to nursery professionals where you plan to purchase your tree. They will share their knowledge and experience to help you make your decision. Make your selection carefully, and we will have hardy, beautiful trees for generations to come.

TREES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PLANTING ASSISTANCE:

The City of Glenwood Springs will not participate in the cost share of planting these trees in the right-of-way:

- **Aspen** – They generally have a short life span and should be grown in natural forest groves.
- **Russian Olive** – They have many thorns, consume too much water, and are invasive.
- **"Weeping" varieties** – Tree varieties that are difficult to see around in ROW areas.
- **Siberian Elm** – This tree is short lived, highly invasive, and requires frequent pruning.
- **Poplars, Cottonwoods, Lombardy, etc.** – Cotton is a nuisance and the trees are too large for most ROW areas.
- **Tree of Heaven** – They are weak wooded, short lived, and invasive.
- **Evergreens** – The City does not recommend the planting of evergreens as ROW trees. They are difficult to see around and eventually crowd out the sidewalks or curb.
- **Ash trees** – Highly susceptible to Emerald Ash Borer.