



Shade Tree Commission Department of Public Works

Cash-in-Lieu of Tree Planting

Shade Tree Ordinance Overview -

- Applies to all improved properties along City right-of-way
- **Requirement:** 1 street tree per 40 feet of frontage
- **Goal:** Plant trees whenever and wherever feasible
- **Alternative:** Cash-in-lieu fee when planting isn't possible

Current Fee Method –

- Based on PennDOT ECMS “Price Item History”
- Used average cost of tree planting items
- **Current Fee: \$508/tree**

Challenges –

- Outdated/limited cost data
- Rising nursery and contractor costs
- Does not include maintenance, warranty or initial maintenance





home site map help

**ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Business Partner

Solicitation

Engineering Agreements

Construction Projects

References

Prequalification Help

Bidding Help

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Refine Search

Help

0808-3072 - RED MAPLE - (1 1/2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$420.0333 3.000 EACH	\$360.0000 3.000 EACH	\$460.0000 3.000 EACH	
0808-3073 - RED MAPLE - (2" CAL. B&B)					
05	9	\$475.4962 22.333 EACH	\$350.0000 2.000 EACH	\$950.0000 2.000 EACH	
0808-3130 - RIVER BIRCH - (1 1/4" CAL. B&B)					
05	9	\$340.0538 4.333 EACH	\$180.5000 8.000 EACH	\$866.2500 2.000 EACH	
0808-3131 - RIVER BIRCH - (2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$549.5833 5.000 EACH	\$395.0000 5.000 EACH	\$843.7500 5.000 EACH	
0808-3230 - BLACK GUM - (6' HT. B&B)					
05	3	\$298.5000 6.000 EACH	\$180.5000 6.000 EACH	\$505.0000 6.000 EACH	
0808-3242 - SWEETGUM - (2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$474.5000 40.000 EACH	\$415.0000 40.000 EACH	\$515.0000 40.000 EACH	
0808-3250 - TULIPTREE - (1" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$510.0000 4.000 EACH	\$455.0000 4.000 EACH	\$550.0000 4.000 EACH	
0808-3272 - AMERICAN SYCAMORE - (1 1/2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$248.5000 12.000 EACH	\$60.0000 12.000 EACH	\$505.0000 12.000 EACH	
0808-3273 - AMERICAN SYCAMORE - (2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$464.0000 24.000 EACH	\$415.0000 24.000 EACH	\$515.0000 24.000 EACH	
0808-3332 - PIN OAK - (2" CAL. B&B)					
05	3	\$616.6666 2.000 EACH	\$400.0000 2.000 EACH	\$950.0000 2.000 EACH	



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Proposed Fee Calculation

New Approach -

- Develop a complete tree planting specification
 - Tree supply
 - Installation
 - Warranty and early maintenance
- Bid project regularly (e.g. annually)
- Follow City procurement process
- Use average bid cost to set fee

2026 Estimated Costs

- Furnish and install: \$1,701.85
- Warranty and maintenance \$2,167.64

Proposed Cash-in-lieu of Fee:
\$3,869 per tree

BASE BID				
NEW TREE PLANTING				
NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION
1	New Tree Plantings	33	1596.97	52,700
TOTAL Base Bid				52,700
ALTERNATE BID # 1				
HAZARD TREE REMOVAL & REPLANTING				
NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION
1	Dead Tree Removal	1	2000	2000
2	Stump Removal	1	3750	3750
3	Replanting Trees from Removals	2	1700	3400
TOTAL Alternate Bid # 1				9,150

BASE BID					ALTERNATE BID # 2			
NEW TREE PLANTING					TREE MAINTENANCE			
NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION	NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	EXTENSION
1	New Tree Plantings	35	1,806.73	63,235.57	1	Maintenance & Watering	44	95,360
TOTAL Base Bid				63,235.57	TOTAL Alternate Bid # 2			
					95,360			
ALTERNATE BID # 1								
HAZARD TREE REMOVAL & REPLANTING								
NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION				
1	Dead Tree Removal	5	2,133.396	10,666.98				
2	Stump Removal	4	3,171.72	12,686.88				
3	Replanting Trees from Removals	9	2124.51	19,120.57				
TOTAL Alternate Bid # 1				42,474.43				
ALTERNATE BID # 2								
TREE MAINTENANCE								
NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION				
1	Maintenance & Watering	44	2,167.27	95,360				
TOTAL Alternate Bid # 2				95,360				



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Benefits of Proposed Update

- Encourage better ordinance compliance
- Uses accurate, local market-based data
- Supports annual citywide tree planting projects
- Enables use of in-house and contracted services
- Expands the urban forest and tree canopy

