



2024 URBAN FORESTRY WATERING CALENDAR



Public Lands
Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



URBAN FORESTRY

WATERING GUIDE

Welcome to your trusty, year-long sidekick that will help remind you to water your parkstrip tree or trees. Don't miss the adjacent guide with details on proper watering to ensure those roots get the deep watering they need throughout the growing season.

We marked your calendar, but get ready because the watering season begins in March. We'll help you remember to increase watering frequency during summer, and to taper off through fall. We'll update you when it's time to stop watering in the cozy days of mid-November. Watering is only necessary in the winter if there has been no rain or snow for multiple weeks. Water on days that are highlighted blue and contain the watering can icon (as shown below). When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

HOW MUCH?

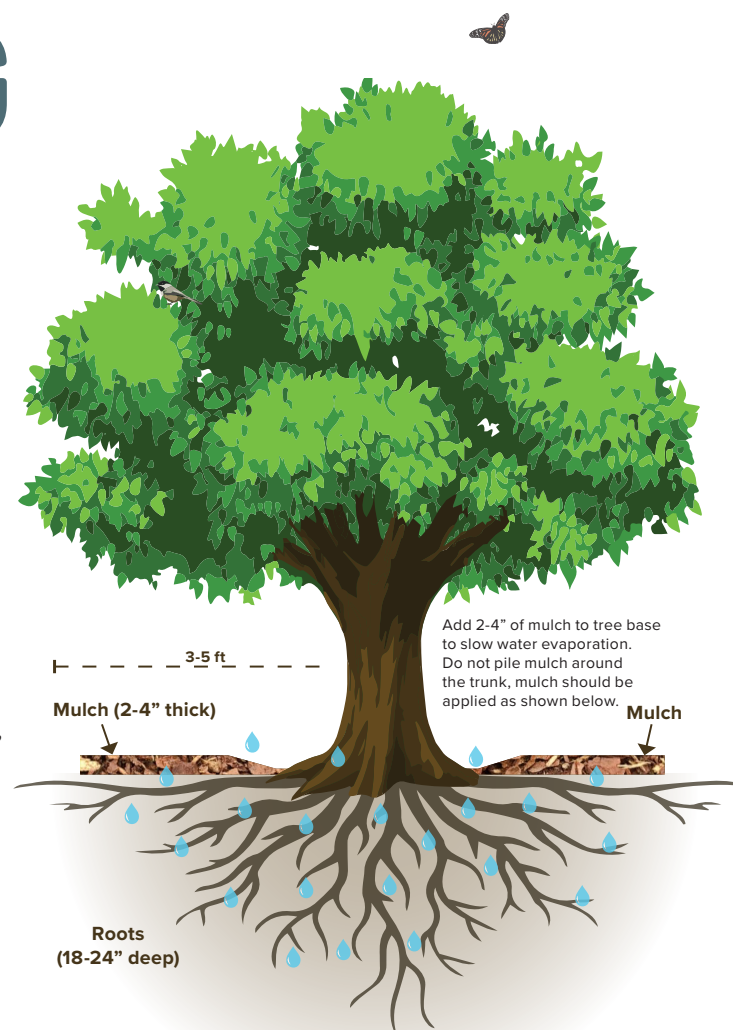
The exact amount of water is variable but generally 5-10 gallons per inch of trunk diameter is recommended. For newly planted trees, this means about 10-20 gallons per watering. Water should be applied evenly at a low flow rate until the soil is thoroughly soaked.

HOW OFTEN?

Newly planted trees need to be watered 1-2 times per week in spring and fall and 2-3 times per week in summer. Unlike watering a lawn, the goal of tree watering is to have saturation deep in the soil. Tree roots are usually 18-24" deep.

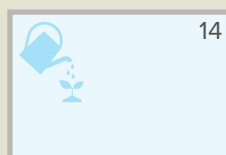
MULCH?

Mulch should be 2-4" thick and extend 3-5' around the tree. It should be in an even flat layer, not piled up around the tree and no mulch should be touching the trunk. Refer to the diagram for proper mulching technique.



Salt Lake City Urban Forestry Division
1965 W 500 S Salt Lake City, UT 84105
801-972-7818

QUICK REFERENCE



14

Reading the Calendar: Watering days are blue-highlighted and feature a watering can icon. Use the watering guide to ensure your tree is getting all the water it needs.

Weather Adjustments: Postpone or skip watering if rain or snow has saturated the ground.



Digital Resources: Scan the QR code to access an e-calendar, watering alerts, and a tutorial video on proper tree watering



Thanks to our unique climate, we're seizing the perfect window to plant new trees—during their dormant season from November to April. Why? Watering systems are shut off in October, but steady rain and snow start around November. Waiting for nature to provide water is essential for keeping tree roots moist for the first few months.

The best part? Planting during the dormant season means less stress for the trees. Come spring, they're already in the ground, ready to stretch their roots in their new Utah homes.

So this January, flip the script from "new year, new me" to "new year, new tree" and make a resolution to look after your leafy neighbors this year!

JANUARY



Watering during the winter is only necessary if there has been no precipitation for multiple weeks. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr Human Rights Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Dec							Feb						
					1	2				1	2	3	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29		
							31						





*Behold the Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), which currently presents a leafless profile, evoking a willow-like aesthetic with its gracefully drooping branches. Come spring, it'll jazz up with yellow and green catkins—before flaunting petite, triangular leaves in summer. Come fall, these leaves turn a golden yellow as our Birch gets ready to chill out for the winter again. Salt Lake City's*

winter months, stretching from November to March, are the season of snowy gifts.

So why not embrace winter as the perfect time to explore our less-crowded urban forest? The tranquil stillness of the snowy landscape is more than just a view—it's a vibe. Trust us, it's a winter wonderland out there!

FEBRUARY



Watering during the winter is only necessary if there has been no precipitation for multiple weeks. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15	16	17
18	19 President's Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Jan

Mar

1 2

1 2 3 4 5 6

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

28 29 30 31

31



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



KEEP YOUR COOL

The Keep Your Cool initiative aims to empower city residents to become stewards of our urban forest, starting right in their front yards—with the park strip trees adjacent to their homes. By deliberately watering these trees, you're not just nurturing a tree but enriching the entire city, making it a better place to live, work, and play.

Smartly investing our limited water resources into the city's trees yields a high return for people and wildlife. The benefits include a cooler urban environment, lower utility costs, and enhanced public health. To contribute to this cycle and join the Keep Your Cool campaign, please visit our website at www.slc.gov.keepyourcool/.

MARCH



During spring from March to May, newly planted trees should be watered **1 to 2 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Spring Equinox	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Easter Sunday						

Feb

	1	2	3			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

April

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



Take a moment to admire this Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*), a lacy, flowering spectacle that graces many of the city's park strips. These smaller, ornamental trees are crucial in diversifying our urban forest, complementing our shade trees. Perfectly suited for narrow park strips and unobtrusive beneath power lines, Fringe Trees offer year-round aesthetic appeal—from

aromatic spring blooms to uniquely textured bark and vibrant autumn foliage. Salt Lake City has about 200 Fringe Trees, a modest but vital component of our diverse tree canopy. Thoughtful planting as the city grew has made our urban forest rich in species diversity, with over 350 tree species from 40 distinct plant families.

APRIL



During spring from March to May, newly planted trees should be watered **1 to 2 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	 8	9	10	11	12	 13
14	Tax Day 15	16	 17	18	19	20
21	Earth Day 22	 23	24	25	Arbor Day 26	27
 28	29	30		Mar May		

Mar							May														
							1	2								1	2	3	4		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9				5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16				12	13	14	15	16	17	18					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23				19	20	21	22	23	24	25					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30	31						
31																					



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



*Behold the Golden Rain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), a deciduous marvel that steals the spotlight in late spring and early summer with its aromatic, vivid yellow blossoms. A native of Asia, this medium-sized tree is a resilient member of the Sapindaceae (soapberry) family. Suited for the challenges of city life, it stands strong against drought, heat, wind, salt, and pollution. These trees are a familiar sight in Salt Lake City, numbering over 2,500 along streets and parks.*

But it's not just their eye-catching appearance that makes them valuable, flowering trees like the Golden Rain are also critical food sources for pollinators. As native habitats dwindle, urban flowering trees offer much-needed sustenance to bees, moths, butterflies, hummingbirds, and bats. In this way, they enrich both our cityscapes and local ecosystems.

MAY



During spring from March to May, newly planted trees should be watered **1 to 2 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 
5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8 	9	10	11
12  Mother's Day	13	14	15	16 	17	18
19 	20	21	22 	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28 	29	30	31	

Apr

Jun

1

1 2 3 4 5 6

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

9 10 11 12 13 14 15

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

16 17 18 19 20 21 22

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

28 29 30

30



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf








Salt Lake City's skilled arborists swing into action each June at the annual Utah Tree Climbing Championship. This exhilarating event draws participants across the region to compete in five distinct tree-climbing challenges. Our SLC Urban Forestry team frequently claims top spots, showcasing their expertise in this demanding field.

But it's not all about the thrill of competition. Tree maintenance and climbing are highly specialized and risky professions, requiring continuous skill sharpening and vigilance. These championships serve a dual purpose: they offer our arborists a platform to refine their techniques while staying abreast of the latest safety protocols. In this way, they continue to elevate both their craft and the health of our urban forest.

JUNE



During summer from June to September, newly planted trees should be watered **2 to 3 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						 1
2	3	 4	5	6	 7	8
9	 10	11	12	 13	Flag Day 14	15
 16 Father's Day	17	18	 19 Juneteenth	20 Summer Solstice	21	 22
23	24	 25	26	27	 28	29
30						

May

Jul

			1	2	3	4									
5	6	7	8	9	10	11									
12	13	14	15	16	17	18									
19	20	21	22	23	24	25									
26	27	28	29	30	31										



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



*Meet the Japanese Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*), a medium-sized shade tree that quickly captures hearts with its elegant vase-shaped structure, urban resilience, and captivating year-round beauty. Its leaves transition from vibrant green in the summer to a kaleidoscope of yellow, orange, red, and occasionally even purple come autumn.*

Particularly noteworthy is a Japanese Zelkova in Washington Square, which stands as one of Utah's most prominent and could earn the title of state champion. State champions are exceptional trees evaluated based on height, canopy spread, and trunk diameter. A dedicated board officially recognizes these green giants, but nominations for this prestigious title can come from anyone captivated by a tree's grandeur.

JULY



During summer from June to September, newly planted trees should be watered **2 to 3 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8 	9	10	11 	12	13 
14	15	16 	17	18 	19	20
21 	22	23	24 Pioneer Day 	25	26	27 
28	29	30 	31	Jun Aug		

Jun								Aug										
							1								1	2	3	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
30																		



Public Lands
Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



*Featured above is the European Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). It is one of nearly 90,000 trees that populate the city's streets, parks, and natural areas. These trees don't just add aesthetic value; they contribute almost \$5 million annually to the city and its residents.*

Our canopy is a living legacy passed down to us by Salt Lake City's first inhabitants. Urban Forestry encourages you to be a part of this longstanding

tradition— care for our existing trees today and gift future generations the joy and benefits of a flourishing urban forest. When pioneers first set foot in Salt Lake City on July 24th, 1847, they encountered a challenging, arid environment. Undeterred, they planted and nurtured trees, transforming the landscape. Today, thanks to those early efforts, subsequent generations reap the benefits of a lush urban forest that beautifies and cools the city, cleans the air, muffles noise, and mitigates winds.

AUGUST



During summer from June to September, newly planted trees should be watered **2 to 3 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 	3
4 	5	6	7 	8	9	10 
11	12	13 	14	15 	16	17
18 	19	20	21 	22	23	24 
25	26	27 	28	29 	30	31

Jul

1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

Sep

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf







*In Salt Lake City, safeguarding trees during construction activities isn't optional—it's mandatory. The Urban Forestry Division requires chain-link fencing to encircle the park strip next to construction sites to protect the tree canopy, trunk, and root zones from harm. The photo above shows a mature Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*) wrapped in protective fencing.*

Such measures prevent mechanical injuries and safeguard the tree's root zone and surrounding soil. Salt Lake City regards mature trees as invaluable city assets. Preserving them is not just a rule but a community priority, reflecting the city's commitment to a healthy, enduring urban forest.

SEPTEMBER



During summer from June to September, newly planted trees should be watered **2 to 3 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11 	12	13	14 
15	16	17 	18	19 	20	21
22  Autumn Equinox	23	24	25 	26	27	28 National Public Lands Day 
29	30					



Public Lands
Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf

Aug

1 2 3

4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Oct

1 2 3 4 5

6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



*As autumn descends on Utah's Wasatch Mountains, the Quaking Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*)—Utah's State tree—presents a vivid spectacle of changing leaves. Fascinatingly, Quaking Aspens grow in clones, where what looks like a forest could be a single, genetically identical organism. Take "Pando," for instance, a sprawling clone near Fish Lake that covers 106 acres and consists of over 40,000 individual trees. The name "Pando" fittingly*

means "I Spread" in Latin, and it's one of the world's largest living organisms. Natural lands offer a respite from the urban environment for both people and wildlife. They afford all communities the opportunity to interact with the natural world. Natural areas may also protect unique features of special environments or historical significance, and safeguard our irreplaceable natural heritage.

OCTOBER



As the weather cools off in fall, watering can be scaled back. During fall from October to Mid-November, newly planted trees should be watered **1 to 2 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 1	2	3	4	 5
6	7	8	 9	10	11	12
 13	14 Indigenous People's Day/ Columbus Day	15	16	 17	18	19
20	 21	22	23	24	25	 26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

Sep

Nov

1 2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
29	30												



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



*The Autumn Purple Ash (*Fraxinus Americana* 'Autumn Purple') is a breathtaking herald of fall, its vivid foliage signaling its full embrace. Once favored for their resilience to urban challenges like heat, drought, salt, and air pollution, ash trees have fallen from grace. The culprit? The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive insect that devastates ash populations nationwide. Although this insect has yet to reach Utah, Urban Forestry has preemptively ceased planting ash species, preparing for its eventual arrival.*

The fall tapestry of colors splashed across deciduous trees throughout the city captivates residents and visitors alike. These vibrant hues aren't solely the result of cooling temperatures; they're triggered by diminishing daylight. The chemical compounds creating these glorious shades of yellow, red, orange, and even purple reside in the leaves all summer. Trees halt their production of green-making chlorophyll as days shorten, allowing these other radiant compounds to take center stage.

NOVEMBER



As the weather cools off in fall, watering can be scaled back. During fall from October to mid-November, newly planted trees should be watered **1 to 2 times per week**. Water the mulched area with a hose until the ground is saturated and fill the watering bag if it is empty. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

Oct

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

Dec

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

29 30 31



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



*Stroll in the Salt Lake City Cemetery and meet the towering Giant Sequoias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). Though not Utah natives, these majestic trees have found a hospitable second home here. Naturally, they grow in a 60-mile stretch on the Sierra Nevada's western slopes in California, where they can soar over 300 feet and boast trunk diameters up to 20 feet. These are the world's largest trees, but they'll never quite reach those staggering dimensions in Utah.*

Remarkably, some of these Salt Lake City Sequoias played a unique role during the 2002 Winter Olympics. They served as scenic backdrops at event venues and found their new home in the cemetery after the games. Hosting the Olympics didn't just bring Salt Lake City global attention; it led to infrastructural upgrades and a lasting boost in tourism, and these relocated Sequoias stand as living monuments to that transformative moment.

DECEMBER



Watering during the winter is only necessary if there has been no precipitation for multiple weeks. When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day/ Hanukkah	26 Kwanzaa	27	28
29	30	31				



Public Lands

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf

Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf

Nov

Jan

1 2

1 2 3 4

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

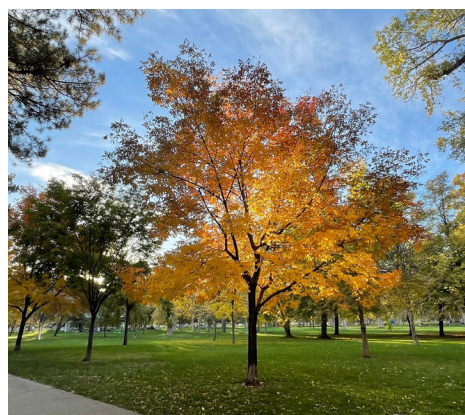
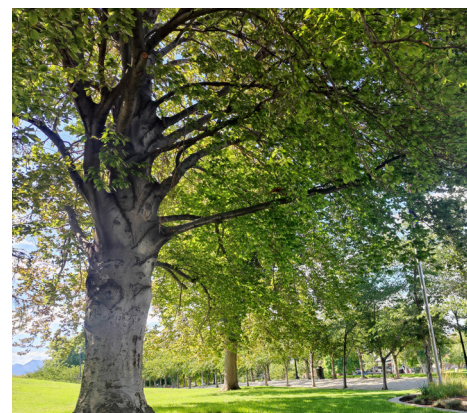
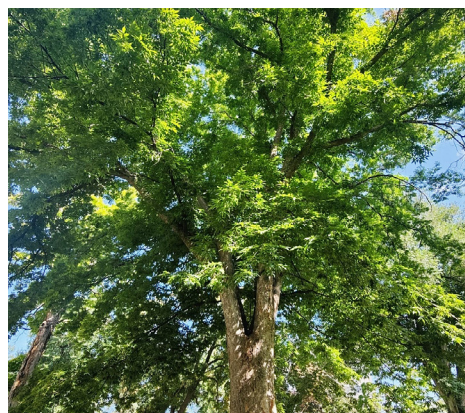
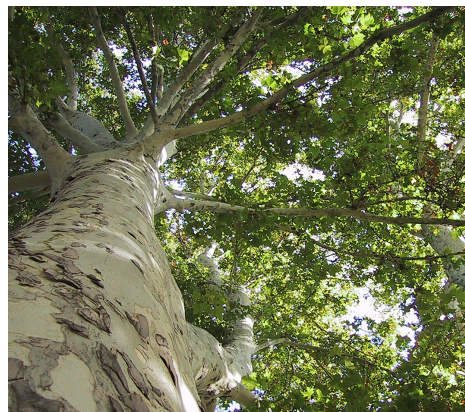
12 13 14 15 16 17 18

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

26 27 28 29 30 31



Public Lands
 Parks | Trails & Natural Lands | Urban Forestry | Golf



Salt Lake City Urban
 Forestry Division
 1965 W 500 S
 Salt Lake City, UT 84104
 801-972-7818