I THINK THAT I SHALL NEVER
A POEM LOVELY AS A TREE
Use this calendar as a visual reminder to water the parkstrip tree or trees. See the adjacent Watering Guide for detailed explanation on proper watering to ensure the tree roots are getting deep water throughout the growing season.

Watering should begin in March, increased in frequency during summer, and can be tapered off through fall and stopped in mid-November. Watering is not necessary in the winter, unless there has been no precipitation for multiple weeks.

Water on days that are highlighted blue and contain the watering can icon (as shown above). When it rains or snows enough to completely soak the ground, watering can either be postponed for a day or skipped.

Follow the QR code to sign up for an electronic version of this calendar or to receive watering alerts. A detailed watering video can also be found on that website to demonstrate proper tree watering technique.
A layer of snow coats the trees in this park. The majority of Salt Lake City’s annual precipitation comes in the form of snow in the winter months from November until March. Even though trees are dormant during this time, winter precipitation is vitally important in keeping the soil and tree roots moist.

Providing supplemental irrigation is not necessary during the winter because most of Salt Lake City’s annual precipitation comes during the dormant period rather than the growing season. Therefore, it is essential to provide water to trees during the spring, summer, and fall months, when there is significantly less precipitation.
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.
Fresh snow blankets the London Plane trees (Platanus x acerifolia) lining this street. This species is one of the top five most common tree species found in Salt Lake City’s urban forest. There are almost 4,000 of them growing on the City’s streets and throughout city parks.

One economic benefit of trees includes reducing energy costs by providing shade in the summer and a wind barrier in the winter. Individual trees have a value that is attributed to their overall size and condition. So the larger the tree, the greater the benefits it provides. It is estimated that each of these London Plane trees individually provides over $60 in annual economic benefits, combining for a total of $240,000 in benefits to the entire community.
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.
As new leaves and flowers start to emerge in the spring, migratory birds start returning to Salt Lake City’s urban forest. The calls of many songbirds, like the sparrow pictured above, create the soundtrack of the urban forest. These bird songs are a good reminder that it is time to start watering trees again because spring and warmer weather have arrived.

The relationship between birds and trees is deeply intertwined and mutually beneficial. Birds rely upon trees for the essentials of life, including food and shelter, while trees benefit from the presence of birds because they help spread seeds.
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.
This Crabapple (Malus sylvestris) growing in the Salt Lake City Cemetery is part of the collection of interesting trees known as the Mark Smith Memorial Arboretum. A walking/driving tour of the entire cemetery includes over 120 unique species of trees.

This collection of trees was officially designated as an arboretum in Fall 2021 and it serves as a place of beauty, education, and preservation for generations to come. The arboretum is meant to be peacefully and respectfully enjoyed by all visitors since it encompasses many of the natural, historical, and recreational resources that Salt Lake City has to offer.
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.
The Briotti Horsechestnut’s (Aesculus carnea ‘Briottii’) flower is a real standout flower in late spring. Salt Lake City is home to almost 800 individual horse-chestnut trees growing in public spaces. Horsechestnuts are fast-growing, medium-sized shade trees that are widely popular in residential yards, park strips, and city parks.

One particular horsechestnut growing in a park strip in the Yalecrest neighborhood is the state champion, meaning it is the largest of its species in the entire state of Utah. Nominated trees are judged by a panel and receive a point value based on a combination of trunk diameter, canopy height, and canopy spread.
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.
Every year in June, Salt Lake City’s arborists have the opportunity to compete in the annual Utah Tree Climbing Championship. The climbing competition brings arborists from across the region to participate in five different tree-climbing events. SLC Urban Forestry’s arborists consistently earn high rankings in the various climbing challenges.

Tree climbing and maintenance is a highly-skilled, dangerous profession that requires constant practice and awareness. Participating in these competitions allows Salt Lake City’s arborists to refine their skills and ensure they are up to date on techniques and safety.
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.
This path through Pioneer Park is lined with both mature and newly planted trees. People have many reasons for visiting Salt Lake City's parks, but the beauty and shade of mature trees have a strong appeal to many. Of the 90,000 trees in the urban forest, about 25,000 of them grow in city-owned parks.

The City's parks are often used for large events and festivals, including the City Farmers Market, which is held weekly at Pioneer Park during the summer. Urban Forestry crews are called upon to ensure that the trees in our parks are in prime condition for the thousand of visitors who enjoy these public spaces every day.
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.
This White Poplar (Populus alba) is growing near a bench at Bend in the River Natural Area along the Jordan River. While they are not common as street trees, various species of poplars and cottonwoods are native to Utah and can frequently be found in natural areas and many parks within Salt Lake City.

As seen in the photo, a distinguishing characteristic of many poplars is their unique bark, which changes throughout different stages of the tree’s life. Many young poplars are known for their smooth, greenish-white bark, which becomes rougher with deep ridges as they age.
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.
A crew of Certified Arborists from the Urban Forestry Division are removing this declining Norway Maple (Acer platanoides). The Urban Forestry Division removes about 1,000 trees throughout the City annually. Determining if a city tree should be removed rather than pruned is a difficult decision made by City arborists that factors together the tree’s overall health and public safety.

In recent years, Urban Forestry plants approximately two new trees for every tree that is removed. So, despite the number of dead and dying trees being removed, the City’s canopy is still increasing. By ensuring the over 2,000 newly planted trees are properly cared for, the community provides a vital role in helping the urban forest grow and increase in canopy size each year.
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.
This street in Sugar House is lined with honeylocust trees (Gleditsia triacanthos) that have turned a golden yellow in the fall. With almost 4,000 of them, the honeylocust is one of the most common species found within Salt Lake City’s urban forest.

Honeylocusts are a member of the Legume family. Most plants in this family are nitrogen fixers, meaning they are able to take nitrogen from the air and deposit it into the soil, where it becomes available for other plants. Other leguminous tree species include coffee trees, redbuds, yellowwoods, pagoda trees, and mimosas.
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.
Snow clings to the vibrant leaves of a Red Maple (Acer rubrum), which is uncommon in Salt Lake city’s urban forest due to its preference for wet soils. Similar species of maples that are native to the area and tolerant of drier soil include Big Tooth Maples (Acer grandentatum) and Rocky Mountain Maples (Acer glabrum), which are typically found in natural areas and throughout the foothills.

Both native and introduced trees are important components of an urban forest. They provide social, environmental, and psychological benefits to the entire community, such as absorbing pollutants to improve air quality. The overall improved quality of life is worth the effort put in by Salt Lake City residents to ensure that trees receive the water they need to survive.
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.
Allen Park, also known as “Hobbitville,” is a serene quiet, place to spend time in the winter. Long known as a cultural icon in Salt Lake City, it is also one of the City’s newest parks. Allen Park encompasses 8 acres of historical architecture, artwork, and nature preserve. There are hundreds of trees, including many unique species, that give Allen Park an ambiance unlike anywhere else in the city.

Nature themes are prevalent in the artwork and architecture found throughout Allen Park, which demonstrates the importance of trees to the space. One such art piece features a quote from Joyce Kilmer’s work “Trees.” It reads “I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree.”
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.