

**R-7.280-H Foliage- Prohibitions, Trimming, Pruning, or Removal.**

1. **Prohibited Trees.** In addition to the requirements of Section 7.280 of the Eugene Code, 1971 and these Rules, no person shall plant, or cause to be planted within the City, any species of tree within the right-of-way of a street, avenue, highway or alley, pedestrian right-of-way or pedestrian easement, which is not listed in or does not meet the matrix elements of the approved street tree species list attached as Appendix A hereto, unless planting of the proposed species is specifically authorized in writing by the City's Urban Forester. Any tree existing within a public right-of-way prior to September 5, 1996, shall be considered an approved tree.

2. **Pruning or Removal.** Except for EWEB when pruning is necessary to protect its lines or crews, no person shall prune a tree growing within the public right-of-way in a manner not in compliance with the standards set forth in Subsection 3 of this Section, which are designed to ensure trees are not pruned in a manner that causes damage to the tree or diminishes its health.

3. **Tree Pruning Standards.**

3.1 Tree pruning shall meet the ANSI A-300 pruning standards.

3.2 All tree work shall be performed following Oregon Safety and Health Administration regulations and following the ANSI Z-133.1 and the ANSI A-300.

3.3 Pruning shall be deemed necessary when such action is to:

3.3.1 Correct structural problems, remove deadwood and decayed parts,

3.3.2 Enhance the tree's natural beauty and develop its natural shape,

3.3.3 Comply with the Eugene Code, 1971,

3.3.4 Correct a safety or health problem,

3.3.5 Clear the vision of regulatory signs, or

3.3.6 Maintain clearance around electrical lines.

3.4 All tree work performed near electrical lines shall conform to the National Electrical Safety Code, ANSI Z-133.1, and OAR 437-002-0301 through 0311.

3.5 Trees pruned for electrical line clearance shall follow the pruning guidelines contained within the publication of Dr. Shigo entitled "Pruning Trees Near

Electrical Lines" and be performed in accordance with the written agreement between the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) and the City.

3.6 Unless otherwise required herein, young trees shall be pruned leaving at least 2/3 of the height of the tree in foliage and canopy.

3.7 Mature trees shall be pruned in a manner that retains well-spaced, inner lateral branches so as to allow the trunk taper to be developed as needed for the strength of the branch attachment.

3.8 No tree shall have more than 20 percent of its canopy removed in any one pruning or any one year unless approved in writing by the Urban Forester.

3.9 Street trees shall be pruned to allow clearance 9 feet above the sidewalk and 15 feet above the street. Limbs may be pruned back from the sidewalk and street or removed at the trunk to meet these clearances if 2/3 of the height of the tree remains in canopy.

3.10 No hooks, spikes, or climbing gear which pierces the trunk of a tree shall be used unless approved in writing by the Urban Forester.

4. **Tree Removal.** No person shall remove a street tree without first obtaining a permit from the City, specifically authorizing removal of the street tree. The Urban Forester shall review the permit application and may condition approval upon replacement of the street tree with another tree pre-approved by the Urban Forester, or a requirement to pay to the City an amount sufficient to fund the planting and establishment by the City of a replacement tree of similar value. The value of the existing street tree to be removed shall be calculated using the methods set forth in the edition then in effect of the Guide for Plant Appraisal published by the International Society of Arboriculture Council of Tree Landscape Appraisers. No person shall remove a heritage tree from within the public right-of-way unless the City Manager has authorized its removal as being necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

**Dated and effective this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.**



**Jon R. Ruiz**  
City Manager

