

## What to Expect When You're Expecting a New Tree (2024)

So you've sent in your "New Tree Request Form" by the October 15 deadline and are possibly wondering, especially if it's your first request, what comes next. The following should provide some answers.

- First of all, you should get confirmation from Susan Messerschmidt ([smesserschmidt4313@gmail.com](mailto:smesserschmidt4313@gmail.com)) via the email you provided on your request that she has received it and added you to the list.
- If you didn't state on the request what species of tree you would like, you should be giving that some consideration. Yes, our arborist Cindi Sullivan can give you a recommendation, but that won't come until much closer to the actual planting time. In the meantime, think about whether you want an ornamental or a shade tree, flowers in the spring or color in the fall. Consider the size of the tree at maturity and whether it will fit in the spot you have chosen. Take note of trees around the neighborhood and Louisville that you like, ask friends, neighbors and family for recommendations and use the internet to learn about different varieties of trees. You may want to email me your choice if you make one so I can add it to the spreadsheet I forward to Cindi, or at least let me know if you want a shade tree or an ornamental.
- Having encouraged you to choose a tree species, I will caution you to be aware that we might not always be able to fulfill your wish for a specific species or variety. However, Cindi will work with you to help you find something that you are happy with.
- As planting time approaches, Cindi will visit SRP and leave an orange flag in your yard. This is to be used to show the placement of the new tree, so put it in the location you had in mind. You may also receive a door hanger stating the tree species Cindi has recommended for you. If you are not happy with the recommendation, please let her know via email ([cindihsullivan@gmail.com](mailto:cindihsullivan@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.
- The next step is for BUD (Before You DIG) to visit your property to make sure no utility lines are disturbed by the digging. This takes place approximately two weeks before the actual planting, so when/if you see them or evidence they've been there, you will know you're close to getting your new tree!
- The final step is the actual planting! Currently we have only one planting per year which is in the fall. We try to get the trees planted in mid to late November. If there is to be a delay, I will notify you via the email you provided.

That's it! Enjoy your new tree!

Susan Messerschmidt

October, 2024