

Whose Tree Is It?

City Trees

The City of Robbinsdale owns and maintains those trees growing around municipal offices and facilities, on street rights-of-way, in city parks, and in a few other isolated areas. City Code directs the Forestry Department to plant, manage, trim, and remove these trees. The street right-of-way typically extends inward about fifteen feet from the curb, although exceptions exist. If you are in doubt about tree ownership on the right-of-way, and planning tree work in the questioned area, please call.

Citizens are encouraged to report broken branches, possible diseased trees, clearance and other tree-related problems of city trees to the Forestry Department.

In some instances, a citizen is allowed to plant, trim, or remove a City-owned tree, after applying for the relevant action through the Forestry Office. An electronic copy of the required permit application for planting a tree on City-owned boulevards can be accessed at this website.

Private Trees

Your trees, those growing on your property, are your responsibility. A tree or shrub can be jointly-owned if it is growing on the property line, with near equal portions of the trunk on both sides of the line. In this case, such a plant would be jointly-owned, meaning that the responsibility for the plant is also shared.

Your neighbors' trees, while growing on their property, may overhang your property. If, as a result of this, possible conflicts arise, the first step is to discuss the situation with your neighbor. Together, attempt to reach agreement that solves the potential problem in a manner acceptable to both parties. From a legal standpoint, pruning cuts on neighboring trees must be made at your property line or inward, so that the tree is not harmed (hint: make proper cuts).

You may perform tree care operations (including tree pruning and removing) yourself, or you may choose a private tree care company that is licensed by the City of Robbinsdale (see [Licensed Tree Services](#)).

Other Public Trees

Hennepin County and the **Minnesota Department of Transportation** also own land in Robbinsdale on which trees grow. Please report concerns regarding such trees to the Forestry Department and they will be forwarded to the appropriate authority.