

Adopt a Tree Returns

Every year, the City of Tallahassee provides and plants trees for eligible homeowners to increase the urban forest canopy. The trees, depending on the species, are between 5 and 8 feet in height and are species native or cultivars of native species to the southeast. Eligible homeowners within the City limits may request up to two trees to be planted in the front yard within 100 feet of the centerline of the roadway and agree to keep each tree watered for one year.

Tree species offered this year include:



Nuttall Oak – This oak species is one of the most diverse varieties of the oaks – it works well as a street tree or shade tree, can adapt to wet soils and tolerates moderate drought conditions. It has a beautiful canopy that changes from yellow to orange to red, displaying those wonderful fall colors! This species is fast growing and can reach upwards of 80 feet at maturity, but the canopy spread stays relatively narrow, only reaching 45 feet max in width.



Pond Cypress – This adaptable and wind-tolerant species features a conical silhouette that loses its needles each winter and grows a new set in the spring. Its foliage begins with a soft, bright green turning rich shades of orange, red and golden brown in the fall. This tree is a spectacular feature along pond edges or within rain gardens. This tree is virtually maintenance-free, requiring no pruning, and is pest and disease-resistant! This fast-growing canopy tree can reach 45 to 60 feet at maturity, so it does need plenty of space.



Flatwoods Plum – This Florida native species is typically found in the hammocks and woodlands of our region. It features showy white blooms that attract a variety of pollinators, especially bees, and provides fall fruits for birds and other wildlife. Flatwoods Plum does best in moist soils with afternoon shade but is tolerant of drier soils and sun. It is a long-lived perennial species that grows between 12 and 20 feet in height. Only one Flatwoods Plum per property will be available due to a limited supply of this tree. This tree is only available for properties with overhead power lines or limited planting space. All requests for this tree will be reviewed before approval and planting.

To apply, visit Talgov.com/AdoptATree and fill out your Adopt a Tree application.

Questions can be emailed to AdoptaTree@Talgov.com or answered by calling (850) 891-5450.

Winter Weather Tips

It's not too early to prepare for cooler temperatures. When a freeze warning is issued for Tallahassee by the National Weather Service, you can take simple steps to help protect your family, your pipes and your pets.

- Insulate exposed outside pipes with cloth or a similar material.
- Exercise caution when using supplemental heating units. Keep all combustible materials, such as drapes or chairs, at least three feet away from any heating unit.
- Bring outside pets indoors during cold snaps, especially at night when temperatures dip to their lowest.



The City of Tallahassee wants to ensure all residents know what to do when the forecast calls for a hard freeze. Customers can call 850-891-4968 for utility service needs.



Holiday Happenings

The City of Tallahassee's Winter Festival is a beloved tradition that paves the way for a month of joyful holiday buzz all over town. The annual event will take place downtown on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 3-10 p.m. It features a Lighting Ceremony at 6 p.m., Jingle Bell Run at 6:15 p.m. and Holiday Parade at 7:15 p.m. Festival attendees will enjoy live entertainment, Candy Cane Lane, food vendors and more. On Saturday, Dec. 10, residents can bundle up for an enchanted Holiday Stroll in Cascades Park from 6-8 p.m. A spectacular holiday lights display will enchant visitors throughout the month at Dorothy B. Owen Park, with extra festivities on Thursday, Dec. 15, for Elf Night from 5:30-8:30 p.m. On December 16, Soul Santa's calendar has him visiting kids at the LeVerne Payne Community Center (450 W. Fourth Avenue). The following day, December 17, he'll be at the Walker- Ford Community Center (2301 Pasco Street). For more about these and other holiday happenings hosted by the City, visit Talgov.com.

Conserve Now. Save Later.



Every April, the City of Tallahassee resets your residential Maximum Sewer Charge based on your prior winter's water usage, which is why it's important to conserve water during the winter months. Your Sewer Max will be calculated based on the highest month of metered water usage as billed from December through March. This is typically when most customers use the least amount of water. Little efforts to conserve water in winter can result in big savings throughout the year! For more information, visit Talgov.com/YOU.

Be Safe While Shipping

The Tallahassee Police Department reminds you to be safe during the holiday shopping season. While you are in the stores picking out those must-have gifts, thieves could be out in the parking lot checking your car doors. Always remember to park in a well-lit area near other people and lock your vehicle doors. Criminals look for the easiest target to make a quick buck, and an unlocked car is a simple target. It takes less than 10 seconds to open a door, peek inside and steal your valuables before moving on to the next car in the parking lot. Whether you're out shopping or parked at home, simply locking your car doors can help prevent a car burglary during the holiday season.



EAT, DRINK AND SHOP LOCALLY

Support your neighbors this holiday season by keeping your dollars local.



Proper insulation in the attic will cut heat loss in the winter. To help, the City offers ceiling insulation grants. Call 850-891-4968 or visit Talgov.com/YOU.



For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 850-891-4968 or visit Talgov.com.

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Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.



DECEMBER MEETINGS

Visit Talgov.com for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops.

Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at Talgov.com. Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.