City of Waltham

Consolidated Public Works Department / Forestry

Office of the Tree Warden

165 Lexington Street, Waltham, MA 02451

Phone: (781)-314-3850 Fax: (781)-314-3808

**WATERING RECOMMENDATION FOR SETBACK TREES**

1. The short answer

* Water daily for 4-6 weeks
* Water every 2-3 days for four months
* Water weekly for two years from March through November

1. The long answer

In general your new tree requires about 20 gallons of water per week. During hot summer months the tree may need watering more frequently. As soil temperatures near 50 degrees, weekly watering is best. Remember that your tree grew in a container up until now and the rootball will dry out faster than surrounding soils. Also, it can take up to two years for the tree to become established. That said; please check moisture in the rootball 4-6 inches from the trunk to determine moisture levels and at a 4-6 inch depth. Dry is not good. Soggy is not good. Moist is good. Hot temperatures and windy days will dry out the soils faster. Another good indicator of dry soils is wilting leaves, however; soggy soils also cause that condition. Check soil moisture prior to adding water due to suspected dry soil / wilt.

You may call me anytime with questions or concerns. Thank you for helping reforest Waltham!

Sincerely,

Kevin Thompson

Tree Warden

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