



PUBLIC AWARENESS ANNOUNCEMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE CARE FOR STORM DAMAGED TREES

Tree Care Tips provided by Wheat Ridge Parks, Forestry and Open Space

Wheat Ridge, CO – the City of Wheat Ridge Parks, Forestry and Open Space Division would like to provide the following care tips for trees damaged in the July 20th storm that hit Wheat Ridge.

- ***Wait one growing season to fertilize*** and postpone routine pruning and other maintenance trimming for a few years for any injured tree.
- Fertilization of damaged trees should be avoided as it will cause additional stress on the already compromised systems of these trees. In general trees should be fertilized once a year in the spring and not in the middle of the summer. Trees go into a semi-dormancy period during the summer months due to the extreme heat. Fertilizing trees now, prior to the long dormancy period of winter, can cause new growth that will be further damaged as trees are not shutting down (or hardening off) as they should for a long winter's nap.
- Remove damaged limbs as these are likely to fall or be blown out by later storms which could cause additional damage or injury to the tree and surrounding property. Loose or loosely attached branches or trunks that are split, torn or broken should be removed.
- Many trees were wind thrown—beware that there could be root damage that might compromise the anchoring capacities of a tree.
- Have a professional licensed tree care company as listed in the Parks and Recreation Department Trees and Gardens section of City's Website do the work, especially if it is beyond your capabilities. **REMEMBER SAFETY FIRST!**

For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact Parks, Forestry and Open Space at 303-205-2554. Information is also available on the City Website at: www.ci.wheatridge.co.us.

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