



## THROW SHADE WITH ADOPT A TREE

The City of Tallahassee is once again offering free trees to eligible homeowners within the city limits. The Adopt A Tree program provides and helps plant native and naturalized trees to increase the community's urban forest canopy. To apply for the program, visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

Homeowners may request up to two trees be planted in the front yard within 100 feet of the centerline of the roadway (within the city limits) and must agree to keep each tree watered for one year. City staff will assist the homeowner with tree placement and take care of the installation.

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. Trees available this year include:

**Black Gum** – This slow-growing, deciduous tree can be found in varying locations from rocky ravines to low, wet woods. It can reach between 30-50 feet tall but can get to 90 feet. During spring, small, greenish-white flowers appear, which are an excellent resource for bees. During fall, foliage turns purple and eventually becomes an intense, bright scarlet red. This is a favorite of deer and is an important food source for migrating birds.

**American Sycamore** – This showy tree with patterned white-grey bark that tends to flake off can grow to an enormous

diameter and reach heights of 75-90 feet. It tolerates wet, compacted soils but does well in drier areas, too. During late spring, red clusters of flowers appear. The fruit balls show up in fall and remain through winter. This is a tree that will need plenty of space for growth and attention to branches that may need corrective pruning.

**Winged Elm** – This is this year's smallest growing tree with a top height average of 40-50 feet, though it has been found to reach upward of 90 feet in certain habitats. It is a fast-growing, deciduous tree, quickly identified by the corky, wing-like projections that appear on the opposite sides of twigs and branches. It can be found growing in wet sites as well as dry and prefers full to partial sun. During autumn, the leaves turn bright yellow, and in late winter, small red flowers mature in clusters. Tree planting will begin mid-January. Trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Adopt A Tree, which plants around 300 trees each year, helps ensure the health of Tallahassee's tree canopy. At 55 percent, the City boasts one of the highest percentages of tree coverage in the nation.

Visit [Talgov.com/AdoptATree](http://Talgov.com/AdoptATree) to complete the online application. Questions can be emailed to [AdoptATree@Talgov.com](mailto:AdoptATree@Talgov.com) or answered by calling 850-891-5450.

### MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

Visit [Talgov.com](http://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](http://Talgov.com). Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.



### DECK THE HALLS

Usher in the holiday season at the Tallahassee Senior Center's Deck the Halls celebration on Friday, Dec. 3. On one night each year, the Tallahassee Senior Center becomes a winter wonderland, with festive food and drinks, music, good cheer and great company. All are welcome to attend this premier event (tickets required), which helps support services and programs for Tallahassee's active-aging population. The seasonal fun begins at 6:30 p.m. at the TSC, located at 1400 N. Monroe Street. For more on this and other holiday happenings, visit [Talgov.com/Seniors](http://Talgov.com/Seniors).

ADOPT A TREE

TALGOV.COM/ADOPTATREE





## Sustainability Tip

Proper insulation in the attic will cut heat loss in the winter. To help, the City offers ceiling insulation grants. Call 850-891-4968 for details.



## CONSERVE NOW, SAVE LATER

Every April, the City of Tallahassee resets your residential Maximum Sewer Charge based on your prior winter's water usage. The City calculates your Sewer Max based on the second highest month of metered water usage as billed during December through March, which is when most customers use the least amount of water. Little efforts to conserve water in winter can result in big savings later! For more information, visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).



## BOX IT, BAG IT, BUNDLE IT

With fall upon us, many residents are sprucing up their lawns, resulting in piles of yard debris left curbside for collection. Yard debris refers to vegetative fragments like tree trimmings, grass clippings, pine straw and leaves. Residential yard debris is collected in front of each residence every other week, per the Red/Blue Week schedule.

When disposing of yard debris, place it within three feet of the curb (behind the curb, not in the roadway) and away from low-hanging wires, trees or other obstacles, such as mailboxes and fences. Clippings and pine straw may be placed in clear bags or boxes. For shrubs and limbs, piles should be no larger than 6 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high. The maximum size for limbs is 6 feet long and 4 inches in diameter. Separate yard waste piles from bulky items set out for pickup. For more information on how to properly dispose of yard debris, visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).



## BE SAFE WHILE SHOPPING

The Tallahassee Police Department reminds you to be safe during the upcoming holiday shopping season. While you are in stores picking out those must-have gifts, thieves could be in the parking lot checking your car doors. Always remember to park in a well-lit area near other people and to lock your vehicle doors. Criminals are always looking 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 to the next car in the parking lot. Whether you're out shopping or parked at home, locking your car doors can prevent most car burglaries during the holiday season.

For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquiries, please call 891-4968 or visit [Talgov.com](http://Talgov.com).

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