Treebate

Plant a yard tree for clean rivers, earn a rebate up to $50 per tree!

A Grey-to-Green Program | Portland City Council | November 4, 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
working for clean rivers

Why a Treebate?

- Stormwater Management

  – A mature tree with a 30 foot crown will drink up to 700 gallons of rainfall per year.

  – By retaining rainwater, trees reduce CSOs and local sewer back-ups.

- Watershed Health

  – Trees provide habitat that connects urban and natural areas.

  – Trees restore the water balance needed to recharge healthy rivers and streams.

- Neighborhood Livability and Involvement

  – Trees increase neighborhood attractiveness and value.

  – Trees provide an easy way for neighbors to work together for clean rivers.

How Treebates Work

- Purchase an eligible tree.

- Plant it at a residence in the City of Portland.

- Submit a Treebate application form and attach a proof of purchase.

- Receive 50% of the purchase price of the tree as a utility bill credit.

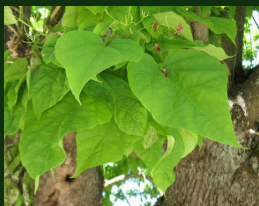- Treebates are limited to $40 per tree … $50 for native trees.

Additional Requirements

- Tree trunk must be at least one inch in diameter.

- Six foot minimum height for deciduous trees.

- Four foot minimum height for conifers.

- Limit of 10 trees per residence.

- Applicants agree to include their tree in the WorkingGreenPortland.com database.

WorkingGreenPortland.com

working green for clean rivers

visit
WorkingGreenPortland.com
to get information, ideas,
resources and incentives

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Ineligible Trees

- Trees planted through Friends of Trees
- Trees planted to satisfy a condition of development or mitigation
- Trees on the City Nuisance Plant List

How do we measure success?

- Willing and active business partners
  - nurseries, home and garden centers...
- Interested, engaged and knowledgeable citizens.
- Timely utility bill credits.
- Tens of thousands of healthy yard trees.
- 10-15 million gallons of stormwater managed per year once trees reach maturity.
- Improved stormwater management and watershed health.

We are not alone.

- **DC Tree Rebate** – The District of Columbia and Casey Trees are partnering to provide a $50 rebate to residents who plant a tree on private property.

- **Sacramento Shade** – The Sacramento Municipal Utility District is giving away up to 10 free trees per willing resident of Sacramento County (California), along with planting supplies and technical assistance.

- **Sapling Days** – Austin Energy is teaming up with local business sponsors to give away trees to residents throughout Austin and Central Texas.

- **Seattle ReLeaf** – The City of Seattle and EarthCorps are providing free trees to residents of four targeted neighborhoods that have some of the lowest canopy cover on residential property in Seattle.

- **Share-the-Cost Program** – The City of Urbana (IL) will purchase and plant a tree at the request of a resident or business owner. The property owner pays an fixed fee of $115 and agrees to water and protect the tree during three-year establishment period.

Program Resources

- Jennifer Karps
  Grey to Green Canopy Coordinator
  Bureau of Environmental Services
  503-823-2263
  jennifer.karps@bes.ci.portland.or.us

- Treebates on the Web
  www.portlandonline/bes/trees

- Working Green Portland
  workinggreenportland.com

- Clean River Rewards
  www.cleanriverrewards.com