

## **Trees and Tree Lawns: Mine? Yours? Ours?**

Shaker's urban forest is a gem. Our beautiful tree-lined streets are equally dazzling to new residents as those who have watched the City's trees mature for decades. Maintaining our tree lawns involves an important partnership between Shaker residents and the City. Here are some frequently asked questions compiled by the Tree Advisory Board about that partnership.

### **1. Who owns the trees and the tree lawn?**

The City owns the trees and, in most areas of Shaker, it also owns the tree lawn as public right-of-way.

### **2. Who pays for the trees that are planted on the tree lawn?**

By law, residents who own property pay an annual assessment on their property tax bill of \$1.16 per front foot of their property. The funds collected pay for tree trimming, planting, and maintenance.

### **3. Whose responsibility is it to maintain the trees?**

It is the City's responsibility to maintain the trees, but residents are partners with the City when a new tree is planted. The City sends the resident a letter explaining how to help maintain the tree by refilling the green plastic reservoir bag with water.

### **4. Whose responsibility is it to maintain the tree lawn?**

It is the resident's responsibility to maintain the tree lawn.

### **5. When issues arise on the tree lawn such as damage, danger posed by a tree, or when other questions arise, who should I contact?**

Please contact [Superintendent of Forestry Patrick Neville](#) or by calling 216-491-1490.