



**Alamosa Tree Board and
Alamosa Dept. of Parks & Recreation**

**Alamosa 2018 Arbor Week Planting
April 29 – May 5**

***State Ave. & Cemetery Entrance (S of airport)*
Friday, May 4
*Noon & 4 pm***

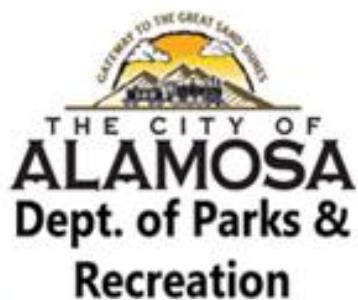
Alamosa received another **Colorado Tree Coalition/Excel** grant that is partially funding the trees we're planting. With the help of citizens & the Tree Board, Alamosa Parks' personnel we'll plant 20 trees in our city this spring.

Don't forget. To be healthy in our area, trees need to be watered!

		
Canada Red Chokecherry <i>Prunus virginiana 'Schubert'</i> Fast growing; leaves turn purple in summer. To 25 ft.	Toba Hawthorn <i>Crataegus x mordenensis 'Toba'</i> Hardy with double white flowers that turn pink in late spring. Deer resistant. To 20 ft.	Tatarian Maple <i>Acer tataricum garann "Hot Wings"</i> Small, turns reddish in fall. Tolerates alkaline soil. To 20 ft.

			
Bristlecone Pine Slow growth rate; OK in poor, rocky soils. To 30 ft.	Spring Snow Crabapple <i>Malus 'Spring Snow'</i> White flowers, no fruit. Early bloomer. To 25 ft.	Gambel Oak <i>Quercus gambelii</i> Drought tolerant, once established. Native. To 20 ft.	Moonglow Juniper <i>Juniperus scopulorum 'Moonglow'</i> Dense growth. To 9 ft.

SPONSORS of Alamosa's Arbor Week



Tree Care

Site Preparation

- Decide how deep to plant the tree. A common mistake is to plant the tree too deeply. Most of the important fine absorbing roots will develop in the upper 12 inches of the soil. Trees should be planted so that the top of the root ball is an inch or two above the surrounding grade. This helps tree roots get the oxygen that is essential to plant growth. It's OK to leave a couple of inches above the surface for mulch
- If the tree is in a container, measure the height and width and dig the hole to a depth slightly more than the height of the root ball, but **two to three** times as wide.

Planting

- Lift or move the tree by the root ball, not the trunk, to avoid damage to the tree.
- Before backfilling the hole, make sure the tree is straight.
- Container trees: Carefully remove tree from container if possible. If not, cut container away. Gently loosen any spiraling or circling roots.
- Girdling roots (those that grow in a circle around the inside of a container) are a major reason trees die within 8 years of planting. Once they've started growing in a circular manner, they continue to do so eventually choking the tree to death. Disrupt the circling roots by making several vertical cuts on the outside of the root ball or by loosening the outside roots with your hands.

Mulching

- Make sure to mulch the newly planted tree. A 2-4 inch layer of organic mulch reduces soil moisture loss from evaporation, moderates soil temperature extremes, reduces competition from grass & weeds, improves soil aeration & soil structure, adds organic material to the soil, and will help prevent lawnmower & weed whip damage to the trunk. Apply organic mulch within the dripline, to a depth of no more than 4 inches.

Protection

- Protect the newly planted tree from damage by such threats as deer and lawnmowers. Many people in Alamosa are now surrounding tree trunks with chicken wire or some other material that prevents deer from grazing on the trunk and damage from lawnmowers or trimmers.
- Staking: Generally, staking is not required. It may be necessary in very windy locations.

Maintenance

- Water: Keep the soil moist but not soaked; over watering causes leaves to turn yellow or fall off. Test the soil below the surface. Some people get so excited they water their trees to death!
- Pruning: Appropriate pruning is essential for both young and mature trees. Refer to website.
- Soil amendments/fertilizer: Fertilizing a tree can improve growth; however, if fertilizer is not applied wisely, it may not benefit the tree at all. Mulch: Maintain mulch layer of 2-4 inches.



For more information on Alamosa Trees,
including photos of Alamosa Arbor week since 2009,
& Alamosa Tree Maintenance Brochure,
please visit AlamosaTrees.net