

# **Village of McFarland**

## **“Adopt a Tree Program” Component of the EAB Response Plan**

### **Purpose:**

The Village of McFarland acknowledges that trees are a valuable resource that provides economic, environmental, and aesthetic benefits to the community. Unfortunately, the many ash trees that comprise a significant portion of the current urban forest are threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer. In response to this increasing threat, the Village has developed an EAB Response Plan which calls for the pro-active removal of certain ash trees from public property such as street terraces and rights-of-way. The removal of these existing ash trees and the grinding of the stumps will be done by the Village at no expense to the property owner. Due to budget constraints, however, it is unclear when or if the Village will be able to replace the ash trees that are removed.

The goal of the “Adopt a Tree Program” is for the Village to partner with property owners in replacing these trees and helping to maintain a healthy and diverse urban forest. Participation by property owners in the program is completely voluntary. The role of the Village under this program is to coordinate the selection, ordering, and planting of the replacement trees within street terraces and rights-of-way. The role of the property owner is to select the desired species, pay the cost of the tree and the planting, and care for the new tree until it becomes established. Property owners who have removed ash trees from their private property are also eligible to order replacement trees under this program, except that the Village will not be involved in either the tree removal or tree planting process.

### **Program Guidelines:**

- ▶ The Village will order trees on behalf of interested Village property owners twice per year. Orders and payments must be received on approved forms by the due date in order to be considered. The property owner will be responsible for the cost of the tree and the planting.
- ▶ The order dates will be April 1 and August 15 of each year for spring and fall planting.
- ▶ Only trees on the Village’s approved street tree planting list as specified in Section 59-35 of the Village Code of Ordinances will be available (pending nursery availability). Other species of trees for private use will also be made available (pending nursery availability). The minimum tree size will be 1.5” DBH per Village code.
- ▶ The placement of trees in the street terraces and rights-of-ways must meet the location requirements of the Village’s Tree and Shrub Ordinance in Section 59-25 of the Code of Ordinances.
- ▶ Final placement and acceptance of tree orders must be approved by the Village Forester.
- ▶ The Village will, at property owner expense, order, deliver and plant the terrace and right-of-way replacement tree(s) in the approved location. The Village will also coordinate the ordering and delivery of replacement tree(s) for ash trees previously removed on private property, except that the tree(s) will not be planted by the Village.
- ▶ The property owner agrees to maintain the tree(s) according to the maintenance requirements in Section 59-34 of the Code of Ordinances.
- ▶ The Village retains ownership of all trees planted in the Village right-of-way.
- ▶ The Village reserves the right to limit the number of trees ordered and planted each year. Orders will be honored on a first come first serve basis and all unfilled orders will be placed on a waiting list at the discretion of the purchaser.

\* The area between the curb and sidewalk or located within the documented Village street right-of-way

# “Adopt a Tree Program”

## Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Desired Terrace Tree Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed Yes  No

Desired Private Use Tree Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed Yes  No

I understand and agree to adhere to the guidelines of the “Adopt a Tree Program” that is part of the Village of McFarland’s EAB Response Plan. I also understand and agree that, in order to be eligible to participate in this program, an ash tree(s) must have already been removed from my property. I also understand and agree that any new tree(s) purchased through the Village will be used solely as a replacement(s) for the ash tree(s) that was removed earlier.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Village Forester Approval: \_\_\_\_\_