

A TREE ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Campo, Colorado, on the 10th day of May, 2004:

SECTION I

Definitions

Street trees: "Street trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues, or ways within the town.

Park trees: "Park trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the Town of Campo, or to which the public has free access, such as a park.

SECTION II

Creation and Establishment of a Tree Board

There is hereby, created and established, a Tree Board for the Town of Campo, which consists of members, citizens, and residents of Baca County, who shall be volunteers who are interested in the health and well-being of the town-forest located in Campo, Colorado.

SECTION III

Term of Office

The term of office of the volunteers shall not expire.

SECTION IV

Compensation

Members of the Campo Tree Board shall serve without monetary compensation.

SECTION V

Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the Campo Tree Board to study, investigate, counsel, and develop and/or update annually, and administer a plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal, or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets, and in other public places. Such a plan shall be presented to the Board of Trustees and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive town tree plan for the Town of Campo.

The Campo Tree Board, when requested by the Board of Trustees, shall consider, investigate, make finding, report and recommend upon any special matter of question coming within the scope of its work.

SECTION VI

Operation

The Campo Tree Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations with the Town Council's approval, and keep a written record of its proceedings. Funding for Campo Tree Board projects shall be under the auspices of the Campo Board of Trustees. A representative from the Campo Tree Board shall give a quarterly report to the Town Council.

SECTION VII

Tree Species to be Planted

The Campo Tree Board shall develop and maintain a list of desirable trees for planting in three size classes: small, medium, and large. A list of trees not suitable for planting will also be created. Committee members shall work closely with Colorado State Forest Service personnel in developing both lists.

SECTION VIII

Distance from Curb and Sidewalk

The distance trees may be planted from curbs or curblines and sidewalks will be in accordance with the three species size classes listed in Section VII of this ordinance, and no trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following: small trees, 2 feet; medium trees, 3 feet; and large trees, 4 feet.

SECTION IX

Distance from Street Corners, Fire plugs, and Water Meter Pits

No street tree shall be planted 15 feet from any street corner, measured from the point of nearest intersecting curbs or curblines. No tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet from any fireplug or water meter pit.

SECTION X

Utilities

No tree, other than those species listed as small trees in Section VII of this ordinance, may be planted under or within 10 feet of any overhead utility wire.

SECTION XI

Public Tree Care

The Town shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants, and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares, and public grounds, as may be necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.

The Campo Tree Board may remove any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition, or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, water lines, or other public improvements, or is affected with injurious fungus, insects, or other pests.

SECTION XII

Tree Topping

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or city department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in the normal canopy and disfigure of the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical will be exempted from this ordinance.

SECTION XIII

Pruning, Corner Clearance

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the Town of Campo shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not (severely) obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of thirteen feet (13') above the street surface, or eight feet (8') above the sidewalk surface. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The Town shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with visibility of any traffic control sign. Tree board members shall be willing to assist property owners with pruning or with removal of dead limbs if the property owner requests their help.

SECTION XIV

Interference with the Campo Tree Board

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay, or interfere with the Campo Tree Board, or any of its agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removal of any street trees, or park trees as authorized in this ordinance.

SECTION XV

Review by Campo Board of Trustees

The Campo Board of Trustees shall have the right to review the conduct, acts, and decisions of the Campo Tree Board. Any person may appeal from any ruling or order of the Campo Tree Board to the Campo Board of Trustees who will hear the matter and make a final decision.

SECTION XVI

Penalty

Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a fine not to exceed \$50.00.