March 30, 2020

Dear Resident,

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Grand Forks Park District has decided to cancel our spring tree order. We didn’t make this decision lightly as planting trees has always been at the core of the Forestry Department’s long history. However, our tree order was scheduled for the first week in May and most of the trees we order come to us bareroot which means we have a 3-4-week window to plant the trees before they begin to sprout and ultimately die in storage. With the COVID-19 pandemic it’s unclear how the virus will affect the Grand Forks Park District’s employees and budgets this spring, and we felt it wouldn’t be prudent to continue with the order.

There are no costs or special assessments to you for the Grand Forks Park District to plant trees along the boulevard. Our intent is to plant the trees that were scheduled this year in the spring of 2021. If you still would like a new tree planted this year next to your property, the Grand Forks Park District has implemented a Planting Permit system that will be ready this May. The Planting Permit will allow you or a contractor to plant trees on the public-right-away. The Grand Forks Park District would issue the property owner a permit to plant the tree(s). After the planting is completed and inspected by the Grand Forks Park District, you would receive a reimbursement of $50 per tree planted.

If you have questions about your tree planting or are interested in obtaining a Planting Permit, the best way to contact me is to email me at slee@gfparks.org. Alternatively, you can call the main office of the Park District at 701-746-2750 and the office will forward your message to me.

Thank you for your patience and please stay safe.

Sean Lee
Forestry Operations Manager
Grand Forks Park District
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