

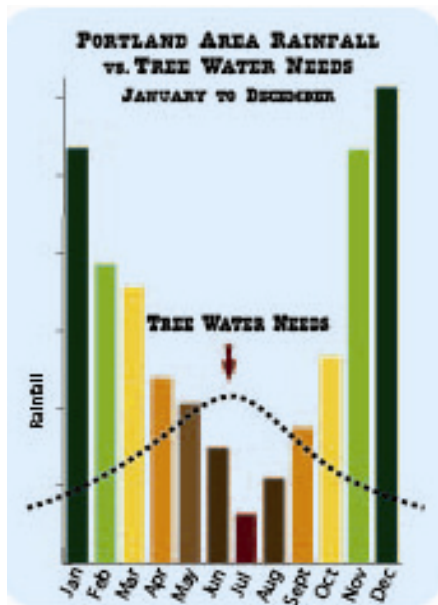


MEDIA ALERT
For More Information Please Contact:
Teri Ruch, Communications Director
503-467-2517, TeriR@FriendsofTrees.org

Water Your Trees to Help Them Through the Heat

Shade trees can grow to cool our neighborhoods if we water them during dry summer months.

Portland, Ore. — Temperatures are expected to rise to 100 degrees and higher this week, so don't forget to water your trees! Trees should be watered twice a week with five to ten gallons of water, especially during the first three summers after they've been planted.



The local nonprofit Friends of Trees offers videos on how to [use an ooze tube](#) or a [drilled bucket](#) to water your trees.

Trees reduce the accumulated heat absorbed by sun-baked roofs, sidewalks and streets, which is called the urban heat island effect. They also cool our homes with their shade and add mist to the air through transpiration.

It's best to keep an 18-inch radius of weed-free, mulched area between your tree's trunk and other plants, since weeds and grass absorb water that needs to reach the tree's roots. Mulching also minimizes scarring from lawn mowers and weed whackers. But be sure to clear the mulch away from the tree in a three-inch radius to prevent fungus growth or infection.

[Good things "grow" on trees](#), like cleaner air and water, better health, a safer community—and even money. Now is a great time to sign up to buy a tree to plant this fall or winter. Friends of Trees provides the permit, a tree approved by the city for the homeowner's particular planting strip, delivery, hole digging, planting assistance, stakes and follow-up maintenance. Learn more at www.FriendsofTrees.org.

Since 1989, Friends of Trees has planted more than 450,000 trees and native plants in the Portland-Vancouver and Eugene-Springfield areas.