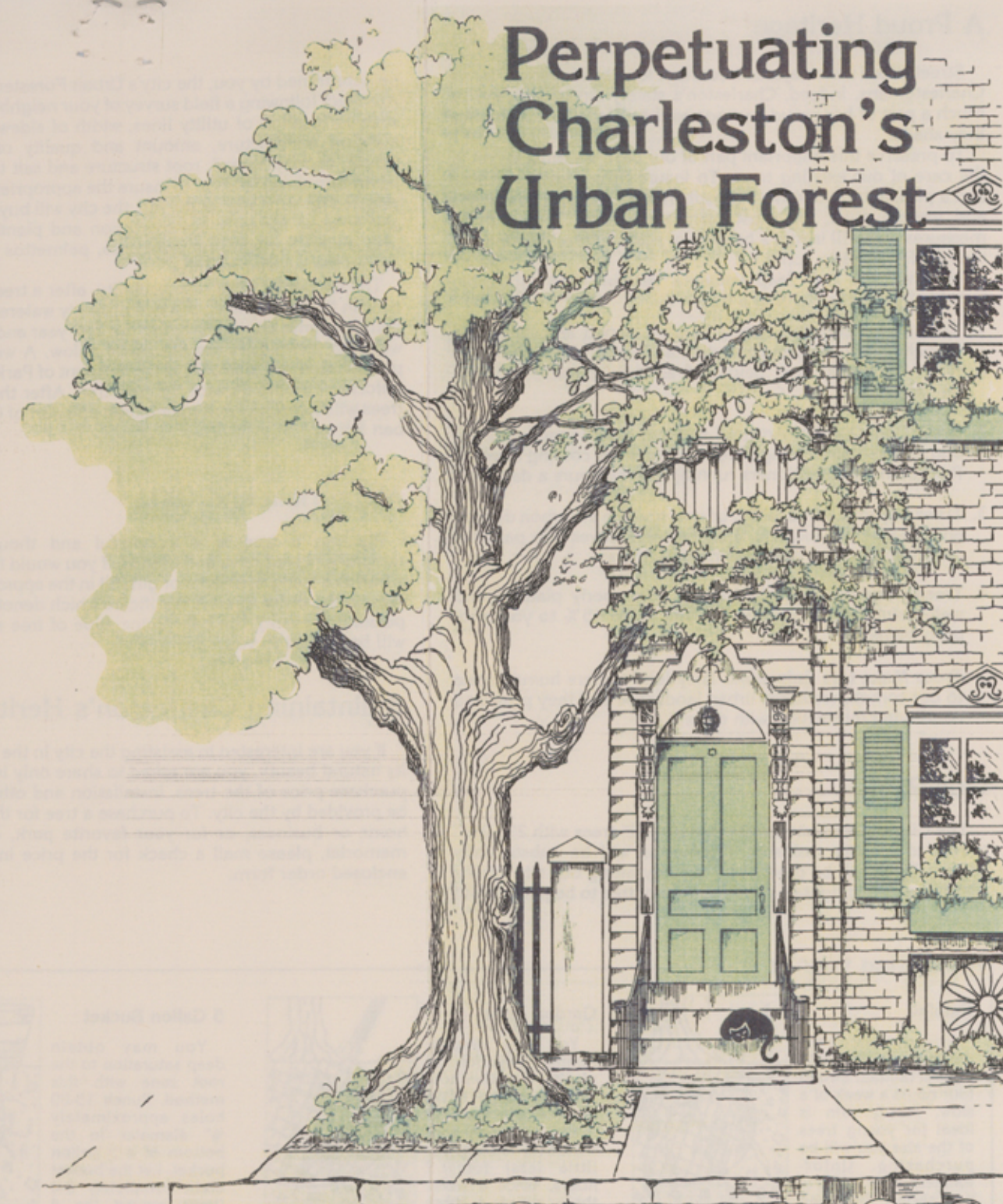


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# Perpetuating Charleston's Urban Forest



City of Charleston  
Departments of Parks  
823 Meeting St.  
Charleston, SC 29403

Preserving Charleston's Proud  
Heritage and Natural Beauty



## A Proud Heritage

Streets lined with majestic trees have long been enjoyed by all Charlestonians. Indeed, Charleston's stately street trees are as much a part of her proud heritage as the antebellum structures they shade.

To preserve this important part of our past, we must invest in the care of our existing trees. To insure future lasting beauty and a pleasant, productive atmosphere for Charleston's citizens and visitors alike, we must plant new trees. Taking these measures now will insure a balance of mature trees through out the city for years to come.

Imagine, you can reap valuable tangible and intangible benefits by simply planting a tree.

1. **Trees Are Beautiful.** Spring flowers, varied leaf types and branching patterns, and colorful Fall foliage add to the beauty of a block and help define the character of the neighborhood.
2. **Trees Cool Our Air.** Artificial surfaces such as asphalt retain and radiate heat. A single tree can have the cooling effect of five room air-conditioners running twenty-hours a day.
3. **Trees Improve Air Quality.** Leaves breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen. Branches and leaves trap particles of dirt and pollen, acting as natural filters.
4. **Trees Improve Property Values.** A properly planned and well-maintained landscape can add up to 15% to your property value.
5. **Trees Make Life Enjoyable.** They lend a more human scale to our sometimes harsh urban landscape and they provide a continuing interaction with nature.

## Our Plan

The City of Charleston will offer 10' - 12' trees with 2" - 2½" trunks to all city residents. (Palmettos will be substantially larger.) Trees will be planted by the city along our city streets within the public right-of-way. The type of tree to be planted will

be determined by you, the city's Urban Forester and Landscape Architect following a field survey of your neighborhood. Factors such as location of utility lines, width of sidewalks, set backs, building architecture, amount and quality of sunlight, tree height, canopy spread, root structure and salt tolerance will be taken into consideration to insure the appropriate type of tree is selected for each site. In the fall, the city will buy trees wholesale and arrange for their transportation and planting. In keeping with sound horticultural principles, palmettos will be planted during the warmer months.

The resident's main responsibility, after a tree has been placed with them, is to keep the tree properly watered. Watering will demand some attention during the first year and some effective watering techniques are discussed below. A watchful eye and prompt alert will also aid the Department of Parks in case of any unforeseen problems with the new tree. After the first year, the trees will be pruned and maintained as a part of Charleston's Urban Forest.

## Memorials and Gifts

Planting a tree is a wonderful and thoughtful way to remember loved ones and friends. If you would like to purchase a tree as a living memorial or gift, fill in the appropriate information on the order form. A certificate which denotes the honored person (or event), the benefactor, type of tree and its location will be mailed to you.

## Maintaining Charleston's Heritage

If you are interested in assisting the city in the preservation of its natural beauty, you are asked to share only in the wholesale purchase price of the trees. Installation and other services will be provided by the city. To purchase a tree for the front of your home or business, or for your favorite park, or as a gift or memorial, please mail a check for the price indicated on the enclosed order form.

### Watering your Tree

#### Rainfall

Irrigation efforts are designed to simulate natural rainfall. Two to four hours a week of a slow, steady rain is ideal for young trees of the size you will be purchasing. Unfortunately, our rainfall is not always dispersed this evenly or conveniently, therefore, you may want to supplement natural with these other watering methods.



#### Garden Hose

You may simulate rainfall irrigation by placing a garden hose within six inches of the base of your tree. Let it flow at a very slow trickle (¼" stream or a little less) for 1-2 hours, twice a week; three times a week may be necessary during extremely hot, dry periods. This is an excellent method for watering all trees.



#### 5 Gallon Bucket

You may obtain deep saturation to the root zone with this method. Punch 15-20 holes approximately ½" diameter in the bottom of a 5 gallon bucket. Let the bucket drain completely 3-4 times around the 4 quadrants of the tree. It should take 15-30 minutes to completely drain. Repeat 2-3 times weekly as weather conditions dictate.





# ORDER FORM

## PRESERVING CHARLESTON'S NATURAL BEAUTY

Trees like humans undergo stages of life. They are born, they grow, they mature, decline and die. This process occurs naturally and continuously in our woodlands but city conditions are not always perfect for trees, therefore your help is paramount in maintaining our urban forest.

Contributions to the city's Street Tree Program will insure that Charleston will always have a natural history.

I wish to have \_\_\_\_\_ trees planted at

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per tree  
for palmettos

Please find enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Purchaser's Name

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Address

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Telephone

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I would like for this planting to be  
Gift \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial \_\_\_\_\_

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In honor of

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