

The Value of Trees

"The great French Marshall Lyautey once asked his gardener to plant a tree. The gardener objected that the tree was slow growing and would not reach maturity for 100 years. The Marshall replied, 'In that case, there is no time to lose; plant it this afternoon!' ----- John F. Kennedy.

We often underestimate the value of trees. Most of us only consider how they will enhance the look of our immediate environment when in fact they have much greater environmental and economic value.



Here are a few tree planting tips that will add value to the environment and your pocketbook!

Studies show that trees increase property values and can significantly reduce heating and cooling costs when strategically planted. The Arbor Day Foundation recommends planting deciduous trees on the east and west sides of your home to provide shade in the summer but allow sunlight through in the winter. Plant evergreen trees to the north and northwest to shield your home from cold winter winds without blocking winter sunlight. Strategically planting trees in these areas can reduce home energy use by as much as 30%!

Trees also raise property values for entire neighborhoods, not to mention the overall value of your home. Planting trees provides an aesthetic shield from noisy surroundings such as school playgrounds and highways, which contributes to the atmosphere of any peaceful neighborhood. In a Forest Service study it was estimated that "a neighborhood tree growing along the public right-of-way added an average of \$12,828 to the combined value of all houses within 100 feet." That's pretty good, wouldn't you say?



In the same Forest Service study, the estimated value on an individual tree was \$273 annually and well over \$57,000 over its lifetime. The estimate includes the value of climate control, soil erosion and stormwater management, wildlife shelter, and air pollution reduction.

However, it's important that the quality of the tree you invest in matches the value of your time and money as well. Trees add value to our homes, our neighborhoods, and our city. Warner's Nursery specializes in the selection, care, and growth of trees suited for northern Arizona, so you can rest assured that money spent on a tree from Warner's is money well-spent. Whether you approach tree planting as an environmental act, a cost-savings measure, or just because you love the color of aspen tree leaves in the fall, investing in high quality plants is sure to yield high quality benefits.

It'll take time for your trees to reach maturity, but that's part of the joy and satisfaction of planting a tree; you can watch your investment in natural beauty and dollars grow.

So don't just stand there. Plant Something!

Happy Gardening,

Misti Warner & Family