



City of Cañon City

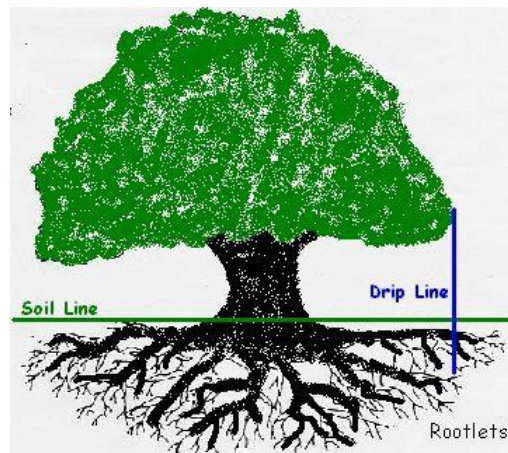
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Forestry
Division

DROUGHT IMPACTS CAÑON CITY TREES

Contact: Bryce Hamilton, City Forester, 371-0677
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The nominal amount of rains that we have experienced in Cañon City, coupled with the lack of winter moisture, has resulted in many trees experiencing severe drought conditions. In normal conditions, large shade trees may lose up to 75 gallons of water each day. Cañon City Forester, Bryce Hamilton stresses that with such extreme conditions trees need to be deep-watered every 2-4 weeks. Even if your trees are within your lawn and you are watering regularly, it may not be enough to reach deep into the tree roots. Watering the lawn absorbs approximately 6-8 inches into the soil; however, tree roots will be about 12-36 inches deep. Mr. Hamilton recommends that watering should be done at the drip line (the area beneath the canopy of the tree where excess moisture is shed to the ground), or by using a lower amount of water pressure to avoid run-off, or using a deep root probe attached to a garden hose that is moved frequently around the drip line to promote additional aeration, which is very desirable in compacted soils. Mr. Hamilton cautions that over-watering can be as damaging as under-watering. For more information regarding specific amounts of water and frequency contact Mr. Hamilton at 371-0677.



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Cañon City is proud to be a "Tree City USA" for the past 30 years, and recognizes the priceless value each tree has on a community and the devastation of losing such a wonderful commodity. "None of us could imagine coming into town from the east looking onto Cañon City without its regal tree scape," states Forester Hamilton. "It would simply be unrecognizable! I hope that every citizen joins us in fostering the magnificent Cañon City tree scape so that future generations can enjoy what so many of us have had for so many years." Hamilton can be contacted at 371-0677 for more information.