



### Oelwein Tree Utility

2021 Rate- \$1.95

Proposed Rate- \$3.00

The Tree Utility fee pays for the following:

- Access to the yard waste site in town for:
  - Yard waste
  - Leaves
  - Grass clippings
  - Twigs and branches
  - Limited whole tree disposal
- Maintenance of right-of-way trees
- City wide tree trimming

The City must address the emerald ash borer problem over the next five years. Ash trees are being infected by the emerald ash borer and are dying. An ash tree has five to seven years of life once the tree is infected with an ash borer. The ash borer cuts off nutrients to the tree from the root system. Ash trees suffering from emerald ash borer will have lower leaf canopies and dead limbs above their canopy. The City has over 300 ash trees in the right-of-way



Right-of-way trees offer the following benefits:

- Urban trees reduce traffic speeds and reduce crashes
- Trees improve drainage infrastructure
- Trees provide rain, sun, heat, and skin protection
- Urban trees absorb harmful pollution
- Trees lower urban air temperatures
- Trees add value to adjacent homes, businesses and tax base
- Trees lengthen pavement life
- Trees produce oxygen which helps people breath

