

# TREES

Trees provide a multitude of benefits. Unfortunately, much of the general public is not well informed on the subject. By increasing awareness of the benefits relating to trees, we can utilize current scientific evidence to help resolve many challenging issues to improve the livability of our cities. Proper planting of trees around your home proves to be beneficial in many ways. Studies across the nation show that residential home prices increase from 3% to 20% due to the presence of trees, depending on the type of trees, scarcity of tree lots and the maturity of existing trees. Dallas area neighborhoods with mature trees can be up to 11 degrees cooler than neighbors without trees. A one-degree rise in temperature equals a 2% increase in peak electricity consumption. The national Arbor Day Foundation calculates that 100 million additional mature trees in U.S. cities would save \$2 billion annually.

Steve Houser, DALLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER, Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture

Large deciduous trees placed on the southern and western side of your home will shade it from the summer sun.

If your A.C. unit is on the southern or western side of your home, plant trees or shrubs to shade it from the summer sun.

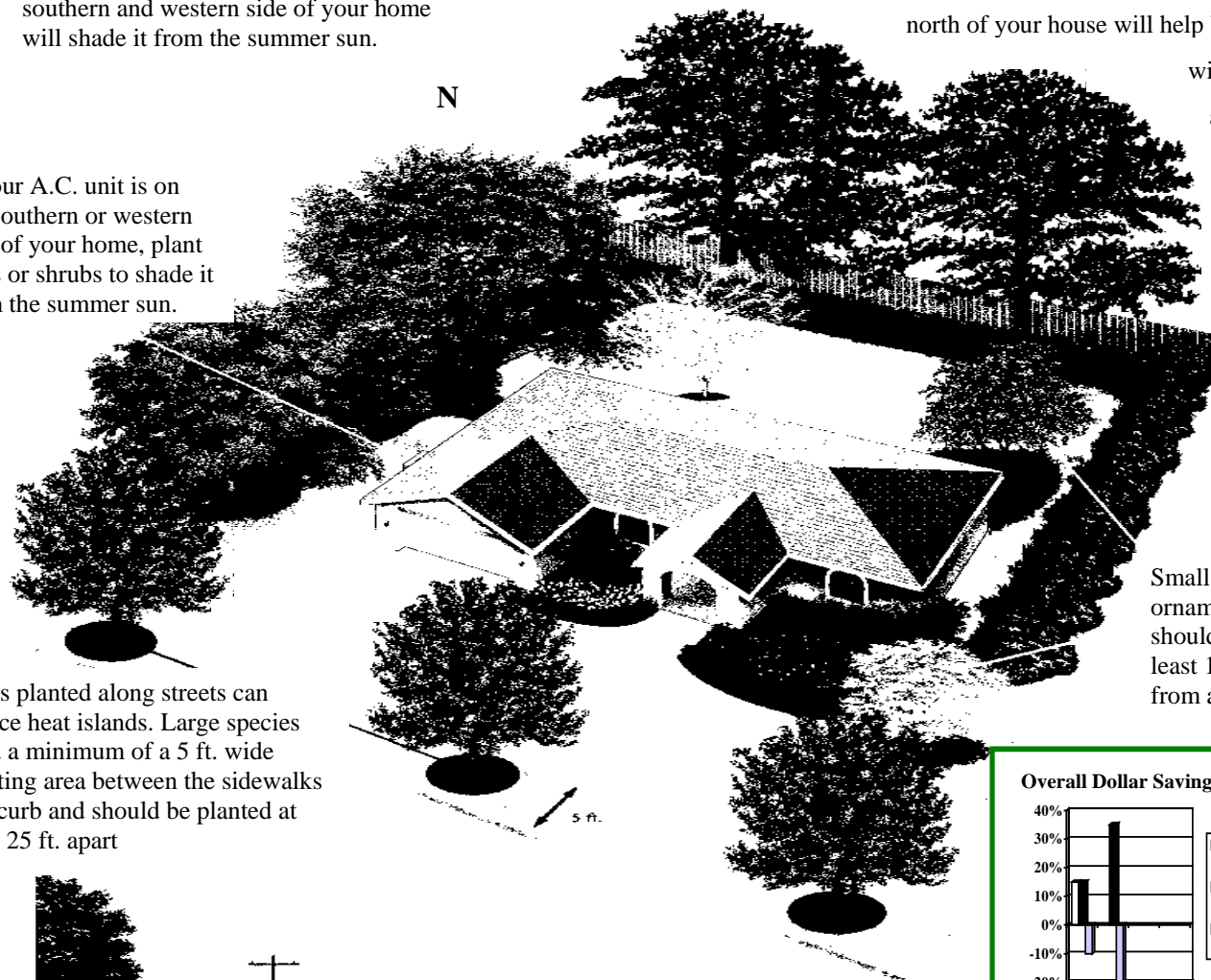
Trees planted along streets can reduce heat islands. Large species need a minimum of a 5 ft. wide planting area between the sidewalks and curb and should be planted at least 25 ft. apart



Select smaller species of trees if planting under or near power lines

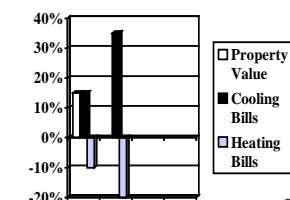
A row of large evergreen trees or one large, spreading Evergreen tree north of your house will help block cold winter winds

and reflect heat back onto your home.



Small ornamental trees should be at least 10 feet from a building.

Overall Dollar Savings “%”



## Can save you money

### Benefits of Shade

- Improved human comfort
- Reduce air conditioning cost
- Reduce peak load demands on utility companies
- Less sun damage to carpets, drapes and furniture
- Lower Heating bills
- Increase property value

### Do's

- Choose deciduous trees that shade your home in the summer and reduce air conditioning needs
- Choose deciduous trees that shed their leaves in the fall to warm your home in the winter months
- Choose deciduous trees that will grow to be at least 25' tall and should be planted 10-20 feet south, east and west of your house.
- Choose Evergreens to block winter winds. Plant them in straight or curved rows, close enough together that their crowns will meet within a few years without over crowding.
- Choose trees to shade paved areas around your home to keep reflective heat away from your home.

### Don'ts

- Plant large trees that will interfere with power lines
- Do not plant evergreen trees to the south that extend over the roof in the winter, which create too much shade to keep your home comfortable.



### Dallas County Master Gardener Association Inc.

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# The Proper Tree in the Proper Location Saves Money



Dallas County Master  
Gardener Association  
Speakers Bureau