

# NEWS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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**Community Development**

## Dangerous Trees

While the weather is still nice, the City of Casper is asking property owners to take a look around their property and trim or remove any overgrown tree limbs, shrubs, or bushes that obstruct traffic visibility at intersections/alleys, obscure street signs, block sidewalks, or that hang too low over any public street or alley. Ask yourself these questions:

- Can pedestrians walk safely down the sidewalk?
- Do vehicles have a clear view of street and traffic signs, crosswalks, pedestrians, young children playing, and other vehicles at intersections?
- When weighted down with snow and ice, will branches hang low enough to obstruct, or be struck by snow plows, emergency vehicles, and garbage collection vehicles?
- Are there dead branches or trees that may fall and damage property or cause injuries?

Now is the time to take action! The Municipal Code requires that all trees, bushes and shrubs must be trimmed to at least 15-feet above streets and alleys, and at least 8-feet above all sidewalks. Healthy trees and shrubs can spread out and become obstructions almost overnight; however, many trees in Casper have also been traumatized by the extreme weather we've had the last few years. Time is of the essence – the longer a dead or dying tree remains, the more dangerous it becomes. Questions about whether a tree is healthy or needs some attention? Both the City of Casper and the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Office offer free yard calls!

So, you've trimmed your trees and shrubs, thank you! But what should property owners do with the tree limbs and other yard waste? It can all be taken to the compost yard at the Solid Waste Facility for free! Information on the proper disposal of yard waste can be obtained on the City's website, or by contacting Solid Waste. If you'd like to trim your own trees, the City's Parks Department would be happy to answer any questions property owners may have regarding proper tree trimming/pruning techniques. If you are uncomfortable trimming or pruning your own trees, certified arborists can be found on the website of The International Society of Arboriculture.

- ❖ UW Cooperative Extension – 235-9400
- ❖ City of Casper Parks Department – 235-8283
- ❖ City of Casper Solid Waste Facility – 235-8246
- ❖ City of Casper Code Enforcement – 235-8254
- ❖ City of Casper website – [www.casperwy.gov](http://www.casperwy.gov)
- ❖ To locate a certified arborist – [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)

**Thank you for making Casper a safer place to LIVE, WORK AND PLAY!**

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