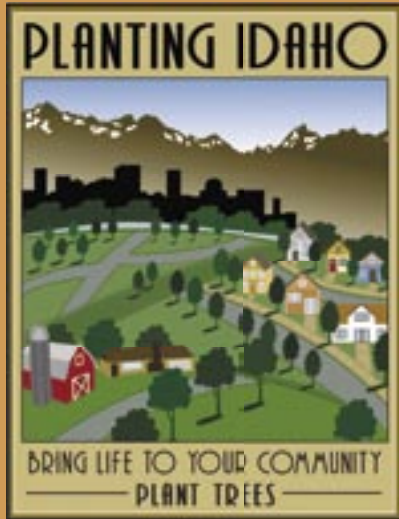


Planting Idaho

The Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association, in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Power, Rocky Mountain Power, and Avista, is again pleased to announce a program intended to foster a stronger relationship between Idaho communities and the Green Industry. The INLA will offer Arbor Day grants to many Idaho communities in the amount of \$300.00 each for “Planting Idaho”. Funding for this program is provided by the generous contribution of Idaho utilities that have a large interest in healthy urban forests and having the right

tree planted in the right place.

In these times of increasing environmental awareness, many communities are becoming acutely aware of the benefits that trees provide. In fact, planting trees is one of the best environmental activities that can be accomplished in cities.



The long term benefits provided include carbon sequestration, pollutant removal from the air, stormwater capture to minimize impact on city infrastructure, mitigation of “heat islands” such as parking lots and roof tops, soil stabilization, protection of aquifers and watersheds, wildlife habitat, energy conservation, increases in property value and quality of life for citizens and visitors.

All Idaho communities are eligible to participate in the “Planting Idaho” program. Applications will be sent to cities throughout Idaho and a lottery style drawing will be used to determine who receives one of the 40 grants available. A list of INLA members will be provided to the grantees so they may purchase quality plant material, receive reliable advice in selection, planting and care; thus ensuring a significant positive impact on Idaho’s environment.



Governor Otter and the First Lady plant a tree in Paul, Idaho’s Arbor Day Celebration in 2009.

Water Saving Tips from University of Idaho Extension:

Considerations for Turf:

- Avoid installing narrow, impractical strips of grass that serve no landscape purpose. Know for which benefits you’re growing turf—play areas, erosion control, natural cooling, and so forth—and plant only what you need and what you can adequately maintain, says Tom Salaiz, research support scientist and turf researcher at Aberdeen.
- Maintaining your turf’s fertility will help it develop the deep, healthy root system it needs to resist drought.
- Try tall fescues. If you’re already managing your grass optimally, you can further reduce water needs by growing drought-tolerant turfs. Consider turf-type tall fescues, which are deep-rooted and can look good with just 40 percent of the normally recommended water. Tall fescue with proper fertilization in early May, late June/early July, and early/mid September also minimized weed growth, and green up as quickly as Kentucky bluegrass.
- Clay soil help. To improve infiltration on clay soils, core aerate in spring and fall and top dress with a quarter-inch of finished compost.
- 3-inch mow height. Raise mowing heights to 3 inches during the summer. Taller blades will help your grass produce deeper, healthier roots, and your expanded soil-water reserve will permit longer intervals between irrigations. Taller blades also shade the ground, reducing water use.

