

Watkinsville's Urban Forest Ordinance

- Section 1: Purpose and Intent of Ordinance
- Section 2: Definitions
- Section 3: Urban Forest Board Established
- Section 4: Term of Office of Urban Forest Board Members
- Section 5: Applicability
- Section 6: Urban Forest Protection Plan
- Section 7: Easement
- Section 8: Permits
- Section 9: Enforcement
- Section 10: Penalties, Claims and Appeals
- Section 11: Suggested Plantings in Watkinsville

Section 1: Purpose and Intent of Ordinance

The city council finds that the city is blessed with a diverse and abundant cover of trees and vegetation which is of extreme aesthetic value to the city. This ecological diversity makes the city a desirable place for residents and visitors alike. The appearance of the city from the public ways contributes ecologically and aesthetically to the economic prosperity of the city and demonstrates pride in its natural heritage. However, the growth and development of the city oftentimes requires the removal of trees and other plant material, thereby contributing to the depletion of a most valuable natural resource. Therefore, it is necessary to protect, preserve and restore this valuable asset; and the city council declares the purposes and intent of this Urban Forest Ordinance to be as follows:

- (1) To aid in stabilizing the environment's ecological balance by contributing to the processes of air purification, oxygen regeneration and carbon dioxide reduction, and storm water runoff retardation, while at the same time aiding in noise, glare and heat abatement.
- (2) Prevent reductions in the drainage holding capacity of land.
- (3) Prevent soil erosion.
- (4) Protect streams, ditches and other waterways from siltation.
- (5) Maintain moderate temperature extremes with natural tree cover.
- (6) Maintain moisture levels in the air.
- (7) Minimize noise and glare.
- (8) To provide a habitat for living things that might not otherwise live or survive in urban and suburban environs.
- (9) To encourage the preservation of existing trees and vegetation.
- (10) To provide visual buffering and enhance the beauty of the city.
- (11) To safeguard and enhance property values, thereby protecting public and private investments.
- (12) To preserve the unique identity and environment of the city.
- (13) To conserve energy and to protect the public health, safety and general welfare.
- (14) To prevent destruction of historic trees.
- (15) To plant new trees on city property and right-of-ways annually.

Section 2: Definitions

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Arborist means a licensed specialist in the care and maintenance of trees.

Buffer means any visual buffer or screening.

Buildable area means that portion of a lot on which a structure or improvements may be erected according to current zoning requirements.

Building means any structure having a roof supported by columns or walls that encloses a space and intended for the shelter, housing or enclosure of any individual, animal, process, equipment, goods or materials of any kind or nature or as further defined in the building codes of the city.

Building official means the individual appointed by the city to enforce its building and zoning ordinances and regulations.

Caliper means tree trunk diameter measured at a point six inches above ground level. (Acceptable diameter is within ± 0.5 inch of caliper in the table, unless caliper is two inches or less, in which case diameter must be within $-0.25, +0.5$ inch.)

Canopy dripline means a vertical line extending from the outer surface of a tree's branch tips down to the ground.

Cover area means that area which falls within the dripline of any tree.

Critical root zone means the land area circular in shape and centered on the trunk of a tree, the radius of which circle is defined by the farthest canopy dripline.

dbh means diameter-at-breast-height, which is the tree trunk diameter (in inches) at a height of 4 1/2 feet above the ground. If a tree splits into multiple trunks below 4 1/2 feet, then each trunk is measured as a separate tree.

Destroy means any intentional or negligent act which will cause a tree to decline and die within a period of two years, including but not limited to such damage inflicted upon the root system of a tree by the application of toxic substances, the operation of heavy machinery, the change of natural grade by excavation or filling the areas around the trunk of a tree, and damages from injury or from fire purposely inflicted on trees which result in or permit pest infestation.

Developed property means property upon which a building, structure, pavement or other improvements have been placed.

Development area means, under an approved tree protection plan, the portion of a tract exempted from the tree protection zone; consisting of the area to be occupied by buildings, the area to be occupied by unenclosed accessory uses, and the area necessary to meet minimum parking requirements.

Exceptional tree means any tree determined by the tree board to be of notable historic interest, high aesthetic value, or of unique character because of species, type, age or size.

Green space means any area retained as permeable unpaved ground and dedicated to supporting vegetation.

Height means the height of mature specimens under favorable growing conditions. (If expressed as a range, the midpoint of the range is the average height and the bottom of the range is the minimum height.)

Historic tree means a tree which has been determined to be of notable historic interest because of its age, size or historic association and has been so designed in the official records of the city.

Pine means a tree of the family Pinaceae, genus Pinus.

Public utility means any publicly, privately or cooperatively owned line, facility or system for producing, transmitting or distributing communications, power, electricity, light, heat, gas, oil products, water, steam, clay, waste, stormwater not connected with highway drainage and other similar services and commodities, including publicly owned fire, police, traffic signals and lighting systems, which directly or indirectly serve the public or any part of the public.

Shade tree means a broad-leaf tree having an average height at maturity of at least 20 feet and having a broad spread relative to its height (excluding trees with pyramidal, conical or columnar crowns) and a dense canopy, so as to provide shade to structures or parking areas in the summer months.

Specimen tree means any tree in fair or better condition which:

- (1) Equals or exceeds the following diameter sizes (except as provided in subsection (2) of this definition):
 - a. Large hardwoods, e.g., oaks, hickories, yellow poplars; 30 inches dbh;
 - b. Large softwoods, e.g., pines, deodar cedars, 36 inches dbh;
 - c. Small trees, e.g., dogwoods, redbuds, sourwoods, 12 inches dbh;
- (2) Meets the following minimum standards:
 - a. Life expectancy of greater than 15 years;
 - b. A relatively sound and solid trunk with no extensive decay or hollow, and less than 20 percent radial trunk dieback;
 - c. No more than one major and several minor dead limbs (hardwoods only);
 - d. No major insect or pathological problem;
 - e. If lesser sized, is a rare or unusual species or of historical significance;
 - f. If lesser sized, is specifically used by a builder, developer or design professional as a focal point in a project or landscape;
 - g. Has been designated in the official records of the city.

Specimen tree stand means a contiguous grouping of trees which is of high value because it is a:

- (1) Relatively mature, even-aged stand;
- (2) Stand with purity of species composition or of a rare or unusual nature;
- (3) Stand of historical significance; or
- (4) Stand with exceptional aesthetic qualities.

Tree means any self-supporting woody perennial plant, usually with one main stem or trunk and many branches, which has a trunk diameter of two inches or more measured at a point six inches above ground level and which normally attains a height of at least ten feet at maturity.

Tree establishment plan means a map and supporting documentations which describes for a particular site where trees are to be planted in compliance with the requirements of this chapter, the types of trees, and their corresponding tree quality points.

Tree, large, means a tree with a height at maturity of 40 feet or more.

Tree protection plan means a map and supporting documentation which describes for a particular site where existing trees are to be retained in compliance with the requirements of this chapter, the types of trees, and their corresponding site density factor.

Tree protection zone means the area surrounding a preserved or planted tree that is essential to that tree's health and survival, and is protected within the guidelines of this chapter.

Tree replacement plan means a plan indicating the location, size, quantity and species of replacement trees.

Tree, small, means a tree with a height at maturity of not more than 40 feet.

Undeveloped property means property upon which no building, structure, pavement or other improvements have been placed.

Yard area means an open space which is unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward, with the exception of trees and other natural vegetation, on the same lot with a building.

Section 3: Urban Forest Board Established

There is created and established a city Urban Forest Board, which shall consist of five members. Members shall be residents of the city and shall be appointed by the mayor and city council and shall serve without compensation. Members of the Urban Forest Board will include the city Code Enforcement Officer, one councilman, and three citizens.

Section 4: Term of Office of Urban Forest Board Members

Each member of the city Urban Forest Board shall serve for 4 years. If a vacancy occurs during the term of any member, his successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of the term. The chairman of the Urban Forest Board shall be the designated council member. The chairman of the Urban Forest Board shall recommend to the mayor and city council a replacement of members for the nonperformance of duties.

Section 5: Applicability

(a) This article provides full power and authority over all trees located within street rights-of-ways, parks and public places of the city, and to trees located on private property except as otherwise noted in this section.

(b) The tree protection zone shall correspond to the entirety of a tract of land for which no tree protection plan has been approved. After such approval, the tree protection zone shall correspond to that part of a tract of land designated as a tree protection area in the plan.

(c) *This chapter shall not apply to the following:*

(1) Tracts of land for which the zoning ordinance imposes no yard requirements and permits 100 percent coverage of the lot by buildings.

(2) Property occupied by a single-family dwelling, unless nonresidential uses or additional dwelling units are proposed for such property or construction, paving or other activity on the property will damage trees on the public right-of-way.

(3) Any addition, alteration, improvement or remodeling of an existing residence or the construction of structures accessory to an existing residence.

(4) Tree removal by the owner of a single family detached home.

(5) Land clearing or clearing and grubbing activities for bona fide agricultural purposes permitted in the A1 and A2 zoning districts.

(6) Removing trees from nurseries and botanical gardens, which are being grown for retail or wholesale sale.

(7) Growing trees in active commercial operations for bona fide agricultural purposes only.

(8) Public utility companies and government agencies conducting operation on public and utility rights-of-way and easements or on sites for electric power substations and

similar facilities which operations are for the purpose of assuring uninterrupted utility and governmental services and unobstructed passage on public streets.

(9) Removal of diseased or infested trees upon receiving written confirmation from the County Extension Service, Georgia Forestry Commission or Urban Forest Board.

(10) Cemeteries in the city

Section 6: Urban Forest Protection Plan

(a) *Protective measures.* In the tree protection zone, protective measures shall be applied to the aboveground portion of a tree and to roots within the critical root zone, as follows:

(1) *Damage prohibited.* No person shall:

- a. Cut, carve, transplant, or otherwise damage or remove any tree;
- b. Attach any rope, wire, nails, advertising posters, or other contrivance to any trees;
- c. Allow any gaseous, liquid or solid substance which is harmful to trees (such as concrete washout, fuel, lubricants, herbicides, paint) to come in contact with them; or
- d. Set a fire or permit any fire to burn when such fire or the heat of the fire will injure any portion of any tree.

(2) *Fence required.* During excavation, filling, construction or demolition operations, each tree or stand of trees shall be protected against damage to bark, roots and low-hanging branches with a fence enclosing the critical root zone (four feet high, two-inch by four-inch posts; with double one-inch by four-inch rails, plastic construction area fencing, or 12-gauge two-inch by four-inch wire mesh). "Tree save area" signs shall be posted on all sides of the fenced area.

(3) *Compaction prohibited.* All buildings materials, vehicles, construction equipment, dirt, debris or other objects likely to cause soil compaction or aboveground damage shall be kept outside the critical root zone. Where a limited amount of encroachment is unavoidable and is approved by the code enforcement officer, the critical root zone shall first be mulched with a four-inch layer of processed pine bark or wood chips or a six-inch layer of pine straw.

(4) *Grade changes prohibited.* There shall be no raising or lowering of the ground level within the critical root zone. Stripping of topsoil in the critical root zone shall not be permitted. Where necessary, the use of moderate fill is permitted only with prior installation of an aeration system approved by the building official. Deposition of sediment in the critical root zone shall be prevented by placement of sediment barriers, which shall be backed by two-inch by four-inch wire mesh in areas of steep slope.

(5) *Ditches, trenches prohibited.* No person shall excavate any ditch, tunnel or trench within the critical root zone. Where such encroachment is unavoidable and is approved by the building official, tunneling rather than trenching shall be used. If roots must be cut, root pruning procedures approved by the building official must be employed.

(6) *Paving prohibited.* No person shall pave with concrete, asphalt or other impervious material within the critical root zone.

(b) *Plan required; contents.* A proposal for development or improvement of any tract of land shall include a tree protection plan, including trees to be planted in order to meet the minimum requirements of this chapter. The tree protection plan must be submitted as a separate document, in addition to, a site development plan or building plan. Such plan shall be submitted to the building official prior to any grading, bulldozing or other removal of the existing vegetation that may affect the health of existing tree coverage. The plan shall show the following:

(1) Names and addresses of the owner of record and the applicant.

- (2) Boundary lines of the tract by lengths and bearings, streets adjoining the property, total area of the tract, north point, graphic scale and date.
- (3) All existing specimen trees, including those to be removed, and all other trees ten inches dbh or greater which will remain on the site and be protected during construction; and trees less than ten inches dbh which are submitted for credit under subsection (b)(6) of this section. The owner of the property shall indicate the common and botanical names and the size of each tree. In heavily wooded areas that will not be disturbed, the site plan may show only the boundaries of each stand of trees and a list of the number, size and species of ten inches dbh or large trees in each stand.
- (4) Locations of proposed buildings, structures and paved areas.
- (5) Locations of all utility lines. Utility lines must be placed along corridors between critical root zones of trees which will remain on the site.
- (6) Limits of land disturbance, clearing, grading and trenching.
- (7) Limits of tree protection areas, showing trees to be maintained and planted, specifying species and size.
- (8) Grade changes or other work adjacent to a tree which would affect it adversely, with drawings or descriptions as to how the grade, drainage and aeration will be maintained around the tree.
- (9) Planting schedule.
- (c) *Determination of site density factor.* The minimum required quantity of trees on a site after development must produce a total site density factor (sdf) of 25 units per acre. The site density factor is determined as follows: $sdf = (\text{total site area, in acres}) \times 25$. The number of new trees to be planted is determined as follows:
 - (1) Using table 1, calculate the existing density factor (edf) of trees ten inches dbh or greater which will remain on the site and be protected during construction. Existing trees less than ten inches dbh but at least two inches dbh may be counted, provided such trees have grown in uncrowded conditions and have developed normal spread or such trees are part of a specimen tree stand. (Add together the individual units for each tree to get the edf.)

Table 1. Conversion From dbh to Existing Density Factor

TABLE INSET:

dbh	2-4	5-7	8-9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	20+
Units	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11	11	11	11	12	12

- (2) To calculate the replacement density factor (rdf), subtract the edf from the sdf.

$$rdf = sdf - edf$$

Table 2. Conversion From dbh or Caliper to Replacement Density Factor

TABLE INSET: Caliper (measured 6 inches from ground)
 dbh (measured 4 ½ inches from ground)

Caliper	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Units	0.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0

dbh	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Units	1.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.5	5.0	6.0	6.5	7.5	8.5	9.5	10.5	11.5	12.5

The unit value of specimen trees shall be 50 percent greater than table value.

(d) *Application of density factors to the plan.*

(1) Required planting areas shall be as follows:

- a. 1. The landscape buffer shall include at least strips of the following widths adjacent to property lines (plus strips required by buffer or landscape requirements elsewhere in this chapter), permitting only the encroachment of driveways necessary to serve the property:

TABLE INSET:

Zoning District	Front of Lot (feet)	Sides of Lot (feet)	Back of Lot (feet)
Residential	20	10	10
Commercial	20	10	10
Industrial	20	10	10
Commercial/Residential	20	20	20
Industrial /Residential	25	25	25
Industrial/Commercial	25	10	10

2. No tree shall be planted closer to a building foundation or water, sewer, electrical or natural gas line than as follows:

- i. For a mature small tree, five feet.
- ii. For a mature medium tree, ten feet.
- iii. For a mature large tree, 15 feet.

3. No tree shall be planted under overhead utility distribution lines if the average mature height of the tree is greater than the lowest overhead wire.

b. Landscape islands shall be provided within parking areas of six or more spaces, but shall not be required within vehicle storage or display areas.

1. The total area of all islands shall comprise at least five percent of parking lot area in commercial and residential zoning districts or three percent of parking lot area in industrial zoning district; plus one percent of other vehicle use area on the property (such as loading, storage or display areas).
2. Each island shall contain a minimum of 100 square feet. It shall be so shaped that a ten-foot-diameter circle will fit within the island. No portion of an island less than three feet in width may be counted in the area.
3. Landscape islands shall be located in such a manner as to divide and break up the expanse of paving. Landscape islands should be located every 150 linear feet of parking or every 12 spaces. All landscape islands shall be protected by wheel stops, curbing, or landscape timbers.
4. Vehicles may overhang a landscape island provided the island is at least 3.5 feet in depth per abutting parking space, at least five feet in depth overall and protected by wheel stops or curbing. One foot of the landscaped area may count as part of the required depth of each abutting parking space.
 - (2) Distribution of trees shall be as follows:
 - a. At least one tree shall be planted in each required landscape island and at least one shade tree shall be planted at the end of each parking bay. At least one shade tree or two understory trees shall be planted for every 30 linear feet of length and every 10' of width in each required planting strip. Trees may be planted in a group rather than a single line.
 - (3) Existing trees in excess of the sdf shall be as follows: Existing trees which are in excess of the minimum total density factor (sdf) requirement but are outside the development area shall not be removed unless adjacent development would cause irreparable damage to the critical root zones.
 - (4) Criteria for replacement trees shall be as follows:
 - a. Spacing and the potential size of species chosen shall be compatible with spatial limitations of the site.
 - b. The species must be ecologically compatible with the specifically intended growing site.
 - c. The trees must have the potential for size and quality comparable to those removed.
 - d. Authority for questions of tree characteristics shall be Elbert L. Little, *The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees: Eastern Region* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1980); Barbara Ferguson, ed., *All About Trees* (San Francisco: Ortho Books, 1982); Dr. Michael Dirr's *Trees and Shrubs for Warm Climates*; publications of the state forestry commission; publications of the cooperative extension service of the University of Georgia College of Agriculture; or other authority acceptable to the city.
 - (5) For specimen and nonspecimen trees, emphasis shall be given to the preservation of specimen trees, even isolated individual trees, over retention of other trees. Nonspecimen trees, however, shall be saved in stands rather than as individual trees scattered over a site.
 - (6) Where the proposed development area is so large that the minimum total density factor (sdf) cannot be achieved, the development area shall be reduced by removing parking spaces in excess of the minimum required, placing additional planting islands within the development area, or reducing the area to be occupied by buildings.
 - (7) The property owner shall maintain trees on the property in accordance with this article and the approved plan, including replacing trees which die or are irreparably damaged

Section 7: Easement

The mayor and city council are authorized to enter into agreements with the owners of private property located within the city for the purpose of acquiring easements to plant trees on such property, in consideration for which the private property owner shall acquire ownership of such trees as the city may plant; however, any such agreement shall limit the duration of the easement to a time period of two years and shall limit the property interest acquired by the city to that distance sufficient to allow the planting of trees, in no case to exceed a maximum of a 15-foot setback from the property line or right-of-way held by the city. Under such agreement the private property owner shall agree to maintain the trees planted on his property and shall also agree to hold the city harmless for any liability attributable to the planting or presence of the trees on the private property.

Section 8: Permits

(a) A permit shall be required to remove or cause the death of existing trees located within the tree protection zone, or for grading or other work adjacent to a tree which would affect it adversely. An approved tree protection plan is required for issuance of a permit.

(b) Exceptions to permit requirements are as follows:

(1) Permits are not required by public utility companies and government agencies for the conduct of operations having the purpose of assuring uninterrupted utility and governmental services and unobstructed passage on public rights-of-way.

(2) Permit requirements are waived where the building official determines that trees to be removed are dead or have been damaged by lightning, wind, ice or other disasters to the extent that public safety is endangered.

Section 9: Enforcement

The City Code Enforcement Officer shall have the power to promulgate and enforce rules, regulations and specifications concerning the trimming, spraying, removal, planting, pruning and protection of trees upon the right-of-way of any street, alley, sidewalk or other public place in the city and in areas described in the tree protection zone as set down under Section 5.

Section 10: Penalties, Claims and Appeals

(a) *Violations.*

(1) Whenever in this Code or in any ordinance or resolution of the city, or rule or regulation or order promulgated by any officer or agency of the city under authority duly vested in such person or agency, any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, and no specific penalty is provided, the violation of any such provision of this Code or any such ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation or order shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by a combination

of such punishments. Each day any violation of any provision of this Code or of any such ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation or order shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.

(2) If as the result of the violation of any provision of this article the injury, mutilation or death of a tree located on city-owned property is caused, the cost of repair or replacement of such tree, shrub or other plant shall be borne by the party in violation. The replacement value of trees shall be determined in accordance with the latest revision of *A Guide to the Professional Evaluation of Landscape Trees, Specimen Shrubs, and Evergreens*, as published by the International Society of Arboriculture.

(b) *Assessment of claim.* If a nuisance (down trees) is not abated by the date specified in the notice, the City Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to cause the abatement of the nuisance. The reasonable cost of such abatement shall be filed as a lien against the property on which the nuisance was located. In addition, the owner of the property upon which the nuisance was located shall be subject to prosecution.

(c) *Appeals.* Any person dissatisfied by any action of the City Code Enforcement Officer or the Urban Forest Board may appeal such recommendation to the mayor and city council. The appeal must be filed with the city clerk within 30 days after the decision is rendered. The city may approve, modify or reject any decision made by the City Code Enforcement Officer or Urban Forest Board. Appeals from decisions of the city made pursuant to this ordinance shall be to the Superior Court of Oconee County.

Section 11: Recommended Planting Guide

The following should be used as a guide when developing any property in the city limits of Watkinsville.

- (1) Entries to subdivisions, entries to commercial areas and entries to industrial areas should be heavily landscaped with flowers, shrubs and small trees.
- (2) Warehouses should be landscaped with shrubs and small trees.
- (3) Office buildings should be landscaped with shrubs, flowers and small trees.
- (4) Recommended tree list

In alphabetical order by Botanical name

Example: Common Name (Botanical name)

SHADE TREES:

Southern Sugar Maple (*Acer barbatum*)

Bowhall Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Bowhall')

Red Sunset Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Franksred')

October Glory Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'October Glory')*

Autumn Gold Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba* 'Autumn Gold')*

Fairmont Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba* 'Fairmont')*

Chinese Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*)*

Sawtooth Oak (*Quercus acutissima*)*

White Oak (*Quercus alba*)*

Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*)
 Overcup Oak (*Quercus lyrata*)*
 Swamp Chestnut Oak (*Quercus michauxii*)
 Nuttall Oak (*Quercus nutalli*)*
 Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*)
 Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*)
 Allee Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia* 'Emer I')*
 Athena Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia* 'Emer I')*
 Green Vase Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata* 'Vilage Green')*
COLUMNAR TREES FOR NARROW SPACES
 Pyramidal European Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata')*
 Sentry Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba* 'Sentry')*
 Arnold Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera* 'Arnold')
 Columnar English Oak (*Quercus robur* 'Rose Hill')

EVERGREEN SCREENING TREES, 25' OR MORE:

Yoshiho Cryptomeria (*Cryptomeria japonica* 'Yoshino')*
 Savannah Holly (*Ilex latifolia*)
 Carolina #2 Holly (*Ilex x* 'Nellie R. Stevens')*
 Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)*
 Brodie Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana* 'Brodie')*
 Bracken's Brown Beauty Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora* 'Brackens Brown Beauty')*
 Claudia Wannamaker Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora* 'Claudia Wannamaker')*
 Coco Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora* 'Coco')*
 D.D. Blanchard Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora* 'D.D. Blanchard')*
 Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*)*
 Virginia Pine (*Pinus Virginia*)

EVERGREEN SCREENING TREES, 25' OR LESS

Emily Brunner Holly (*Ilex x* 'Emily Brunner')
 Wlirt L. Winn Holly (*Ilex x* 'Mary Nell')
 Roundleaf Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria* 'Roundleaf')*
 Shadow's Female Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria* 'Shadow's Female')*
 Little Gem Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem')*

TREES FOR DETENTION PONDS AND WETLANDS:

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)*
 Dura Heat River Birch (*Betula nigra* "BNMTF")*
 Ironwood, Blue Beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
 Roundleaf Sweetgum (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
 Bigleaf Magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*)
 Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana* var. *Australis*)
 Blackgum, Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*, *Nyssa aquatica*)
 Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)*

UNDERSTORY AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

Flame Amur Maple (*Acer ginnala* 'Flame')*
 Select #1 Amur Maple (*Acer ginnala* 'Select #1')*
 Japanese maple cultivars (*Acer palmatum* cvs.)
 Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*, *grandiflora*)

Forest Pansy Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* 'Forest Pansy)
Oklahoma Redbud (*Cercis reniformis* 'Oklahoma')*
Grancy Gray Beard (*Chionanthus retusus*, *virginicus*)
Dogwood cultivars (*Cornus florida* cvs.)
Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)
Crape Myrtle cultivars (*Lagerstroemia x Faurei* cvs.)*

UNDESIRABLE SPECIES LIST

Fir (*Abies* species) Darlington Oak (*Quercus hemispherica*)
Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) Laurel Oak (*Quercus laurifolia*)
Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*)
Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
Birch (*Betula* sp. Ex. *Betula nigra* cultivars) Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*)
Pecans, Hickory (*Carya* species) Popcorn Tree (*Sapium sepiferum*)
Chestnut (*Castanea* species) Linden (*Tilia* species)
Catalpa (*Catalpa* species) Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*, *caroliniana*)
Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*)
Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*, *Celtis laevigata*)
Chinafir (*Cunninghamia lanceolata*)
Leyland Cypress (*X Cupressocyparis leylandii*)
Spruce (*Picea* species)
White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*, *Platanus acerifolia*)
Poplar (*Populus* species)
Flowering Pears (*Pyrus calleryana* cvs.)
Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
***denotes good urban tolerance and/or rapid growth rate**

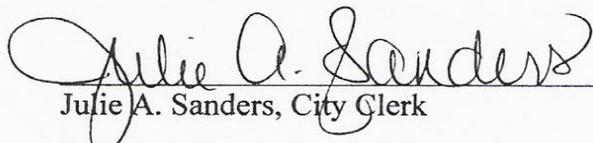
Section 12. Severability Clause:

1. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.
2. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.
3. In the event that section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of the Ordinance and that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable and of full force and effect.

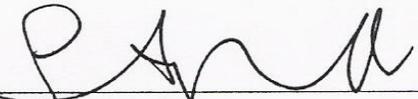
BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of
Watkinsville this 9th day of March, 2006.


James T. Luken, Jr., Mayor

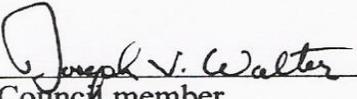
ATTEST:


Julie A. Sanders, City Clerk

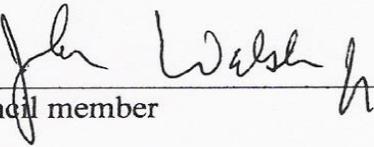
The City Council approved the foregoing Urban Forest Ordinance on March 8, 2006.



Council member



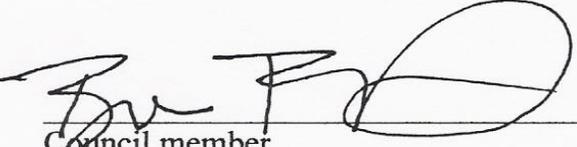
Council member



Council member



Council member



Council member