

PEAR TREE BUYBACK



The City of Washington's Urban Forestry Council, in partnership with Missouri Invasive Plant Council (MOIP) and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), will host a Callery (Bradford) pear tree "buyback" program to continue to spread awareness about this invasive tree.

Participants who submit a photo of themselves beside their cut down Callery pear tree will receive one FREE native tree.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN APRIL 1 TO MAY 1, 2024

One FREE 5-gallon native tree per resident household, valued at \$100, will be provided to each registered household if a completed form is received by May 1, 2024. Participants are invited to pick up their tree on May 15 from 3pm-7pm at Washington City Hall (in courtyard area between City Hall and the Library). Urban Forestry Council members will be on hand to answer planting and watering questions.

CALLERY PEAR TREES

(Pyrus calleryana) include 26 cultivars (including Cleveland & Bradford pear) that present significant ecological concerns in Missouri. Native to China, Callery pear and its cultivars, frequently used as decorative trees, are aggressively invasive plants, resulting in loss of habitat for wildlife. Callery pear limbs generally grow vertically, forming a pyramid or egg shape. Callery Pear's ability to cross pollinate is why many roadsides and right of ways are filled with more white blooms every spring. They quickly invade open areas and crowd out native trees and plants.

Questions? Contact Washington Parks & Recreation at 636.390.1080 or parksewashmo.gov

PEAR TREE BUYBACK

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If I remove multiple Callery pear trees, how many free native replacement trees can I receive?

One. We encourage people to remove all invasive Callery pear trees, however each household is only eligible to receive one free tree.

Does the free tree have to be planted in the same spot as the Callery pear?

No. The free tree can be planted in a new location. Washington's Arborist and Urban Forestry Council members have carefully selected species that provide a range of benefits to homeowners including colorful fall leaves and food for wildlife.

What size tree will I receive?

Trees are up to 5 feet tall in 5-gallon containers and are valued at \$100.

I cut down my Callery pear in the past year, can I still get a free native tree?

Yes! Program rules still apply.



INVASIVE

Funding for trees made possible by Bernie A. Hillermann Memorial Fund.

REGISTRATION

Registration Deadline is May 1, 2024.

Return form and photo to Washington Parks Department at 405 Jefferson Street

Name

Washington Address

E-mail Address

Phone Number

Please select ONE tree (availability is on a first-come first-served basis):



Black Gum



Bur Oak



Swamp White Oak

For internal use only:

Photo submitted
___ Approved By



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Molnvasives.org
Missouri Invasive Plant Council

INVASIVE PEAR TREE



reducing the amount of forage cattle have to eat. Invasive plants can prevent Oak and Hickory trees from growing, which impacts Missouri's significant forest products industry.

How can a Callery pear tree be identified?

Deciduous tree 30–50 feet in height, with wide spreading branches; may be thorny. Shiny, dark green leathery leaves, with small, toothed margins; reddish-purple in fall. Five-petaled white flowers occur in spring prior to leaf out; with small hard, brown fruits. <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/callery-pear-bradford-pear>

How can Callery pear be controlled?

Escaped *Pyrus calleryana* (Callery pear) can grow densely along roadsides, unmowed fields/meadows, open woods, or any other open areas. Emerging seedlings will require up to 3 years to be noticeable from a distance, and up to 5 years before trees begin to flower. Control of trees is easier when they are small.

- Do not mow seedlings or small trees, as single stem trees will re-emerge as multiple stem trees.
- To control trees from seedlings to about 6 feet tall, leaves can be treated with some formulation of glyphosate. An effective rate is 2–4 quarts per acre of a concentrated form (not the Ready-To-Use formulation) of glyphosate. If you want to mix only one total gallon of spray solution, add 4–8 ounces of concentrated glyphosate to 1 gallon of water. Mix the herbicide in water and add a small amount of surfactant (0.5% of final volume). Spray the solution on pear leaves and be sure to cover the entire tree. Be careful to avoid spraying adjacent desirable vegetation because glyphosate can damage other plants. Trees can be treated once leaves come out in the spring until leaves turn color in the fall. Damage symptoms are slow to develop (30 days) and complete control of treated plants can take up to 7 months.
- An alternative to treating Callery pear leaves is to treat the base of the tree. Optimum timing for this technique is fall through early winter. Pour a small amount of a concentrated form of glyphosate into a small open-mouth jar. Identify a small, 1 inch diameter, disposable paint brush. Add a small amount of red or blue food coloring to the jar and stir to dissolve the food coloring.
- No surfactant is needed. Using a chain saw or other saw, cut the Callery pear tree down and make the final cut across the base of the trunk until only a short (about 1 inch) stump is visible. Within 20 minutes of the final cut, paint the top of the stump with a thick coating of the red-colored glyphosate. If control is effective, you will not see any shoots come from the base of the stump. Be sure to wear gloves and all proper protective equipment as described on the glyphosate label.

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INVASIVE PEAR TREE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (CONT'D)

How can I get my Callery pear removed?

Plan ahead! If you need to hire a professional tree company for removal, you will want to get on the contractor's work schedule ASAP.

What trees does the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) recommend for Callery pear replacements, if I have more than one Callery to replace?

Instead of landscaping with Callery pear, plant a variety of other small trees, especially natives, such as: American plum (*Prunus americana*), Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*). Look for these native trees at your local nursery.



INVASIVE

RESOURCES

How do I plant and care for my tree?



Right Tree in the Right Place (mo.gov)



Mulch - Your Tree's Best Friend (mo.gov)



Tree-Maintenance Timetable (mo.gov)



Tree Planting Guide (moreleaf.org)



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