

# City of MONDOVI

156 S. Franklin St., Mondovi, WI 54755

Tel. 715-926-3866

#### CURBSIDE BRUSH & TREE LIMB REMOVAL PROGRAM POLICY

Council approved April 11th, 2017

#### <u>Purpose</u>

This program is intended to reduce the amount of tree debris going into the City of Mondovi's landfill, roadside ditches, remaining in the community's boulevard (the space between a sidewalk and curb of the street). This program is intended only for single family residential properties. This program is not intended to subsidize commercial tree service work. Therefore, City staff will not pick-up any brush generated by commercial tree services; it is the responsibility of the property owner and/or tree service to dispose of the brush. This program is administered by the Public Works Department. For questions, please call City Hall at 715.926.3866 or you may stop by during normal business hours at 156 S. Franklin Street.

#### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will be used in consideration for what City staff will remove for residents on a fee basis:

**BRUSH** – means bushes, branches, twigs, limbs, and other areas where their respective leaves grow forth from to sustain life. For the purpose of this policy this includes the trunk of the tree that does not exceed the diameter limits and does not have any portion of which attached are roots or stump of the tree or bush.

**CHRISTMAS TREE** – means an evergreen breed of tree that is grown naturally or in a tree farm before it is harvested. These include species of the fir, spruce, pine, and cypress varieties.

#### <u>Schedule</u>

This service begins the first Monday after April 1<sup>st</sup> and concludes the last Monday before October 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. This service is provided for single family residential properties only within the City of Mondovi corporate limits. The first Monday of each month those residential properties on the west side of Eau Claire Street will be picked up. The third Monday of each month those residential properties on the east side of Eau Claire Street will be picked up.

#### <u>Fees</u>

The City understands that prior to the 2017 calendar year this service was provided by an on demand basis and at no charge. However, due to rising costs and schedule demands the City must collect a fee for this service. NOTE: There is no fee for each resident of Mondovi to personally take their brush, roots, or stump to the City owned Brush Dump.

- Bagged leaves or brush in a maximum of 33-gallon bags will be charged \$5.00 per bag for less than five bags or \$25.00 per pick-up load. The bag(s) or first pick-up load must be paid for prior to pick-up and the resident will receive a receipt. Once you pay for the first pick-up, you will be billed for any additional pick-up load that is necessary to clear the boulevard from the brush debris. (Revised 10/30/2018).
- <u>Christmas Trees</u> that are to be picked up by City staff must pay a \$3.00 fee at City Hall and receive a copy of the receipt before the pick-up can be scheduled. These trees must have all ornaments, tinsel, and other seasonal decorations removed prior to placing it within the boulevard. No manufactured or artificial trees will be picked up.

## City's Duties

The City agrees to pick-up all branches that meet the property owner's requirements in the next section. This means that the City will supply enough staff to:

- 1. Remove the brush and limbs in a safe and efficient manner;
- 2. Pick-up the branches and place them in a satisfactory vehicle according to City standards;
- 3. Take the branches to the City owned landfill/brush dump area;
- 4. Appropriately remove the branches from the City vehicle and dispose of them at an appropriate time.

### Property Owner's Responsibilities

To participate in the program each property owner must comply with the following guidelines for their branches to be appropriately removed from their property:

- 1. The property owner must first pay the fee and obtain a copy of the receipt from City Hall;
- 2. The permit must be visibly attached/tied to one of the bundles facing the street for City staff to be able to see from the street;
- 3. Bundles of brush cannot be out for more than ten (10) days prior to your scheduled pick-up day;
- 4. Each bundle must not exceed one hundred (100) pounds in weight;
- 5. Brush bundles must be placed on the boulevard, even if your garbage is picked up in the alley by 7:30 a.m. on the scheduled pick-up day for your area;
- 6. Brush must be a minimum five (5) feet and maximum of ten (10) feet in length;
- 7. The minimum brush diameter is one and a half (1 ½) inches and the maximum brush diameter is up to six (6) inches brush smaller or larger than this measurement will not be picked up;
- 8. Absolutely no trash, debris, lumber, or other items not associated with a tree or brush is allowed amongst the bundle;
- 9. The property owner is responsible to remove all debris on the boulevard after the brush has been removed within seven (7) days or the property owner can be cited for a nuisance violation.

## Leaf Dumping at the City Shop

Effectively May 1, 2017, the City will not allow any leaves, brush, or other branch material to be dropped off at the City Shops. All of these materials can be dropped off at the City dump during regular operating hours.

## Windstorm Damage

The City of Mondovi may waive any fee if the brush and limb debris is extensive due to wind or a severe storm. This will be considered due to consistent wind speed in excess of 38.9 miles per hour as reported by the National Weather Service (NWS). Possible wind damage is not indicated until 39 miles per hour or a "Gale" wind (Force of 8 on the Beaufort Scale), where "twigs and small branches will be blown off". Information provided by the University of North Carolina - May 31, 2001. (https://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/units/scales/beaufort.html).

If any fee is waived due to high winds declared by the NWS, City staff will pick up all branches in the boulevard that are bundled and meet the length and width criteria. This day will occur the first Monday after the first full weekend of the storm, but not to exceed seven (7) days.

## Brush Chipper

Due to increase maintenance, staffing issues, liability concerns, and increased regulations the City of Mondovi no longer offers the City owned chipper for free or a fee for residents or business use.

If a resident or business owner would like the City to chip their brush or tree limb debris, this service may be available and is dependent upon the availability of City Staff. The charge for the brush chipper and two City staff members to operate during regular business hours is at the rate of \$350 per hour, with a minimum of two hours per request. The minimum charge therefore is \$700.00, which must be paid prior to the requested work date. Time of work begins the moment staff leaves the shop with necessary equipment until they return to the shop after the work has been completed. Any fraction of an hour shall be billed as if the whole hour has

been worked. This means that for a project that takes three hours and one minute, the initial payment shall be \$700.00 and the follow-up invoice shall be for three additional hours of work for a remainder bill of another \$700.00.

## Non-profit Organizations

Excluding the "Brush Chipper" section of this policy's first paragraph, nothing else in this policy could prevent the City from a reduced fee or donating a service to a non-profit organization. This will only be considered if the need will benefit the City or other non-profit government agency and the City, these organizations include, but are not limited to: Buffalo County, Mondovi School District, and