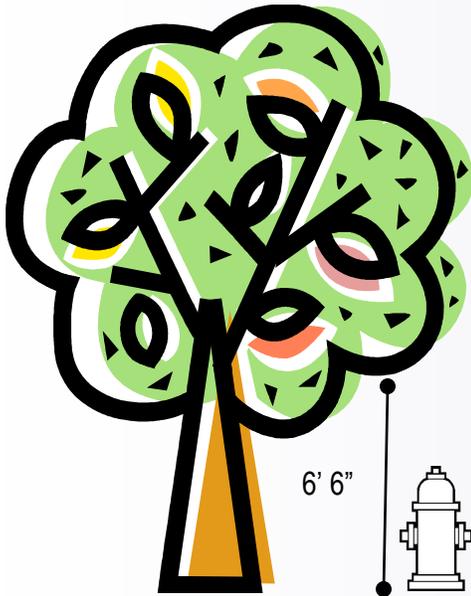
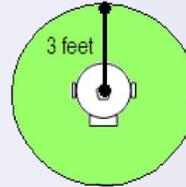


# Fire Hydrant—What do I do with it?



## How to treat a fire hydrant:

- Keep at least three feet around the hydrant clear of vegetation, fences, rocks or other obstructions
- Cut limbs and branches to leave at least six feet six inches above the ground clear
- Make the hydrant visible from the street from both directions
- Park at least 10 feet away from the hydrant



Help Us  
Help You!

Hydrants



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## Why do these things matter?

Fire hydrants are located throughout the city and are critical to a firefighter's success when battling a fire. Make sure the hydrants on your property or the adjacent public way can be seen and used by firefighters.

When firefighters use a hydrant, they need to be able to stand next to it, connect a large fire hose and turn a wrench. Keeping the three feet clear around the hydrant give firefighters room to open the hydrant in a continuous motion without having to reposition the wrench. Repositioning a wrench while opening a hydrant wastes valuable time during emergencies.

Though grass and other low-growing vegetation within three feet are acceptable, anything making the ground difficult to walk on or obstructing a hydrant cap is not okay. Trees, bushes, rocks, and fences are common offenders. Obstructing a hydrant cap may cause a fire hose to kink and prevent water from reaching the nozzle. This could delay firefighting efforts by increasing the amount of time it takes to get water from the hydrant.



When firefighters respond to a fire, they need to be able to see the fire hydrant from either direction on the street. Even bushes trimmed back three feet may block the view of the hydrant from the street. When you drive by the hydrant, make sure you can see it.

Parking at least 10 feet from a hydrant ensures that firefighters will be able to use a hydrant without damaging vehicles in the vicinity. Even though a curb may not be painted yellow, parking within 10 feet of a hydrant is still not permitted.

While it may be tempting to put an artist's touch on a hydrant, the hydrant colors are actually important to the fire department. The yellow paint is bright and easily seen, and the green, blue or red on the caps tell firefighters

how much water is available. Please don't paint them. Let city officials take care of painting the hydrants.

Ashland firefighters thank you for your diligence in helping us help you.