

PRESERVING TREES TOGETHER

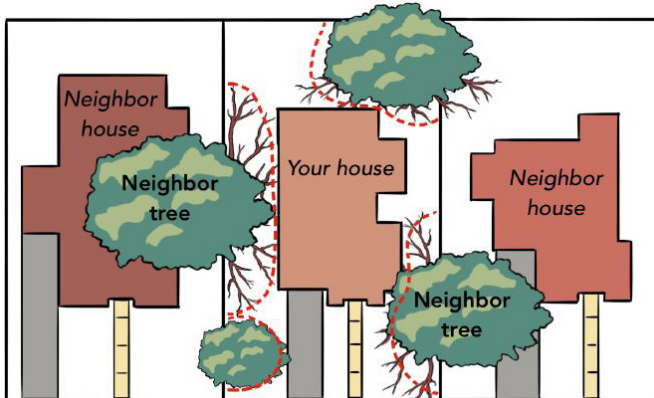
INCREASE OUR CANOPY

- Consider planting a street tree. Street trees are planted and pruned by the City and owned by the property owner.
- Property owners can choose from an approved list of trees and receive guidance on planting considerations such as proximity to service lines, sidewalks, driveways and streetlights.
- To get started, visit MountainView.gov/Trees or contact us at Parks@MountainView.gov or 650-903-6273.

CITY RESOURCES

Our community trees are prioritized in several City documents that can be referenced online:

- The Community Tree Master Plan: the road map to increase our tree canopy cover and grow the ecosystem.
- Municipal Code, Chapter 32 Trees, Shrubs and Plants: defines City regulations to preserve, care and protect Mountain View's community and Heritage trees.
- Mountain View's Tree Technical Manual: presents detailed guidance for residents and businesses when planning to develop their property.



THE FUTURE OF MOUNTAIN VIEW'S COMMUNITY URBAN FOREST DEPENDS ON HOW WE PRESERVE AND PLANT TREES TODAY.

Plan your project with trees in mind early and reap benefits down the road.

Community Services Department
Forestry & Roadway Division

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

650-903-6273

Parks@MountainView.gov

231 North Whisman Road,
Mountain View, CA 94043

This brochure was produced by Canopy and the City of Mountain View to equip residents with best practices for care of trees during remodels, home projects and new construction.

Updated 2022



GUIDE TO TREES for Mountain View Residents

Remodels, Home Projects and New Construction:
Regulations and Guidance for Single Family Homes

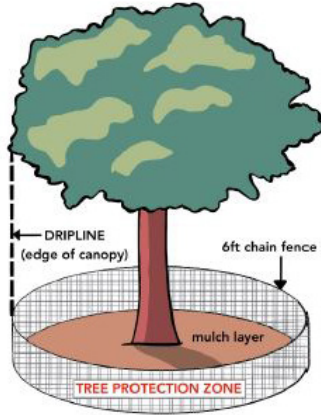


GETTING STARTED

WITH YOUR PROJECT

PLAN WITH TREES IN MIND

- Preserve trees by designing your project around them, not through them.
- Provide space for tree trunks, roots and branches by placing pathways and structures further away. More space for trees = fewer potential conflicts in the future.
- Contact an ISA Certified Arborist (City staff or consultant) to advise on site designs if there are mature trees on your or a neighbor's property.



BE A TREE STEWARD

AND A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Before a shovel goes in the ground, consider **your neighbor's tree**. Considering neighboring trees early can help protect others' property, reduce liability and ensure mutual understanding so the project stays on track.

A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED

1. Assess the trees to determine if branches, trunks or roots are in your workzone.
2. Communicate your plans with your neighbors.
3. Avoid root cutting, material storage and soil disturbance within a tree's dripline.
4. Call 811 before digging.

BEST PRACTICES

FOR PROTECTING YOUR TREES
THROUGHOUT CONSTRUCTION

BEFORE CONSTRUCTION

- Have your trees inspected. Contact an ISA Certified Arborist to provide site-specific advice, such as pruning or tree protection.
- Protect your trees. Install fencing (metal chain link or orange plastic) around the dripline. If fencing the area is not possible, wrap trunks in straw wattle or 2 by 4 in. lumber set 6 in. apart.
- Mulch the rootzone. Apply a 6 in layer of untreated wood chips from the base of the tree out to the dripline to insulate and protect roots and native soil. Do not pile mulch on the trunk.

DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Avoid activity in the trees' dripline. No dumping waste, storing materials, or parking vehicles under the tree canopy. Try directional boring or pipe bursting rather than trenching for utility lines. If root cutting is unavoidable, cut as few as possible with a hand pruner/saw.
- Water appropriately. Mature trees should get slow and deep watering once a month, even during a drought. Visit Canopy.org/Trees-and-Water for more watering instructions.
- Monitor the trees. Call an ISA Certified Arborist if you notice new health or structural issues.

AFTER CONSTRUCTION

- Plant new trees. Plant per the approved plan and location. Water (by hand or irrigation) with 15 gallons/week for the first three years.
- Continue monitoring your trees for at least 1 year after work is complete.

KNOW THE CODE FOR TREE REMOVAL AND PLANTING

Mountain View values all trees, but we have special requirements for Heritage Trees. A Heritage Tree is defined as one of the following:

- Any tree with a trunk circumference of 48" or more measured at 54" above the natural grade. Multi-trunk trees are measured just below the first major trunk fork.
- Any Oak, Redwood or Cedar tree with a circumference of 12" or more when measured at 54" above natural grade.

The removal of a Heritage Tree is only permitted when the tree meets the criteria outlined in the Heritage Tree Ordinance (Chapter 32) including the condition, location, necessity for construction, conforming use and best practices.

Common scenarios:

- a) Expect to plant and care for at least one 15 gallon tree on site for each Heritage tree removed.
- b) For more extensive projects such as a new home or adding a second story, a Street Tree Form must be submitted and you are required to plant one 24" box tree.
- c) However, if replacement cannot be fulfilled onsite, the City will require in-lieu fees. Replanting onsite for all tree mitigation is preferred.