

# Tree Preservation

**THIS HANDOUT IS A SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS.**

Please refer to [Chapter 12.48](#), Trees, of the City of Woodland Municipal Code for further details.

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The City of Woodland Tree Ordinance ([Chapter 12.48](#) of the Woodland Municipal Code) regulates the planting, removal, preservation and maintenance of street trees, heritage oak trees, specimen trees, landmark trees and established trees.

## **Street Trees and City-Owned Trees:**

The Urban Forestry Group is responsible for the maintenance of city-owned trees. Staff are specifically focused on protecting, planting, and maintaining trees located in the city right-of-way, parks, and other public spaces. A Tree Permit from the Urban Forestry Group is required for tree pruning or removal at the homeowner's expense. Call (530) 661-2000 or email [urbanforestry@cityofwoodland.gov](mailto:urbanforestry@cityofwoodland.gov) for details.

## **Trees on Private Property:**

When a proposed project may impact established trees, heritage oak trees, specimen trees, and/or landmark trees, an **arborist report** and **Tree Preservation Plan** are required to assess the condition of existing trees and identify which must be preserved. These items are subject to peer review at the Community Development Director's discretion.

An **Arborist Report** must include the following:

1. Report prepared by an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist.
2. Indication of the health of existing trees with drip lines that fall within the area of the project site.
3. Evaluation of any adverse effects to the trees that could potentially occur as a result of the project.
4. Arborist recommendations for general site mitigation or maintenance for tree health, and preservation or removal for each individual tree assessed.
5. Recommendation of appropriate Tree Protection Zones and project procedures for trees that would remain on the property and appropriate locations for replacement trees to be planted.

A **Tree Preservation Plan** must include the following:

1. Contour map showing the location, size (DBH and height), species, and condition of all existing trees which are located upon the property proposed for development.
2. Identification of those trees which the applicant proposes to preserve and those which are proposed to be removed and the reason for such removal; where feasible existing mature trees shall be preserved in the site plan as a project amenity for their shade, aesthetic and environmental benefits.

3. A program for the preservation and protection of heritage oak trees, specimen trees, landmark trees, and established trees in healthy condition during and after completion of the development project, as required in the [City Engineering Standards](#) Section 20.05(C).
4. A program for the replacement of any healthy and viable tree removal approved by the City shall be provided according to tree replacement requirements in Section [12.48.150](#) of the Woodland Municipal Code.
5. Any change in the trees to be saved and/or removed as designated on the approved development plan shall only be permitted upon the written approval of the Community Development Director.

## **Definitions**

**"Diameter at breast height" or "DBH"** means the diameter of a tree measured at 54 inches above ground level consistent with ISA standards. The diameter may be directly measured with calipers or diameter tape or be calculated by use of the following formula:  $DBH = \text{circumference at breast height} \div 3.14$ .

**"Established tree"** means a tree of any species with a trunk diameter of 12 inches or more at DBH which is of good quality in terms of health, vigor, growth and conformity to generally accepted horticultural standards of shape for its species.

**"Heritage oak tree"** means any valley oak tree (*Quercus lobata*), with a trunk diameter of 33 inches or more at DBH which is of good quality in terms of health, vigor, growth and conformity to generally accepted horticultural standards of shape for its species.

**"Landmark tree"** means a tree or stand of trees which is of historical, cultural, or public significance as designated by the City Council upon the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Urban Forestry Group.

**"Specimen tree"** means any tree of interest because of size or unusual species, other than a heritage tree, which is of good quality in terms of health, vigor or growth and conformity to generally accepted horticultural standards of shape for its species, as designated by the City Council upon the recommendation of both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Urban Forestry Group.

**"Street tree"** means any tree growing within the tree maintenance strip, a street median, an intersection roundabout, City-maintained landscaping (including parks and City-maintained property), or similar spaces within the public right-of-way, whether or not planted by the City.

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**If you have questions, please call the Community Development Department at (530) 661-5820 or visit the front counter at 300 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695.**