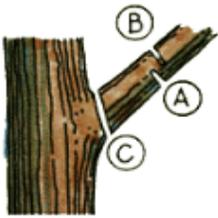


PROPER PRUNING

Trees that have been properly pruned will be healthy and strong, reducing the chance of property damage during storms and providing many years of enjoyment in addition to increased property values and energy savings.

Proper pruning can be done by anyone with some knowledge of the correct techniques. For safety, large limb removals, and those that are too high to reach from the ground, should be handled by professionals under the direction of a Certified Arborist.

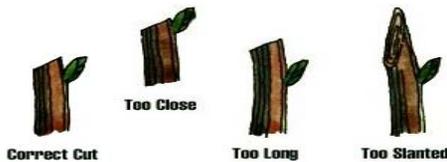


LARGE LIMBS

- A. Make a partial cut from beneath.
- B. Make a second cut from above, several inches out, and allow the limb to fall.
- C. Complete the job with a final cut just outside the branch collar.

SMALL BRANCHES

Make a sharp clean cut just beyond the



lateral bud or other branch.



Topping causes unsightly, weak new growth, often with more branches growing back than were removed, requiring even more pruning.

REFERENCE INFORMATION

PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

 For a permit application to remove or plant a tree yourself within the City right-of-way, or, for a list of trees that can be planted within the City right-of-way, please contact the Community Development Department at (209) 937-8899.

 For questions or concerns regarding the maintenance of trees in the City right-of-way, public parks or public open space areas or a Heritage Oak application, permit or ordinance, please contact the City of Stockton Public Works Department at (209) 937-8317.

STOCKTON MUNICIPAL CODE

The Stockton Municipal Code (SMC) is available online by visiting the City of Stockton web site: www.stocktongov.com, click on Municipal Code.

Property owners and Developers are encouraged to review the following sections of the Municipal Code:

Title 12: Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places

Chapter 12.64: Regulations Pertaining to the Planting, Care and Removal of Trees in Street Right-of-way, Public Utility Easements Adjacent to Street Right-of-way, Parks and Other Public Places

Title 16: Division 5. Land Use/Development Procedures

Chapter 16.130 Heritage Tree Permit

Chapter 16.162 Street Tree Permit

OTHER RESOURCES

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION:
www.arborday.org

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE:
www.isa-arbor.com

URBAN TREE FOUNDATION:
www.urbantree.org

Street Trees and Trees Planted in the City Right-of-Way



A GUIDE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AND DEVELOPERS CONCERNING THE PLANTING, MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF STREET TREES



CARING FOR STREET TREES IN THE CITY OF STOCKTON

STOCKTON'S URBAN FOREST

Stockton's urban forest consists of City planted Street Trees, privately planted trees in front yards and back yards, and trees planted in City parks and along major roadways. The urban forest consists of over 135,000 Street Trees in the City right-of-way. We encourage all property owners to adopt Street Trees by helping the City care for Street Trees near their homes, thereby preserving our urban forest and protecting the general public from falling trees, limbs, or uplifting roots. Street Trees increase property values and benefit the environment and our City.



KEEPING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY SAFE

Sidewalk, streets and signs need to be kept clear and safe for people, cars and busses. The national standard for roadway clearance is fourteen feet of clearance over

the roadway pavement, and eight feet of clearance over sidewalks. This allows vehicular traffic and pedestrians to pass safely.

Traffic and bus stop signs within the right-of-way, in front of or on the side of private property, need to be visible. Branches can usually easily be trimmed with proper tools; a small handsaw or lopper will generally work well.

Keeping the trees around your home properly cared for will protect you and the general public.

The City of Stockton will respond to Street Tree emergencies and hazards. For general maintenance or pruning, homeowners and property owners are encouraged to care for Street Trees adjacent their property.

HOMEOWNERS/PROPERTY OWNERS:

Maintenance of landscaping within the City right-of-way adjacent to private property is the property owner's responsibility. Maintenance can include proper trimming, pruning and watering to assure a healthy landscaping that is safe for the general public. It can also include keeping the street and sidewalk clear of low limbs and helping to keep signs clear of obstructing foliage and branches.



No permit is required to properly maintain a Street Tree. A permit is only required to remove or plant another tree within the City right-of-way.

Property owners may not cause harm to or cause the need for removal of any Street Tree. This is unlawful and is termed "Effective Removal" in the City ordinance.

DEVELOPERS: The Stockton Municipal Code requires developers to plant Street Trees in new residential developments and provide a mechanism for the long term care of Street Trees. Each new interior residential lot is required to have at least one Street Tree planted within the City right-of-way and corner lots must have three Street Trees planted. Trees must be planted in accordance with the most recent version of the City of Stockton Standard Drawings and Specifications. A permit application, with a proposed planting plan is required. A Street Tree planting security and administration fee will be collected during processing of the project subdivision agreement. The security will be returned upon final planting approval.

WATERING TIPS

Mature trees and young trees benefit from regular deep watering. Tree roots generally grow within the top 8 to 12 inches of soil. If trees only receive lawn watering, roots will surface and become a problem. The best way to encourage deeper root growth is to water trees once per week during the summer with a hose placed approximately halfway between the trunk and the outside edge of the tree canopy. Usually running the water at a trickle for about 10 minutes per tree or until the soil is well saturated, without allowing runoff, is sufficient. Watering slowly is the key. Trees do not require watering during the winter.



WATER STRESS SYMPTOMS

Trees that have not received enough water will experience water stress and show these symptoms:

- Leaf scorch
⇒ Leaves that turn brown, starting at the margins
- Leaf drop
⇒ Leaves dropping out of season
- Early fall color

- Twig dieback
⇒ Twigs that are curling, brittle and do not produce leaves

The top of the tree often displays water stress symptoms first, because it is the furthest from the roots.