

Landscape Trees

For

Pacific Grove



A Guide to
Selection, Planting, and Care

BENEFITS OF TREES

The City of Pacific Grove is committed to a policy of maintaining and expanding a diverse population of street trees as an essential component of the urban forest in the city. Benefits of a healthy forest include the following:

- Increased real estate values
- Improved air quality
- Improved water quality
- Reduced heating and cooling energy
- Reduced noise pollution
- Improved aesthetic environment
- Improved wildlife habitat
- Reduced soil erosion

In addition, the City aims to increase public awareness and participation of a healthy urban forest. The individual property owner plays a vital role in the maintenance and development of Pacific Grove's urban forest. This guide is designed to assist the property owner in making informed decisions for the trees on their property. It includes information on the selection, planting and care of trees, as well as the permit process (required) at www.cityofpacificgrove.org and also tree-related organizations.

In September 2012 the city of Pacific Grove established a 25 – year city-wide target to maintain the existing canopy cover with the goal of a total canopy cover of 33% ([Reference](#))

PLANNING AHEAD – CHOOSING THE RIGHT TREE FOR THE RIGHT PLACE

A healthy community forest begins with careful planning. With a little research and a simple layout, you can produce a landscape that will cool your home in summer and tame the winter winds. Your well-planned yard will contain trees that grow well in the soil and moisture of your neighborhood. Your trees will be properly placed to avoid collisions with power lines and buildings, and the aesthetics will increase your property value.

A proper landscape plan takes each tree into consideration:

1. **Height.** Will the tree bump into anything when it is fully grown?
2. **Canopy spread.** How wide will the tree grow?
3. **Is the tree deciduous or evergreen?** (Will it lose its leaves in the winter?)
4. **Form or shape.** A columnar tree will grow in less space. Round and V-shaped species provide the most shade
5. **Growth rate.** How long will it take for your tree to reach its full height? Slow growing species typically live longer than fast growing species.
6. **Soil, sun, and moisture** requirements.
7. **Fruit.** No one wants messy droppings on busy sidewalks.
8. **Environmental exposures.** Locations exposing the tree to environmental conditions such as salt air, wind, and other Pacific Grove conditions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Sunset western Garden Book: Lane Publishing Co., Menlo Park, CA

Trees for San Francisco: A Guide to Street-Tree Planting and Care

<http://selectree.calpoly.edu/>