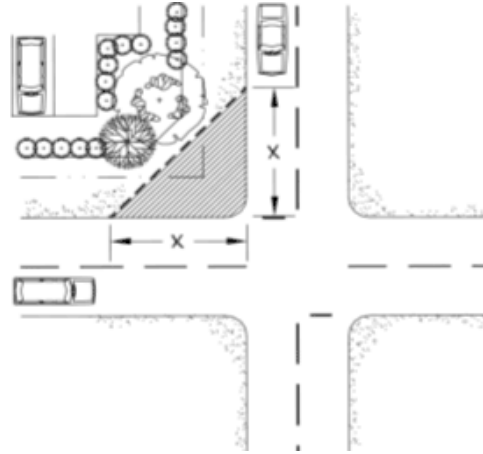




The City of Arroyo Grande is proud to offer their residents and visitors a beautiful landscape with a variety of local trees.

Native trees include the Sycamore, Willow, Cottonwood, Alder and the regulated Coastal Live Oak. The City upholds two primary ordinances to help safeguard our attractive scenery and protect the public from any line-of-sight obstructions that our beautiful trees may cause. These ordinances consist of the “Obstruction of Visibility of Driveways or Intersections to include the “Vision Triangle” and the “Community Tree Program.”

Vision Triangle Defined



Street Intersection: Vision Triangle

At street intersections, the vision triangle boundary (X) is formed by measuring along the curb lines from the intersection a distance of forty (40) feet and then connecting the two points with a straight line.

At driveway entrances, the vision triangle boundary is formed by measuring along the side of the paved driveway and along the street right-of-way line from their intersection as specified below and then connecting the two points with a straight line:

1. Not less than ten (10) feet for local streets (less than sixty (60) foot right-of-way);
2. Not less than fifteen (15) feet for collector streets sixty (60) foot or sixty-four (64) foot right-of-way);
3. Not less than twenty (20) feet for major streets (as defined in the circulation element of the general plan. Prior code, § 4-10.02)

Diagrams of the Vision Triangle can be found at: www.arroyogrande.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/standards-drawings/section-1/ Street Improvements 104-AG Sight Distance Triangle.

Whenever the Traffic Commission finds a public nuisance (Vision Triangle Violation) on residential, commercial or mixed-use property, a notice of abatement is issued to the property owner.

Municipal Code Section 10.12

Obstruction of Visibility of Driveways or Intersections

The City of Arroyo Grande Municipal Code Section 10.12 is specifically designed to help protect motorists and pedestrians from a line of sight obstruction due to a hedge, tree, fence or other visibility barrier. The ordinance states, “any obstruction more that two feet in height above the level of the sidewalk or ground elevation is defined as a public nuisance.” This public nuisance violates the City’s “Vision Triangle” code.

Trees are the exception; as long as a tree has no foliage below seven and one half (7 ½) feet, the tree is not considered to be an impediment to the “vision triangle”. Any foliage below the seven and one-half (7 ½) foot level must be approved by the City.

Municipal Code Section 12.16

Community Tree Program



The City of Arroyo Grande Municipal Code Section 12.16 is designed to preserve, enhance and revitalize the City’s urban forest. The Community Tree Program sets forth guidelines and policies

with regards to:

- Street tree requirements for new development;
- Landmark Trees;
- Responsibility for tree-damaged sidewalks and public improvements;
- Privately owned trees affecting the public right-of-way;
- Tree removal in residential, mixed-use and commercial zones;
- Public utility company requirements;
- Installation, maintenance and removal of trees relating to property development.

Regulated trees include: street trees within the public right-of-way fronting the property, Landmark trees and any Oak trees with a

trunk width over twelve (12) inches in diameter when measured four and one half (4 ½) feet from the base. Removing them is prohibited without first obtaining a permit. The permit is available when the removal is deemed appropriate. Any removal of a regulated tree without a permit is considered to be a misdemeanor violation with a minimum \$150.00 tree replacement fee.

Please visit the City's website at www.arroyogrande.org to access the complete Community Tree Program.

In addition to managing publicly owned trees, the City of Arroyo Grande promotes responsible tree stewardship by private property owners. The City has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for over 25 years.

On Arbor Day (last Friday in April) the City hosts a tree planting demonstration and provides a seedling tree for participants to take home.

The City is also pursuing efforts in conjunction with the Tree Guild of Arroyo Grande to beautify local neighborhoods and may assist residents with the purchase of new street trees. The Tree Guild is available to help select tree species and answer other tree related questions. The Tree Guild can be contacted at (805) 235-1378.

Proper Care for Trees



In order to beautify our City, the planting of new trees is encouraged. Be certain when planting a tree that it has enough space to grow and flourish; consult your local nurseryman or the Parks, Recreation and Facilities Dept. Pay close attention to possible

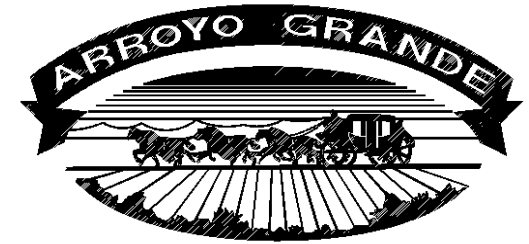
future overhead utility line conflicts when locating the tree, as well as its proximity to sidewalks, driveways, building foundations and other structures that could be damaged by tree roots. New trees require extra water for one or two seasons after planting.

Benefits of Trees:

- Increase property values.
- Shelter birds and other wildlife.
- Provide screening and privacy.
- Complement architecture.
- Improve air quality by producing oxygen. Leaves trap dust, ozone, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and other pollutants.
- Reduce flooding by slowing storm water runoff.
- Reduce crime. Lessen behavioral problems in children.
- Increase business in commercial Districts.

Trees are a green investment and can be planted during any time of the year in Arroyo Grande.

PLANT ONE THIS WEEKEND!



PUBLIC WORKS and PARKS, RECREATION & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Trees



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(805) 473-5440 or (805) 473-5474