



Keep Hayward Green Program

CARING FOR YOUR NEW TREE

General Care and Maintenance

Congratulations on the choice of a new street tree. Choosing to add a tree in front of your home will provide great benefits to your household, your community, and help to build our Urban Forest.

You are a very important part of the **Keep Hayward Green Program**. The care and attention you give to the street tree in front of your home will help the City and your community maintain Hayward's tradition of beautiful tree-lined streets.

With a new tree comes a commitment to water and care for the tree. Per your signed agreement, please follow the tree care and maintenance instructions in this brochure.

Type of Care:

Care and maintenance of your new street tree includes:

1. Watering
2. Maintaining Tree Staking
3. Checking Health and Safety
4. Pruning
5. Mulching

See back for illustration of tree sections.

1. Watering

To insure the survival of your young tree, Landscape Maintenance requests that you water the street tree. It is important that the tree is watered deeply once every week to ten days during dry weather and twice a week during hot weather.

Deep watering is best accomplished by maintaining a watering basin around a young tree and filling it slowly. Where a basin is not desired, allow water to trickle around the base of the tree for 30 minutes to one hour.

2. Maintaining Tree Staking

Landscape Maintenance will plant and stake your new street tree. If your street tree needs to be re-staked, please call the Landscape Maintenance. We will be happy to re-stake and re-tie the tree as needed. Providing the proper staking to a young tree is critical in the growth and development of the tree.

3. Checking Health and Safety

Healthy trees can fall down. A tree may be green and lush, but that does not guarantee that it is structurally safe. Inspect trees at least annually, but especially after storms. Examine the crown, branches, trunk, base, and area around the roots for common dangers. Things to look for:

- Broken, dead, or hanging branches
- Cracks, fungi, and cavities
- Weak trunk or branches
- A flat-sided trunk at ground level (this is a good indicator that encircling roots are compressing the trunk.)
- Recent leaning to one side or the other (especially if soil or grass has lifted on one side).

If anything is found, or if in doubt, contact Landscape Maintenance.

4. Pruning

Pruning can be dangerous work. If needed, contact Landscape Maintenance.

5. Mulching

Optional: mulch the base of the tree.

Mulch is organic matter applied to the area at the base of the tree that acts as a blanket to hold moisture, moderate soil temperature extremes (both hot and cold), and reduce growth of grass and weeds.

Some good mulch choices include shredded bark or wood chips. A 2 to 4" layer is ideal. Any more than a 4" layer may cause problems with oxygen and moisture levels.

When adding mulch, create a mulch-free area 1 to 2" wide at the base of the tree to avoid moist bark conditions and prevent decay. Be sure that the actual tree trunk is not covered. Doing so may cause decay of the living bark at the base of the tree.

Contact Us:

Please contact our office if you have any questions regarding your street tree or if your street tree needs service.

Maintenance Services Department Landscape Maintenance

16 Barnes Court, Suite 3
Hayward, CA 94544
Tel: 510-583-8906

Make a service request:

<http://www.accesshayward.com/>

Email:

landscape.maintenance@hayward-ca.gov

Website:

www.hayward-ca.gov

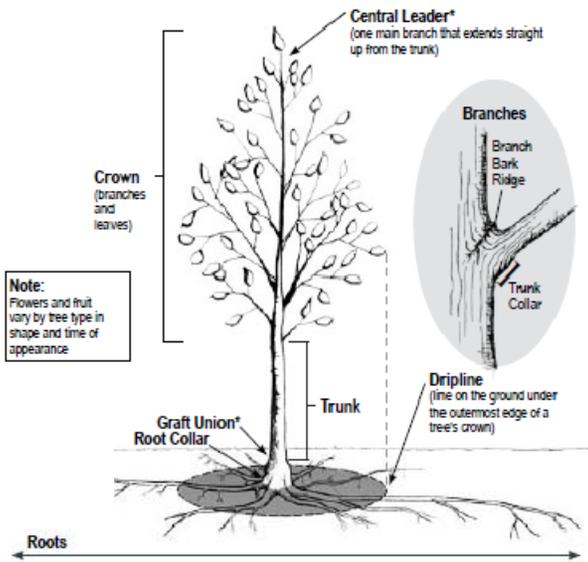


Illustration of Tree Sections

Source: www.treeownersmanual.info