



City of
Los Banos
At the Crossroads of California



TREE CITY USA®

TREE INFORMATION

City of Los Banos
Parks & Recreation

Rev. January 2020





TREE COMMISSION

INFORMATION & RESOURCES



City of
Los Banos
At the Crossroads of California

209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street
ParksandRecreation@LosBanos.Org

The Tree Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Parks & Recreation Commission and to the Public Works Department regarding the importance of trees to the community. The Commission was formed as part of the City's commitment to being a Tree City, USA. It has helped the city be acknowledged as a Tree City USA every year since 1991.

The Commission makes recommendations on the planting and maintenance of trees. It also provides recommendations regarding the present and future needs of the City in connection with trees in public spaces, commercial locations, and residential areas. The Tree Commission works closely with the Director and staff of the Public Works Department.

The Commission meets quarterly on the second Wednesday of February, May, August, and November at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 520 J Street.

The Commission also helps educate community residents on the importance of trees and the proper planting and maintenance of trees. As part of this educational purpose, the Commission provides links to useful and informative web sites, including these:

www.losbanostrees.org – This site provides photos of trees, shrubs, and grasses growing in Los Banos, arranged by species, as well as a variety of information on trees.

www.arborday.org – This Arbor Day Foundation site gives information on the selection, planting, and maintenance of trees.

www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityStandards.cfm – This site explains what it means to be a Tree City USA.

www.treesaregood.org/treeowner/treeownerinformation.aspx – This site provides Tree Owner Information and is presented by the International Society of Arboriculture.

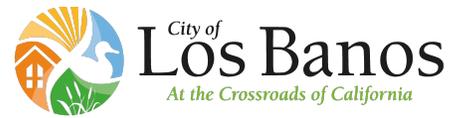
www.urbantree.org – This site provides Tree training and pruning resources.



TREE CITY USA®

TREE COMMISSION

ORDINANCE & INFORMATION



209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street

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THE TREE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND DUTIES:

- (a) TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE CITY FORESTRY PROGRAM;
- (b) TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN UPDATED STREET TREE LIST;
- (c) TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM FOR TREES;
- (d) TO DEVELOP A HISTORICAL TREE LIST;
- (e) TO DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM WHEREBY COMMUNITY RESIDENTS UNDERSTAND THE NATURE AND VALUE OF TREES AND LEARN THE BEST WAYS TO TAKE CARE OF THEM;
- (f) TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A COMMERCIAL TREE CANOPY PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES THE REQUIRED SHADE CANOPY;
- (g) TO RECOGNIZE BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN PROMOTING THE CITY'S URBAN FOREST;
- (h) TO PROMOTE THE PLANTING OF TREES IN THE COMMUNITY AS PART OF THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO BEING DESIGNATED A TREE CITY USA;
- (i) TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LOS BANOS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ON ITEMS REGARDING THE CITY'S URBAN FOREST; AND
- (j) TO PERFORM OTHER RELATED DUTIES AS DIRECTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL. (JANUARY 1ST, 2014)

TREE CITY USA:

The City of Los Banos is recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA, learn more on the National Arbor Day Foundation Website: <https://www.arborday.org/>. The City strives to main this honor through its urban forestry program, tree list, tree canopy program and the work of the Tree Commission. The Tree Commission works with City staff and advises the Council on all issues relating to trees, public and private.

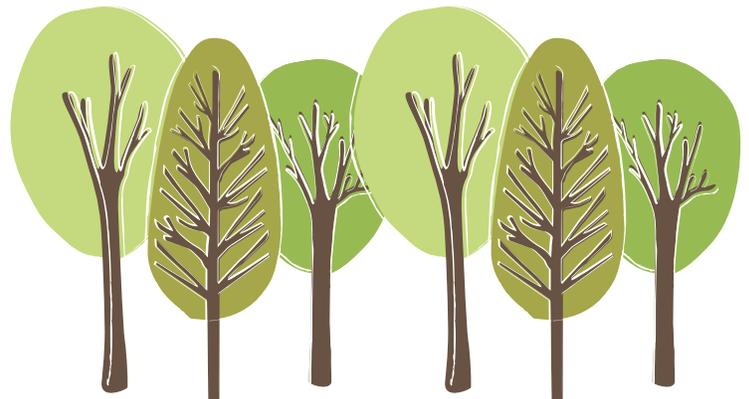
STREET TREES:

A street tree is any tree located within the public right-of-way, generally located between the sidewalk and street. Street trees are protected by ordinance and are considered public property by the City of Los Banos. The Parks and Recreation Division can help you determine if you have a street tree.

The City is responsible for the maintenance, removal and planting of street trees as well as the pruning the trees for street and sidewalk clearance, and the removal of dead, weak, or hazardous limbs. While pruning conforms to accepted professional standards, street trees are not pruned for aesthetic purposes. Pruning may be done by the adjacent property owner with a permit. Pruning must adhere to City standards in order to protect the health and vitality of public trees.

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TREE COMMISSION
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
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TREE INFORMATION

TIPS ON PLANTING – TREES & SHRUBS



City of
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At the Crossroads of California

The personal satisfaction that comes with successfully planting a tree or shrub nurtures the innermost reaches of the human spirit. By planting a tree today, we give something to future generations.

We must consider, however, that although we need to treat all of our plants with tender loving care, they are not our children. The worst thing that can happen is that they will die. The death of a plant is not such a great tragedy, in the natural world tens of thousands of seedlings must sprout to get only a few individuals to maturity. We can mimic the natural processes by planting many seedlings, only keeping those that suit our gardening objectives.

We often hear of people with "Green Thumbs." When we go to their homes and look at their gardens we see a splendid array of beautiful plants. Some green thumb people have gardeners, but most do their own work. All have one thing in common, they spend a lot of time in their garden, and are not afraid to throw out sick and dead plants. When you go to their house you only see their successes, their failures, their sick and dead plants have long since been discarded to the trash can.

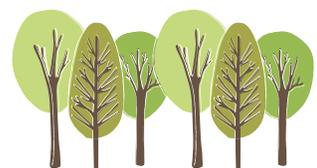
The guidelines that follow can be used when planting your seedlings. You must experiment however, to find what works best for you and your yard.

- Carefully select a planting location. Pay particular attention to space, water, soil, and sun. Picture in your mind how the tree or shrub will look in 10-15 years, even 20 years. Consider the mature size of your new tree and if it requires wet or well drained soil. You may want to it near an existing tree that will be removed after several years.
- Our town of Los Banos has very good soil for trees. The reason trees did not grow naturally before the town developed was because of very dry conditions through the long hot summer. Sometimes when houses are built the weight of heavy equipment compacts the soil in the yard that prevents good drainage. A good way to test your soil for wet conditions is to dig a hole the size of a one or two gallon container and fill it with water. The water should drain in 3-4 hours even when the surrounding soil is damp. If you have poor drainage in your yard, dig deep holes for your trees, (get a commercial drill, if possible) and refill them with loose soil mixed 1/2 with coarse sand.
- Most trees and shrubs that do well in the Great Valley are adapted to full sun. They need shade, however, until they develop a canopy of leaves sufficient to protect their trunks. Young tree trunks get sunburned just like we do. If the trunk of your new tree is exposed to direct sun, wrap it with white paper or buy "tree wrap," a material made for that purpose. It is a good idea to protect seedlings by putting the entire plant in a sun reflecting tube like a plastic or paper milk carton opened at both ends.
- Do not plant trees and shrubs too deep. Be sure the soil level in the container is above the surrounding level and the soil at the bottom of the hole is firm. Make the hole about twice as large as the container. After planting, your tree or shrub should be on a little hill rather than a depression, you want rainwater or water from sprinklers to run away from your tree.
- Always thoroughly "water in" any plant that is transplanted. This settles the soil and drives out excess air from around the roots.



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TREE INFORMATION

TREE PLANTING AND CARE GUIDE



City of
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Trees contribute to the beauty of residential streets and community parks. They enhance the appearance of property, reduce heating and cooling costs, and provide privacy. Planting trees improves air quality and reduces noise pollution. Trees make our environment a more desirable place to live.

Where to plant trees:

- Do not plant in areas of underground utility lines. Call "USA" (Underground Service Alert) at (800) 642-2444.
- Do not plant trees in areas with overhead power lines, unless approved by PGE
- Plant trees at least 10 feet away from sidewalks.
- Plant trees at least 25 feet from a street light.
- Plant trees at least 8 feet from fire hydrants
- Plant trees at least 10 feet from driveways
- Plant trees at least 25 feet from intersections
- Plant trees at least 20 feet away from private trees
- Plant trees at least 6 feet away from any property line
- Plant trees at least 12 feet away from any buildings

How to plant trees:

- Dig hole twice as wide as the container or large enough to accommodate roots when spread out.
- Be careful not to damage trunk when planting.
- Prune roots that are damaged, permanently kinked or coiled and those that grow back into the ball.
- Plant high (1-2 inches above soil level).
- Refill hole with original soil; avoid soil amendments unless soil is too clumpy.
- Do not cover top of root ball with soil.
- Pack soil down, make sure there are no air pockets around the roots.
- Make a ring of soil (berm) around the hole to form a watering basin.
- Irrigate several times to settle soil and moisten root ball.
- Keep lawn at least two 2 feet from the trunk for the first 3 years.

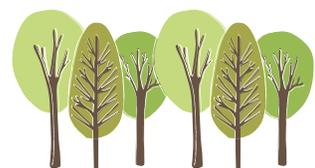
Staking:

- Remove nursery stakes and ties.
- Use two stakes, one on either side of the root ball.
- Place stakes perpendicular to the prevailing wind; which is northwest to southwest
- Use two broad, flexible ties; rubber ties are recommended.
- Tie loosely - allow movement.
- Remove stakes when the tree will stand by itself.



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CUTTING DOWN YOUR TREE?

Don't forget a Tree Permit!

The City of Los Banos requires that a tree permit must be on file for all trees (public or private) that will be printed or removed. This is FREE permit is needed to allow ample time to acknowledge and plan for the possibility of street closures due to limbs in the road way.

Contact the Los Banos Parks and Recreation Division - 209-827-7034 or visit the Community Center - 645 7th St.

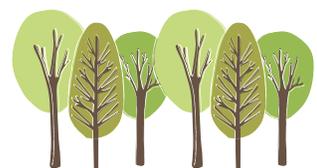
Join us Annually for Arbor Day!

Arbor Day is an annual event at rotating parks. The event occurs on the first Friday of March. Attendance is free. Visit our Los Banos Parks and Recreation Facebook Page for more information.



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TREE INFORMATION

TREE PLANTING AND CARE GUIDE



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Watering:

- Fill berm around tree with water 2-3 times a week and let water soak in during the growing season of the first year after planting. Approximately 10 gallons a week; 5 gallons every four days.
- Keep soil moist, not wet. Break berms in winter to allow drainage.
- Too frequent lawn watering may not provide adequate deep watering for the roots, especially during the growing season; it may encourage surface roots. Install shunt, if necessary to ensure deep root watering.
- Pay close attention if you see wilt, change in leaf color (green to gray) or premature yellowing, browning and leaf fall. The cause could be from lack of water, over watering or wind burn.

Mineral Requirements:

- For new trees, it is best to wait until the following growing season, when leaves form to apply fertilizer. Or use a slow release fertilizer when planting.
- Water the fertilizer in thoroughly; keep fertilizer away from the trunk.
- Avoid fertilizing in late summer.

Avoiding Tree Injuries:

- Use of a trunk guard is recommended to prevent lawn mower and weed eater damage.
- Remove plastic nursery tree ties.
- Never use wire or rope to tie a tree.
- Tie trees loosely, allow room for expansion.
- Remove stake and ties as soon as possible.
- Keep stakes low to avoid branch injury.
- Avoid cultivation, e.g. flower beds, within the drip zone.
- Prune properly. No more than 15% per year.

Important Contact Information:

- Los Banos Parks and Recreation Division: (209) 827-7034
- "USA" (Underground Service Alert) at (800) 642-2444
- PGE - Powerline Information: 1-877-660-6789
- https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/yard-safety/powerlines-and-trees/power-line-safety-and-trees.page



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TREE LIST



City of **Los Banos**
At the Crossroads of California

STREET TREES

HIGHLIGHTED LIST

209.827.7034 – 645 7th Street

ParksandRecreation@LosBanos.Org



The Los Banos Tree Commission has approved a list of trees approved for planting within parking strips and in front yards near streets. They are particularly suited to the soil and weather conditions of our community. All of these trees are considered "drought tolerant," however regular watering is necessary until they are established (approximately 2 years).

BOTANICAL NAME:

COMMON NAME:

<i>FRAXINUS AMERICANA 'AUTUMN APPLAUSE'</i>	-----	AUTUMN APPLAUSE ASH
<i>GINKGO BILOBA 'AUTUMN GOLD'</i>	-----	AUTUMN GOLD GINKGO
<i>GINKGO BILOBA 'FAIRMONT'</i>	-----	FAIRMONT GINKGO
<i>LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA</i>	-----	TULIP TREE
<i>MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA 'RUSSET'</i>	-----	RUSSET MAGNOLIA
<i>MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA 'ST. MARY'</i>	-----	ST. MARY MAGNOLIA
<i>PLATANUS X ACERIFLOIA 'BLOODGOOD'</i>	-----	BLOODGOOD LONDON PLANE
<i>PLATANUS X ACERIFLOIA 'COLUMBIA'</i>	-----	LONDON PLANE
<i>PLATANUS X ACERIFLOIA 'YARWOOD'</i>	-----	YARWOOD LONDON PLANE
<i>PISTACIA CHINENSIS 'KEITH DAVEY'</i>	-----	CHINESE PISTACHE
<i>PODOCCARPUS GRACILIOR</i>	-----	FERN PINE
<i>TILIA AMERICANA</i>	-----	AMERICAN LINDEN
<i>TILIA CORDATE 'GREENSPIRE'</i>	-----	GREENSPIRE LINDEN
<i>QUERCUS AGRIFOLIA</i>	-----	COAST LIVE OAK
<i>QUERCUS SUBER</i>	-----	CORK OAK
<i>ULMUS PARVIFOLIA</i>	-----	CHINESE ELM
<i>ZELKOVA SERRATE 'VILLAGE GREEN'</i>	-----	SAWLEAF ZELKOVA

Please see the Los Banos Municipal Code for the full list of Street Trees



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TREE LIST



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GENERAL USE TREES

HIGHLIGHTED LIST

209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street

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BOTANICAL NAME:

COMMON NAME:

<i>ACER MACROPHYLLUM</i>	-----	<i>BIG-LEAF MAPLE</i>
<i>ALNUS OREGONA</i>	-----	<i>RED ALDER</i>
<i>ALNUS CORDATA</i>	-----	<i>ITALIAN ALDER</i>
<i>ALNUS RHOMBIFOLIA</i>	-----	<i>CALIFORNIA WHITE ALDER</i>
<i>ARBUTUS UNEDO</i>	-----	<i>STRAWBERRY TREE</i>
<i>CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS</i>	-----	<i>ITALIAN CYPRESS</i>
<i>CASUARINA EQUISETIFOLIA</i>	-----	<i>AUSTRALIAN PINE</i>
<i>CEDRUS DEODORA</i>	-----	<i>DEODAR CEDAR</i>
<i>CINNAMOMUM CAMPHORA</i>	-----	<i>CAMPHOR TREE</i>
<i>ERIOBOTRYA DEFLEXA</i>	-----	<i>BRONZE LOQUA</i>
<i>EUCALYPTUS SPP</i>	-----	<i>EUCALYPTUS</i>
<i>MELALEUCA LINARIIFOLIA</i>	-----	<i>FLAXLEAF PAPERBARK</i>
<i>NYSSA SYLVATICA</i>	-----	<i>SOURGUM</i>
<i>PARKINSONIA ACULEATE</i>	-----	<i>MEXICAN PALO VERDE</i>
<i>PHOENIX CANARIENSIS</i>	-----	<i>CANARY ISLAND PALM</i>
<i>PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA</i>	-----	<i>DATE PALM</i>
<i>PINUS CANARIENSIS</i>	-----	<i>CANARY ISLAND PINE</i>
<i>PINUS PINEA</i>	-----	<i>ITALIAN STONE PINE</i>
<i>PINUS THUNBERGIL</i>	-----	<i>JAPANESE BLACK PINE</i>
<i>QUERCUS ILEX</i>	-----	<i>HOLLY OAK</i>
<i>QUERCUS LOBATA</i>	-----	<i>VALLEY OAK</i>
<i>QUERCUS VIRGINIANA 'HERITAGE'</i>	-----	<i>SOUTHERN LIVE OAK</i>
<i>QUERCUS WISLIZENII</i>	-----	<i>INTERIOR LIVE OAK</i>
<i>RHUS LANCEA</i>	-----	<i>AFRICAN SUMAC</i>
<i>SAPIUM SEBIFERURN</i>	-----	<i>CHINESE TALLOW</i>
<i>SEQUOIA SEMPERVIRENS 'APTOS BLUE'</i>	-----	<i>COAST REDWOOD</i>
<i>SEQUOIA SEMPERVIRENS 'LOS ALTOS'</i>	-----	<i>COAST REDWOOD</i>
<i>TILIA X EUCHLORA 'REDMOND'</i>	-----	<i>REDMOND LINDEN</i>

Please see the Los Banos Municipal Code for the full list of General Use Trees



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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

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