



# City of Los Banos

At the Crossroads of California

[www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org)

## AGENDA

### TREE COMMISSION MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
520 J Street  
Los Banos, California

**AUGUST 14, 2019**

*If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerk's Office @ (209) 827-7000 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

*The City of Los Banos complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Si requiere asistencia especial para atender o participar en esta junta por favor llame a la oficina de la Secretaria de la ciudad al (209) 827-7000 a lo menos de 48 horas previas de la junta.*

*La Ciudad de Los Banos cumple con la Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidad (ADA) de 1990.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Tree Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the meeting and in the City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted*

*on the City's website at [www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org).*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Cualquier escritura o los documentos proporcionaron a una mayoría de la Tree Commission con respecto a cualquier artículo en este orden del día será hecho disponible para la inspección pública en la reunión y en la oficina del City Clerk del City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California durante horas de oficina normales. Además, tales escrituras y los documentos pueden ser anunciados en el website de la Ciudad en [www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org).*

1. CALL TO ORDER. **5:00 PM**
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. ROLL CALL:  
Creighton \_\_\_\_, Kaljian \_\_\_\_, Latham \_\_\_\_, Menefee \_\_\_\_, Spevak \_\_\_\_

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

*Recommendation: Approve the agenda as submitted.*

5. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 8, 2019.

*Recommendation: Approve the minutes as submitted.*

6. PUBLIC FORUM. (Members of the public may address the Tree Commission on any item of public interest that is within the jurisdiction of the Tree Commission; includes agenda and non-agenda items. No action will be taken on non-agenda items. Speakers are limited to a five (5) minute presentation. Detailed guidelines are posted on the Council Chamber informational table).

7. DISCUSS "TREE INFORMATION" FOR WEBSITE REPORT.

*Recommendation: Informational item only, no action to be taken.*

8. PARKS & RECREATION REPORT.

9. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

A. Steve Creighton

B. Tom Kaljian

C. Brenda Latham

D. Colleen Menefee

E. John Spevak

11. NEXT TREE COMMISSION MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019 AT 5:00PM.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

  
Patricia Nelson, Secretary

Dated this 7<sup>TH</sup> day of August 2019

**CITY OF LOS BANOS  
TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2019**

**ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict  
action taken for agenda items presented to the  
Tree Commission.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Latham called the Tree Commission Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Prior to meeting, the following Tree Commission Members received the oath of office: Steve Creighton and Tom Kaljian.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim led the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE TREE COMMISSION PRESENT:** Creighton, Kaljian, Latham, Menefee; Spevak absent.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin, Public Works Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim, Public Works Administrative Clerk II Nelson.

**NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2019:** Motion by Creighton, seconded by Kaljian to nominate Spevak to serve as Chairperson for 2019. After discussion, the motion to nominate Spevak as Chairperson for 2019 carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Spevak absent. Motion by Creighton, seconded by Kaljian to nominate Menefee to serve as Vice Chairperson for 2019. After discussion, the motion to nominate Menefee as Vice Chairperson for 2019 carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Spevak absent.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Latham, seconded by Creighton to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Spevak absent.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 14, 2018:** Motion by Kaljian, seconded by Creighton to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present; Spevak absent.

**PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATIONAL TABLE.** No one came forward to speak and the public forum was closed.

**DISCUSS “TREE INFORMATION” FOR THE WEBSITE REPORT:** Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim presented the tree information he has obtained to post on the City’s website. Heim asked if the Commissioners could review and let him know if they have any suggestions before putting this information on the website. There were suggestions and discussions regarding updating the City Tree Lists, how to plant and water trees properly, how to get the residents to go onto the City’s website, etc. Heim responded that the City has a Parks Facebook page, Arbor Day event, Parks and Recreation guide, and attending the Street Fairs.

**SEC. 9-3.2012 PARKING LOT SHADING STANDARDS AND MASTER PARKING LOT SHADE TREE LIST REPORT:**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin mentioned that we just discussed about updating the tree lists. Fachin explained his main concern is the five year issue pertaining to shade canopy which was changed by the Planning Department years ago with no input from the Public Works Department. Fachin explained many of the trees on the list don’t have a five year canopy. After some discussion, Fachin asked if the Commissioners could please review and email Heim with any suggestions on adding or removing trees.

**31<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION AND 29<sup>TH</sup> TREE CITY USA PROGRAM REPORT:**

Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim reported on his first Arbor Day which was held at Ranchwood Park under the Arbor located by the picnic area. Heim spoke on the different locations of planting trees which the Girl and Boy Scouts had fun doing. They’re excited to attend next year’s Arbor Day. He felt it was successful and thanked the Commissioners who were able to attend. Commissioner Latham commented it was well attended and the kids looked excited. She then suggested that before handing out the Tree Commission awards, there should be an explanation about how the businesses and residents are selected for the awards.

**PARKS & RECREATIONS REPORT:** Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim commented it’s budget season and are trying to get more technical services for trees especially in the older areas of town. Heim is looking forward to working on future renovation of parks and applying for several grants.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT:**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin reported that at the next Council Meeting on May 15, 2019, Central California Irrigation District will be giving a water presentation that might be interesting to any Commissioners who would like to attend. John Spevak asked Mark Fachin how Measure H funds relate to new tree planting. Fachin explained that Measure H funding will be directed to hiring another full time recreation employee to help extend hours and more accessibility for programs to better service the community; it will also provide to refurbish playground equipment in all the City parks and some bigger projects in the future. Fachin continued that there is a portion going to the Police Department for programs to reach out to children who will be working with the Recreation Department by providing more teenage programs. There is a Regional Park fund which comes from developers paying into a park fund that will be used for master planning for Pacheco Park, tree planting guides throughout the city, and eventually to have a Park Master Plan. There was continued discussion on the City applying for different types of grants.

**COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:**

**CREIGHTON:** Creighton complimented on the Ortigalita Park on Cardoza Road is really looking good on all the work that is being done.

**KALJIAN:** Kaljian no comments.

**LATHAM:** Latham welcomes Tom Kaljian to the Tree Commission. She expressed her pleasure on having a new chairperson and Colleen as new vice chairperson.

**MENEFEE:** Menefee no comments.

**SPEVAK:** Absent.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 5:53 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Colleen Menefee, Vice Chairperson

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Nelson, Secretary



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

**Agenda Staff Report**

**TO:** Los Banos Tree Commission

**FROM:** Mark Fachin, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Fachin', is positioned to the right of the 'FROM:' line.

**DATE:** August 14, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Tree Information Packet for Online Use

**TYPE OF REPORT:** Informational Item

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**Recommendation:**

Information item only, no action to be taken.

**Discussion:**

Tree Information Packet has been created by the Parks and Recreation Staff regarding areas such as tree care, tree lists, commission duties and frequently asked questions. This packet will serve as an online and printable guide for the public to use in growing tree knowledge in the City of Los Banos.

**Attachment:**

Tree Information Packet



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



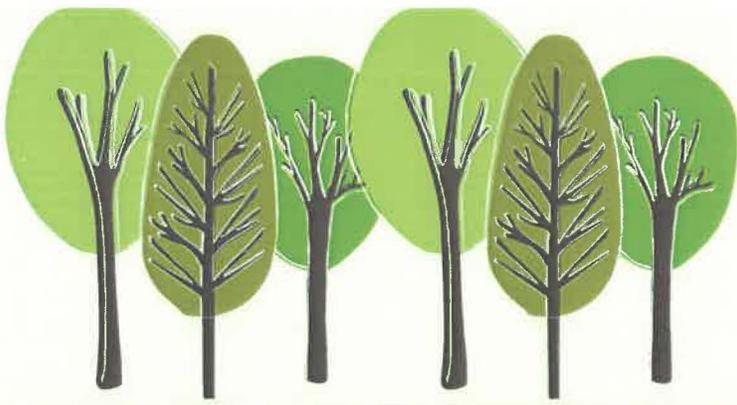
TREE CITY USA

# TREE INFORMATION

City of Los Banos  
Parks & Recreation

Rev. August 2019





# TREE COMMISSION

## INFORMATION & RESOURCES



209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street

[ParksandRecreation@LosBanos.Org](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.arborday.org)** — This Arbor Day Foundation site gives information on the selection, planting, and maintenance of trees.

**[www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityStandards.cfm](http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityStandards.cfm)** — This site explains what it means to be a Tree City USA.

**[www.treesaregood.org/treeowner/treeownerinformation.aspx](http://www.treesaregood.org/treeowner/treeownerinformation.aspx)** — This site provides Tree Owner Information and is presented by the International Society of Arboriculture.

**[www.urbantree.org](http://www.urbantree.org)** - This site provides Tree training and pruning resources.



ARBORICULTURE, ETC.

# TREE COMMISSION

## ORDINANCE & INFORMATION



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

209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street

ParksandRecreation@LosBanos.Org

### 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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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
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# TREE INFORMATION

## TIPS ON PLANTING - TREES & SHRUBS



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

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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# TREE INFORMATION

## TREE PLANTING AND CARE GUIDE



City of  
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At the Crossroads of California

### 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](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

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:

Fraxinus Americana 'Autumn Applause'	-----	Autumn Applause Ash
Ginkgo Biloba 'Autumn Gold'	-----	Autumn Gold Ginkgo
Ginkgo Biloba 'Fairmont'	-----	Fairmont Ginkgo
Liriodendron Tulipifera	-----	Tulip Tree
Magnolia Grandiflora 'Russet'	-----	Russet Magnolia
Magnolia Grandiflora 'St. Mary'	-----	St. Mary Magnolia
Platanus x Acerifloia 'Bloodgood'	-----	Bloodgood London Plane
Platanus x Acerifloia 'Columbia'	-----	London Plane
Platanus x Acerifloia 'Yarwood'	-----	Yarwood London Plane
Pistacia Chinensis 'Keith Davey'	-----	Chinese Pistache
Podocarpus Gracilior	-----	Fern Pine
Tilia Americana	-----	American Linden
Tilia Cordate 'Greenspire'	-----	Greenspire Linden
Quercus Agrifolia	-----	Coast Live Oak
Quercus Suber	-----	Cork Oak
Ulmus Parvifolia	-----	Chinese Elm
Zelkova Serrate 'Village Green'	-----	Sawleaf Zelkova



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# TREE LIST

## GENERAL USE TREES



City of  
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*At the Crossroads of California*

209.827.7034 - 645 7th Street  
ParksandRecreation@LosBanos.Org

### BOTANICAL NAME:

### COMMON NAME:

Acer Macrophyllum	Big-Leaf Maple
Alnus Oregona	Red Alder
Alnus Cordata	Italian Alder
Alnus Rhombifolia	California White Alder
Arbutus Unedo	Strawberry Tree
Cupressus Sempervirens	Italian Cypress
Casuarina Equisetifolia	Australian Pine
Cedrus Deodora	Deodar Cedar
Cinnamomum Camphora	Camphor Tree
Eriobotrya Deflexa	Bronze Loquat
Eucalyptus Spp	Eucalyptus
Melaleuca Linariifolia	Flaxleaf Paperbark
Nyssa Sylvatica	Sourgum
Parkinsonia Aculeate	Mexican Palo Verde
Phoenix Canariensis	Canary Island Palm
Phoenix Dactylifera	Date Palm
Pinus Canariensis	Canary Island Pine
Pinus Pinea	Italian Stone Pine
Pinus Thunbergil	Japanese Black Pine
Quercus Ilex	Holly Oak
Quercus Lobata	Valley Oak
Quercus Virginiana 'Heritage'	Southern Live Oak
Quercus Wislizenii	Interior Live Oak
Rhus Lancea	African Sumac
Sapium Sebiferurn	Chinese Tallow
Sequoia Sempervirens 'Aptos Blue'	Coast Redwood
Sequoia Sempervirens 'Los Altos'	Coast Redwood
Tilia x Euchlora 'Redmond'	Redmond Linden



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