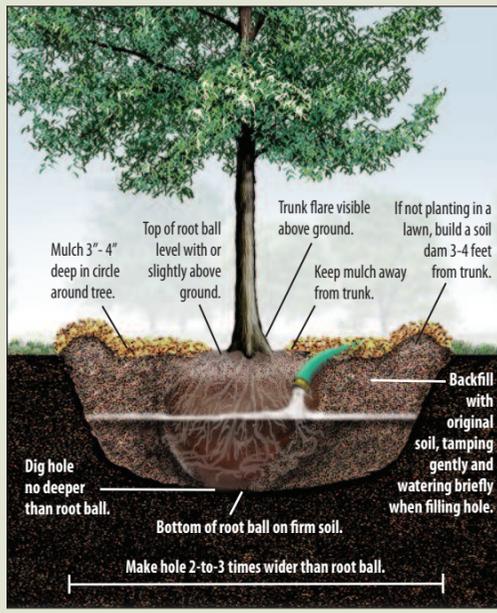


How to Plant Your Tree

1. If planting a street tree, first apply for our planting permit. Choose the location wisely. Consult the SFPDW planting guidelines to avoid utility conflicts. SFPDW staff should confirm that your site is appropriate prior to planting. Before digging, call 811. Know what's below. Look for conflicts above!
2. Prepare the planting area by loosening the soil to about the depth of the root ball. This will enable your tree to extend a dense mat of tiny roots well out into the soil during the first few months after planting.
3. Dig a hole in the center of the loosened area, 2-to-3 times the diameter of the root ball, and no deeper than the depth of the root ball — shallow is better than deep! Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven. In very hard soils, a rough edge to the hole may help new roots grow out into the surrounding soil.
4. Gently remove the container from the root ball and loosen the roots with your fingers. Prune damaged or circling roots at the point where they grow out or down from the center of the root ball.
5. Loosen the soil near the base of the trunk to find the trunk flare — the area where the trunk gets wider as the first roots join the trunk. It should be visible at the top of the root ball. If not visible, remove soil from the top of the root ball until it is visible. It is critical that the trunk flare is at grade or slightly higher at the time of planting.
6. Place the tree in the hole. The bottom of the ball should rest on solid soil. When finished planting, the trunk flare should be at or just above grade. Planting too deep is the most common mistake; soil above the trunk flare causes bark to rot!
7. Stand back and look at the tree before putting the soil back into the hole. Face the densest part of the crown into the wind, and make careful adjustments to planting height to avoid seriously harming the roots.
8. Gently backfill with the original soil. Do not add fertilizer, compost or other material. Break up dirt clods and remove any grass, weeds or rocks. Lightly pack the soil with the shovel handle or your fingers to remove air pockets. Do not stamp on or heavily compress the soil, especially the top of the root ball. The best soil for root growth has spaces for both air and water, but not large air pockets, which cause problems. The trunk flare should be slightly above the soil. Water thoroughly!
9. Use extra soil to construct a small earthen dam or berm, less than 4 inches tall, just outside the root ball zone. This will help hold water until it soaks into the soil, rather than letting it run off across the surface. After planting height, watering is the most important factor in the establishment and long-term health of your tree.
10. Cover the entire loosened area of soil with 3-to-4 inches of mulch. Mulch will slow water loss, reduce competition from weeds and grasses, moderate soil temperature, and provide a small amount of nutrients. Keep mulch at least a hand-length's distance from the tree trunk to prevent disease.
11. Staking your tree is a temporary measure to allow the trunk and roots to develop strength. The nursery stake is the small stake tied to the trunk to help keep

Continued on back side



the tree upright during transport. You should be placing 2-to-4 new stakes outside the root ball to help ensure that the tree grows straight. Remove the support stakes once the tree is firmly rooted. Make sure the hardware is not rubbing the trunk or branches, and adjust as the tree grows.

12. Regular watering is extremely important during the first three years. In general, trees need 15-to-20 gallons of water each week for the first 12-to-18 months. After the first 12-to-18 months, most species can get by on 15-to-20 gallons every other week until they have been in the ground for three years. At that point they can rely on finding their own water, although they will require supplemental water when it is hot or windy for long periods of time. Deep, thorough waterings are best!

Tree Maintenance

After the establishment period, maintenance is key to the long-term health and structure of your young tree. As with species selection, seek help from a tree-care professional, preferably an ISA Certified Arborist, the San Francisco Department of Public Works, Bureau of Urban Forestry, or Friends of the Urban Forest.

Published by The San Francisco Urban Forestry Council, SFPDW and FUF with funding and graphics support from Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The National Arbor Day Foundation has designated the City of San Francisco a Tree City USA and PG&E a TreeLine USA utility — awards granted for their commitment to the urban forest.



SF-UFC Logo Here



A Tree Guide for San Francisco



A Tree Selection and Planting Guide

A healthy tree population in a densely populated city softens the edges of the urban environment, provides windbreaks and wildlife habitat, reduces pollution and stormwater runoff, and increases property values. Planting a tree around your home contributes to the vitality, health, and beauty of our city.

San Francisco's Mediterranean climate, in conjunction with its unique and varied soils and microclimates, allows a diverse collection of trees, some of which contribute to our civic identity because they grow in few places outside their native habitats. The trees represented here have proven successful in a wide range of conditions, but may not necessarily be the right tree for your situation. The list is not exhaustive, and many trees not on this list may be the right species for you! Careful species selection, proper planting techniques, and regular long-term maintenance will help ensure that the tree you choose will thrive and provide benefits for future generations.

All of these species are appropriate for garden planting, but as noted above, not all species may grow well in your site. For street tree plantings, be sure to get a street tree planting permit through the San Francisco Department of Public Works (SFPDW), to verify that your tree species and planting site selections meet all city guidelines and legal requirements before planting! You may also consult a tree-care

professional, preferably an ISA Certified Arborist, or Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF), for help choosing a species.

The San Francisco Urban Forestry Council, SFPDW, FUF, and Pacific Gas

and Electric Company created this tree selection and planting guide to help you with suitable tree selections.

To get started with the permit process, visit the DPW Street Tree Planting Permit page at <http://www.sfdpw.org/index.aspx?page=649> and the Friends of the Urban Forest website at <http://www.fuf.net/> to learn more. Refer to the planting guidelines and utility message from PG&E to help appropriately place and plant your tree.

Power Wise Tree Planting Tips from PG&E

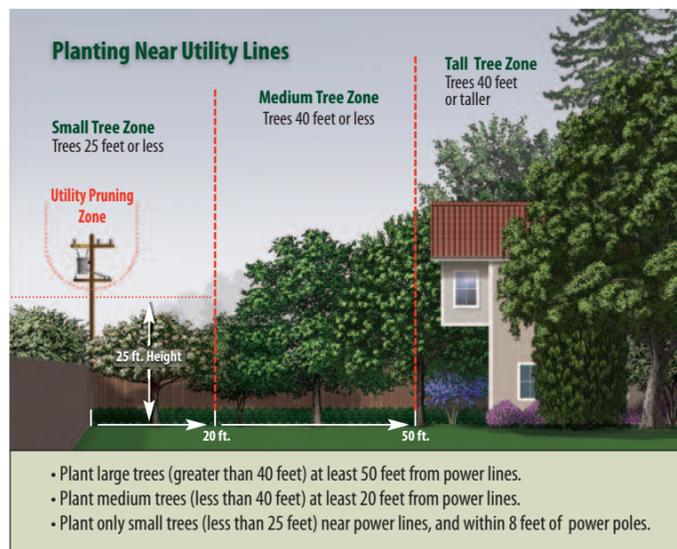
To ensure safe and reliable electric service, plant the "right tree in the right place" to avoid future conflicts between trees and power lines:

- Plant trees that grow no taller than 25 feet at maturity near high-voltage distribution lines.
- Plant only low-growing shrubs no taller than 15 feet near or underneath high-voltage transmission lines.
- Avoid planting at the base of power poles and in proximity to pad-mounted transformers.

Safety Concerns

For your safety, keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from high-voltage power lines. Only qualified line-clearance workers are allowed to prune or remove a tree that is within 10 feet of high-voltage power lines.

If there is any question, call PG&E (800-743-5000) for an inspection of your tree and power line situation.



Recommended Trees for San Francisco

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Tree Type	Height	Spread	Growth Rate	Water Use	Utility**	Comments
SMALL	Trident Maple	<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Deciduous	20'-25'	20'-25'	fast	low to moderate	yes	Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning to establish and maintain good structure; tolerates most soils.
	Weeping Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Evergreen	20'-25'	10'-15'	fast	low	yes	Red flowers bloom year round, attract hummingbirds; tolerates most soils; good tree for narrow sidewalks.
	Mediterranean Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Evergreen	20'	varies	slow-moderate	moderate	yes	Tolerates poor soils, dryness and wind; multi-trunk form requires large basin; hardy to 25°F.
	Bronze Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya deflexa</i>	Evergreen	20'-25'	20'-35'	moderate	moderate	yes	Fragrant flowers; new growth coppery before becoming dark green.
	Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Little Gem'	Evergreen	15'-20'	10'-12'	slow-moderate	moderate to high	yes	Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.
MEDIUM	Southern Magnolia, 'St. Mary'	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'St. Mary'	Evergreen	15'-20'	10'-12'	slow-moderate	moderate to high	yes	Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.
	Flowering Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Kwanzan'	Deciduous	20'-30'	15'-20'	moderate	moderate to high	yes	Showy pink flowers in early spring; can have orange-yellow fall color; intolerant of steady winds.
	Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>	Evergreen	25'-45'	20'-30'	moderate	low to moderate	no	Pendulous pink flowers year-round; red and yellow fruit and peeling red bark; tolerates heavy soil if not overwatered.
	Small-leaf Tristiana	<i>Tristanopsis laurina</i>	Evergreen	25'-35'	15'-30'	slow-moderate	moderate to high	no	Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates most conditions; 'Elegant' has variable form, may require extra pruning.
	Peppermint Willow	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>	Evergreen	25'-35'	20'-35"	moderate-fast	low	no	Weeping form requires extra pruning to establish and maintain good structure; peppermint-scented leaves.
	Japanese Blueberry	<i>Elaeocarpus decipiens</i>	Evergreen	30'-40'	20'-30'	moderate	moderate	no	Fragrant flowers, blue fruits, red foliage tones; prefers well-drained soil.
	Flaxleaf Paperbark	<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>	Evergreen	20'-35'	20'-25'	moderate-fast	low	no	White flowers in summer; attractive, papery bark; dense canopy; tolerates many soil conditions.
	Olive (Fruitless)	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Evergreen	20'-30'	25'-35'	slow-moderate	low	no	Silvery-green leaves; prefers sun; drought tolerant once established; large, gnarled, trunk requires large basin.
	Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Deciduous	35'-45'	30'-40'	fast	low	no	Fall color! Drought tolerant once established; use male-only to avoid messy fruits ('Keith Davey'); intolerant of steady winds.
	Primrose Tree	<i>Lagunaria patersonii</i>	Evergreen	30'-50'	15'-30'	moderate-fast	low to moderate	no	Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent, dried seed pods; drought tolerant once established; tolerates poor soils, wind, and salt air.
LARGE	Soapbark Tree	<i>Quillaja saponaria</i>	Evergreen	30'-45'	20'-35'	slow-moderate	low	no	Semi-weeping form; green flowers; drought tolerant once established; well adapted to climate.
	Red Flowering Gum	<i>Corymbia ficifolia</i>	Evergreen	20'-50'	25'-40'	moderate	low	no	Spectacular red, orange, or pink flowers; dense canopy produces hard, round fruit all year; requires large basin; large trunk.
	Brisbane Box	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Evergreen	40'-60'	20'-25'	fast	low to moderate	no	Large, glossy leaves; prefers sun; drought tolerant once established; intolerant of steady winds.
	Southern Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Evergreen	30'-50'	20'-30'	slow-moderate	moderate to high	no	'Sam Sommers' 'Russet' — Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds requires large basin.
	Cork Oak	<i>Quercus suber</i>	Evergreen	30'-60'	30'-60'	moderate	low	no	Large, dense, canopy; furrowed bark is the source of corks; drought tolerant once established; requires large basin.
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Deciduous	50'-65'	20'-30'	slow-moderate	moderate	no	Vibrant yellow fall color; leaves often drop all at once; use male-only to avoid malodorous fruits; intolerant of steady winds.	
Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Evergreen	40'-60'	50'-70'	fast	low to moderate	no	Semi-weeping form requires extra pruning to establish and maintain good structure; attractive bark intolerant of steady winds.	

* Plant only these smaller Southern Magnolia cultivars near power lines!

** Recommended trees for near power lines