A healthy tree population in a densely populated city softens the places outside their native habitats. The trees represented here have some of which contribute to our civic identity because they grow in few necessarily be the right tree for your situation. The list is not exhaustive, and varied soils and microclimates, allows a diverse collection of trees, beauty of our city.

Planting a tree around your home contributes to the vitality, health, and reduces pollution and stormwater runoff, and increases property values.

### Tree Selections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Tree Type</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Spread</th>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
<th>Water Use</th>
<th>Utility</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ginkgo</td>
<td><em>Ginkgo biloba</em></td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>50'-65'</td>
<td>20'-30'</td>
<td>slow-moderate</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Vibrant yellow fall color; leaves often drop all at once; use male-only to avoid malodorous fruits; intolerant of steady winds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olive (Fruitless)</td>
<td><em>Olea europaea var. domestica</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>20'-35'</td>
<td>20'-25'</td>
<td>moderate-fast</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>White flowers in summer; attractive, papery bark; dense canopy; tolerates many soil conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peppermint Willow</td>
<td><em>Salix amygdaloides</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>30'-40'</td>
<td>20'-30'</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Fragrant flowers, blue fruits, red foliage tones; prefers well-drained soil.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediterranean Fan Palm</td>
<td><em>Chamaerops humilis</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>30'-50'</td>
<td>15'-30'</td>
<td>moderate-fast</td>
<td>low to moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent, dried seed pods; drought tolerant once established; tolerates poor soils, wind, and salt air.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Tree Type</td>
<td>Height</td>
<td>Spread</td>
<td>Growth Rate</td>
<td>Water Use</td>
<td>Utility</td>
<td>Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lophostemon confertus</td>
<td><em>Lophostemon confertus</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>20'-25'</td>
<td>20'-35'</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>Fragrant flowers; new growth coppery before becoming dark green.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lagunaria patersonii</td>
<td><em>Lagunaria patersonii</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>30'-50'</td>
<td>20'-30'</td>
<td>slow-moderate</td>
<td>moderate to high</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Fragrant, showy white flowers, inedible, showy, showy fruits; intolerant of steady winds; requires large basin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbutus 'Marina'</td>
<td><em>Arbutus unedo 'Marina'</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>30'-50'</td>
<td>15'-30'</td>
<td>moderate-fast</td>
<td>low to moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Fragrant, showy white flowers, inedible, showy, showy fruits; intolerant of steady winds; requires large basin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eriobotrya deflexa</td>
<td><em>Eriobotrya deflexa</em></td>
<td>Evergreen</td>
<td>30'-50'</td>
<td>15'-30'</td>
<td>moderate-fast</td>
<td>low to moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Fragrant, showy white flowers, inedible, showy, showy fruits; intolerant of steady winds; requires large basin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulmus parvifolia</td>
<td><em>Ulmus parvifolia</em></td>
<td>Deciduous</td>
<td>20'-25'</td>
<td>20'-35'</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>moderate</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>Fragrant flowers; new growth coppery before becoming dark green.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How to Plant Your Tree

1. Choose a tree type, first apply for a planting permit. Choose the location wisely. Consult the SFDPW planting guidelines to avoid utility conflicts. SFDPW 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 hole by leaving the soil at the depth of the root ball. This will enable your tree to extend a dense mat of tiny roots well outside the soil during the first few months after planting.

3. If a box is in the center of the loosened area, 2 to 3 times the diameter of the root ball, and no more than 30 degrees from the top of the root ball—shallows is better than too deep. Make sure the sides of the hole are rough and uneven. In very hard soils, a rough edge to the hole may help to secure new roots as they enter the surrounding soil.

4. Gently remove the container from the root ball and rinse the roots. Fill a depression in the root ball at the point where they grow out from the four corners 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. If it is visible, it is visible to the trunk flare is an easy grade or slightly higher at the time of planting.

6. Place the tree in the hole. The bottom of the hole should not be so wide as to fill just above grade. Planting the tree too deep is the most common mistake, soil above trunk flare causes problems. The trunk flare should be slightly above the soil. Water thoroughly!

7. The outer soil is packed to a conical or tunnel down, less than 4 inches tall, just outside the root ball. This hole will help hold water until it seeps into the soil, rather than letting it run off across the surface. After planting height, watering is the most important factor to the establishment and long-term health of your tree.

8. Cover the root box area with a cover of 3 to 4 inches of mulch. Water slowly to slow water loss, reduce competition from weeds and grasses, moderate soil temperature, and provide a small amount of nutrients. Keep mulch at least 1 inch below knees to reduce disease.

9. Staking your tree is a temporary measure to allow the trunk and roots to develop strength. The nursery takes the small stake limit to the trunk to help keep continued on back side

### Tree Planting Near Electric Distribution Lines

- Plant medium trees (less than 40 feet) at least 20 feet from power lines.
- Plant large trees (greater than 40 feet) at least 50 feet from power lines.

### Tree Planting Permit

- Power Wise Tree Planting Tips from PG&E

To ensure safe and efficient electric service, plant the “right tree in the right place” to avoid future conflicts between trees and power lines:
- Plant trees no taller than 25 feet at maturity near your voltage distribution lines.
- Plant only low-growing shrubs not 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

Prior to planting, call 811 before you dig — “know what’s below.”

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 interpretation of your tree and power line situation.

### Recommended Trees for San Francisco

- *Plant large trees (greater than 40 feet) at least 20 feet from power lines.*
- *Plant medium trees (less than 40 feet) at least 20 feet from power lines.*
- *Plant small trees (less than 25 feet near power lines, and within 8 feet of power poles).*

*Plant only small trees (less than 25 feet near power lines, and within 8 feet of power poles).*
**Recommended Trees for San Francisco**

- **Japanese Blackwood Tree** *Eucarpia japonica*
  - Fragrant, white flowers; suits shady areas; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Flowering Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Cherry Laurel** *Prunus laurocerasus*
  - Dark green, glossy leaves; flowers in late spring; suitable for narrow sidewalks.

- **Southern Magnolia, Little Gem** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Brisbane Box** *Lophostemon confertus*
  - Large, dense, glossy leaves; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Chinese Elm** *Ulmus parvifolia*
  - White flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Small, yellow flowers; frost hardy; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Soapbark Tree** *Quillaja saponaria*
  - Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent seedpods; drought tolerant.

- **Flaxleaf Paperbark** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds.

- **Trident Maple** *Acer buergerianum*
  - Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning.

- **Chinese Pistache** *Pistacia chinensis*
  - Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Lagunaria patersonii*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.

- **Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Weeping Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Showy pink flowers in early spring; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Pendulous Pink Flowers** *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Showy pink flowers; blooms throughout the year; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Peach** *Prunus persica*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Japanese Blackwood Tree** *Eucarpia japonica*
  - Fragrant, white flowers; suits shady areas; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Flowering Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Cherry Laurel** *Prunus laurocerasus*
  - Dark green, glossy leaves; flowers in late spring; suitable for narrow sidewalks.

- **Brisbane Box** *Lophostemon confertus*
  - Large, dense, glossy leaves; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Chinese Elm** *Ulmus parvifolia*
  - White flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Small, yellow flowers; frost hardy; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Soapbark Tree** *Quillaja saponaria*
  - Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent seedpods; drought tolerant.

- **Flaxleaf Paperbark** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds.

- **Trident Maple** *Acer buergerianum*
  - Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning.

- **Chinese Pistache** *Pistacia chinensis*
  - Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Lagunaria patersonii*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.

- **Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Weeping Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Showy pink flowers in early spring; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Pendulous Pink Flowers** *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Showy pink flowers; blooms throughout the year; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Peach** *Prunus persica*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Japanese Blackwood Tree** *Eucarpia japonica*
  - Fragrant, white flowers; suits shady areas; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Flowering Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Cherry Laurel** *Prunus laurocerasus*
  - Dark green, glossy leaves; flowers in late spring; suitable for narrow sidewalks.

- **Brisbane Box** *Lophostemon confertus*
  - Large, dense, glossy leaves; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Chinese Elm** *Ulmus parvifolia*
  - White flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Small, yellow flowers; frost hardy; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Soapbark Tree** *Quillaja saponaria*
  - Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent seedpods; drought tolerant.

- **Flaxleaf Paperbark** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds.

- **Trident Maple** *Acer buergerianum*
  - Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning.

- **Chinese Pistache** *Pistacia chinensis*
  - Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Lagunaria patersonii*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.

- **Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Weeping Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Showy pink flowers in early spring; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Pendulous Pink Flowers** *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Showy pink flowers; blooms throughout the year; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Peach** *Prunus persica*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Japanese Blackwood Tree** *Eucarpia japonica*
  - Fragrant, white flowers; suits shady areas; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Flowering Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Cherry Laurel** *Prunus laurocerasus*
  - Dark green, glossy leaves; flowers in late spring; suitable for narrow sidewalks.

- **Brisbane Box** *Lophostemon confertus*
  - Large, dense, glossy leaves; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Chinese Elm** *Ulmus parvifolia*
  - White flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Small, yellow flowers; frost hardy; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Soapbark Tree** *Quillaja saponaria*
  - Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent seedpods; drought tolerant.

- **Flaxleaf Paperbark** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds.

- **Trident Maple** *Acer buergerianum*
  - Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning.

- **Chinese Pistache** *Pistacia chinensis*
  - Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Lagunaria patersonii*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.

- **Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Weeping Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Showy pink flowers in early spring; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Pendulous Pink Flowers** *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Showy pink flowers; blooms throughout the year; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Peach** *Prunus persica*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Japanese Blackwood Tree** *Eucarpia japonica*
  - Fragrant, white flowers; suits shady areas; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Flowering Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Cherry Laurel** *Prunus laurocerasus*
  - Dark green, glossy leaves; flowers in late spring; suitable for narrow sidewalks.

- **Brisbane Box** *Lophostemon confertus*
  - Large, dense, glossy leaves; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Chinese Elm** *Ulmus parvifolia*
  - White flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Small, yellow flowers; frost hardy; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Soapbark Tree** *Quillaja saponaria*
  - Pale to deep-pink flowers; persistent seedpods; drought tolerant.

- **Flaxleaf Paperbark** *Melaleuca linariifolia*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; unusual fruit; intolerant of steady winds.

- **Trident Maple** *Acer buergerianum*
  - Interesting flaky bark; may require extra pruning.

- **Chinese Pistache** *Pistacia chinensis*
  - Small, yellow, fragrant flowers; tolerates many soil conditions.

- **Primrose Tree** *Lagunaria patersonii*
  - Fragrant, showy white flowers; intolerant of steady winds; needs extra water when windy.

- **Southern Magnolia, 'Little Gem'** *Magnolia grandiflora*
  - Spectacular white flowers; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Weeping Cherry** *Prunus serrulata*
  - Showy pink flowers in early spring; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Pendulous Pink Flowers** *Arbutus 'Marina'*
  - Showy pink flowers; blooms throughout the year; good for narrow sidewalks.

- **Peach** *Prunus persica*
  - Spectacular pink flowers; blooms early; good for narrow sidewalks.