



Private Protected Tree Removal Permit Guidelines



All private trees in the City are protected under the **Urban Reforestation and Tree Protection Ordinance** if they measure 48" in circumference when measured 54" from natural grade. On occasion, private protected trees need to be removed for building projects, poor health or structure, or damage to infrastructure.

An independent arborist report is required:



1. When the tree has good structure and is healthy.
2. Growing 10 feet or closer to existing structures.
Note: If a tree is growing 10 feet or closer to an existing structure and the removal is requested due to damage to the structure, a structural engineer's report may also be required.
3. Being removed as part of a building project and not within the footprint of the new structure.
4. Any protected sized Redwoods and Coast Live Oak Trees.

Independent arborist qualifications and report:

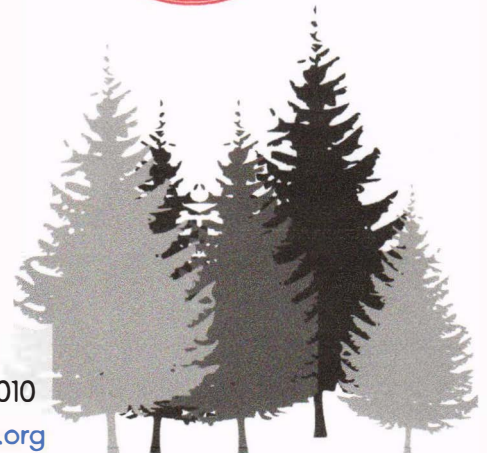
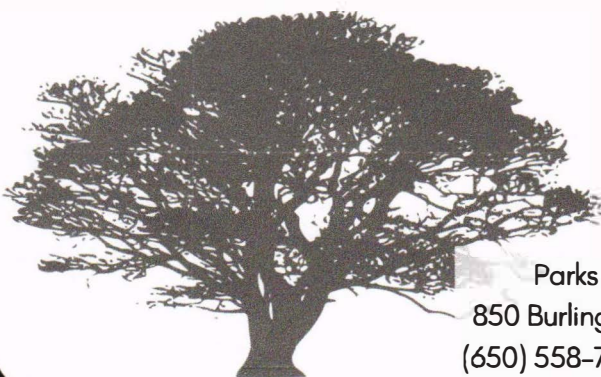


The independent arborist should be a qualified, licensed arborist, independent of a tree service company. The report should include:

1. A basic assessment of the tree, documenting its health and structure.
2. Documentation of why typical trimming or pruning by ANSI standards or Best Management Practices cannot be used to improve the tree's form or lessen the chance of failure in order to retain the tree.

An independent arborist report is not needed for trees when:

1. The entire canopy is void of any leaves or new growth.
2. It is obvious it is diminishing in health, or missing 50% of their foliage.
3. The tree is within the footprint of an approved building project.
4. There is visible decay or decomposed wood.



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