

Tree Pruning/Removals

The City attempts to manage its community forest on a six-year rotation. This means that City-owned trees (see flyer on **Whose Tree Is It?**) are divided into six zones and, budget allowing, all public trees in one zone are pruned each year. Pruning is performed during winter to allow for improved assessment of tree structure and to minimize the spread of harmful insects or diseases. Trees are pruned to reduce present or future hazards, provide clearance, improve structure, and to remove dead/diseased wood. This work is performed within the guidelines outlined in the ANSI A300 standards for pruning. In addition, citizen pruning/removal requests are considered and included in work plans as deemed necessary by the City Forester.

Diseased City-owned trees are removed within twenty days (excluding Sundays and holidays), as possible. Public dead and dying trees, hazardous trees, and other trees that must be removed are scheduled according to relative risk to people and property, as well as budgetary and scheduling constraints. The City selects tree removal and tree pruning contractors separately every 2 or 3 years based on bid prices for projected work, demonstrated performance, and ability to respond in a timely fashion.