

PROTECTED

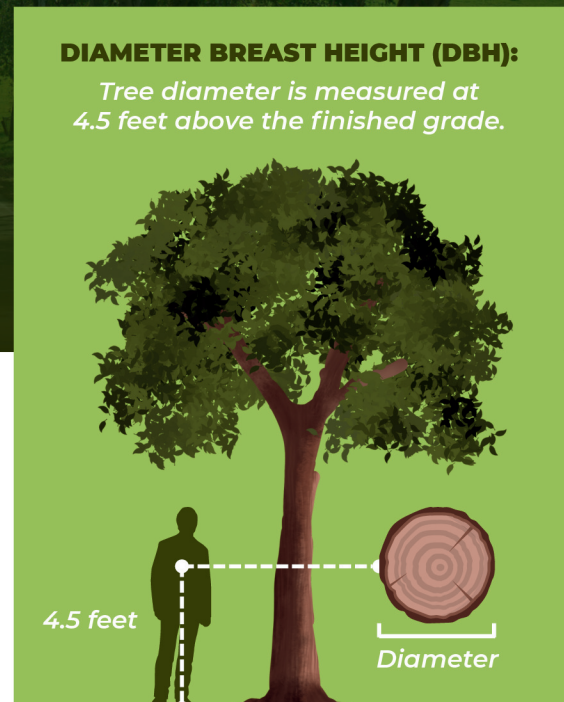
NATIVE & HERITAGE TREES IN CHINO HILLS



The City of Chino Hills values the natural beauty and environmental benefits of our many trees. To protect them, the City has rules about which trees are considered "protected" and when you need a permit to remove them. Below is a quick guide for residents. In the event of any conflicts or omissions, the Chino Hills Municipal Code (CHMC), Chapter 16.90 is the official rule.

What trees are protected?

- **Native Trees:** Includes all California Sycamore, Live Oak, and Black Walnut, and Coastal Scrub Oak trees (*pictured below from left to right*) having a four (4) inches or greater in diameter breast height (DBH) measured at 4.5 feet above the finish grade and located on undeveloped private property, or privately owned, developed property located within the adopted Fire Hazard Overlay District map.
- **Heritage trees:** Includes any trees located within privately owned undeveloped properties that are any species of single or multi-trunk tree(s) having a cumulative diameter of forty-four (44) inches or greater in DBH measured at 4.5 feet above the finish grade and of significant age, health and quality to be deemed valuable to the aesthetics of the community by a City-approved certified arborist. Note: Excluded from the "Heritage Tree" designation are invasive trees as defined by the California Invasive Plant Council.



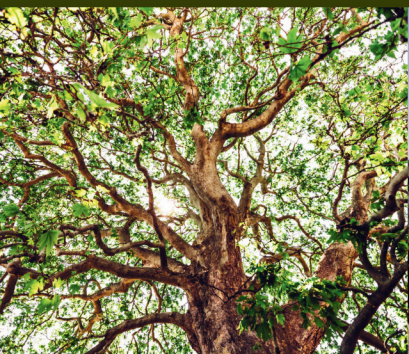
Why are native trees protected?

Native trees are considered fire resistant! Their leaves are moist and supple, they have little dead wood, and their sap is like water. Native trees generally do not contribute to the intensity of a fire, however they can be damaged or destroyed by a fire.

Can I trim or prune my protected tree?

Protected trees can be trimmed/pruned following the established practices of the International Society of Arboriculture Pruning Standards. These can also be found online at www.chinohills.org/TreeTrimming.

California Sycamore



California Live Oak



California Black Walnut



Coastal Scrub Oak



When is a tree removal permit required?

A Tree Removal Permit is required to remove or relocate a protected tree unless it meets an exemption. Permits are granted only if at least ONE of the following findings is made:

1. The protected tree(s) has/have a disease, is in danger of falling, is too close to proposed or existing structures, and/or interferes with utility services.
2. Its location unreasonably prevents the development of a vacant property.
3. The removal or relocation is consistent with good urban forestry practices, for the number of healthy trees that a given parcel of land will support.
4. The protected tree(s) is/are declared dead or dying by a City approved certified arborist.
5. The proposed removal or relocation will substantially improve the defensible space of the property in the event of a fire, as determined by the Fire Department (as that term is defined by Title 8 of the CHMC).

An application must be submitted to the Community Development Department via the Virtual Development Services (VDS) online portal for review and approval at www.chinohills.org/VDS.

Tree Replacement Rules

Any removed protected tree that is not exempt or dead/dying, shall be replaced within the subject property with the same species in accordance with the City's Administrative Policy's replacement ratio as defined in the chart to the right.

In-lieu Tree Replacement

If tree replacement cannot be placed within the subject property the protected tree is being removed from, the property owner may choose to pay an in-lieu fee to the City based on the replacement value and maintenance costs to fund parks and open space tree installation and maintenance.

Height	DHB
3" up to 6"	Qty. (1) 24" box
6" up to 12"	Qty. (2) 24" box
12" up to 18"	Qty. (1) 36" box
18" up to 24"	Qty. (2) 24" box
24" up to 30"	Qty. (2) 48" box
30" up to 36"	Qty. (4) 48" box
36" up to 42"	Qty. (6) 48" box

Exemptions to the Tree Removal Permit Requirement

Some exemptions to the tree removal permit exist. To inquire about those exemptions, and if you are still unsure if a permit is required, please contact the Community Development Department at (909) 364-2740.

REMINDER:

Cutting, breaking, defacing, or damaging a City-owned tree in City-owned open space/parkways/parks in any manner whatsoever is prohibited, and subject to charges of destruction of public property and will be required to pay restitution.