



# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR: TREE REMOVAL

PLANNING DIVISION



## PURPOSE

The Town recognizes that the preservation of trees sustains the natural beauty, significance, and long-term potential increase in property values and encourages quality development. The requirement to obtain a Tree Removal Permits helps to retain protected trees that do not need to be removed. A Tree Removal Permit for tree removal is required if the tree(s) are on our list of protected trees, a heritage tree, or a memorial tree.

**Protected Trees:** Any of the following native trees having a single trunk or main stem 10 inches or greater in diameter or multiple trunk trees with tree trunks totaling 20 inches in diameter, measured 4-1/2 feet above natural grade:

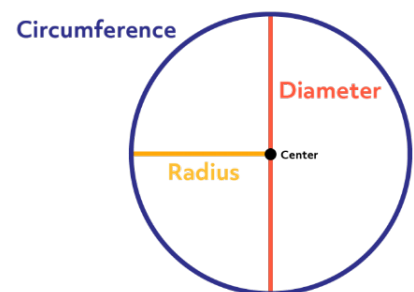
- Blue Oak (*Quercus Doulgassi*)
- California Bay (*Umbellularia California*)
- California Black Oak (*Quercus Kelloggi*)
- California Buckeye (*Aesculus Californica*)
- California Sycamore (*Platanus Racemosa*)
- Canyon Live Oak (*Quercus Chrysol*)
- Coast Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*)
- Interior Live Oak (*Quercus Wislizenii*)
- Madrone (*Arbutus Menziesii*)
- London Plane Tree (*Plantanus Acerifolia*)
- Valley Oak (*Quercus Lobata*)
- White Alder (*Alnus Rhombifolia*)

**Heritage Tree:** Any single trunked tree, regardless of species, which has a trunk diameter of 36 inches or greater, measured 4-1/2 feet above natural grade. (Multi-trunk trees are not considered heritage trees therefore no permit would be required).

**Memorial Trees:** A tree planted on public property in memory of or commemoration of an individual or individuals.

A tree's diameter is measured by:

- Start the measurement 4-1/2 feet above natural grade.
- Measure the circumference (C) of the tree and divide by 3.14 to obtain the diameter (D).
- $D = C / 3.14$



## EVALUATION

In order to issue a Tree Removal Permit, the Town will consider the following criteria upon receipt of a completed Tree Removal application:

1. The condition of the tree with respect to its health, imminent danger of falling, proximity to existing structures, and interference with utility infrastructure;
2. The necessity to remove the tree to allow for the reasonable use, enjoyment, or development of the property;
3. The age and size of the protected tree with regard to the appropriate size of the area in which the tree is planted, and if removal would encourage healthy, more vigorous growth of other plant materials in the area;
4. Planning Commission may authorize removal if the tree is unreasonably adversely impacting the use of the property. Mitigation would be required;
5. The effect of the removal in relation to soil erosion and surface water flow;
6. The number of species, size, and location of other protected trees in the area and the effect of the removal as it pertains to shade, privacy between properties, and scenic beauty of the area;
7. Possible visual impacts within a Town-identified Major Ridgeline or Scenic Hillside Area.

## PROCESS

Applications cannot proceed through the review process until all the application requirements are met. The application is assigned to a Project Planner, who is your main contact throughout the review process, leads the evaluation of the application, and advises you of any items required to complete the application. Once deemed complete, a Tree Removal Permit is issued listing the findings and conditions of approval.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

An application will be considered complete if it has been filled out entirely and there is no missing information.

1. **Application form:** Tree Removal Application is available at the Town's Permit Counter or online at [www.danville.ca.gov](http://www.danville.ca.gov).
2. **Fee:** Payment of fee in effect at the time of application submittal, payable to the Town of Danville.
3. In cases where the reasons for the proposed tree removal are not clearly visible, the applicant may be asked to submit an arborist report for the tree(s).