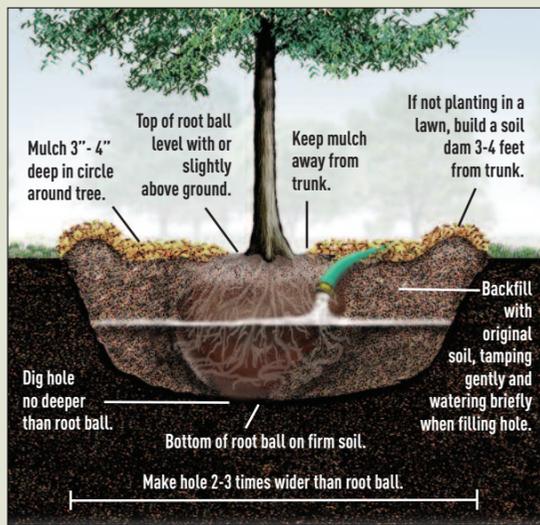


How to Plant Your Tree

- 1. Select your planting location wisely.** Consult PG&E and City of Chico tree guidelines to avoid future conflicts with utility lines, concrete work and other landscaping. Before digging, call 811. Know what's below. Look for conflicts above!
- 2. Prepare the planting area.** Mark an area 2-to-3 times wider than the root ball/tree container. Then loosen the soil to about the depth of the root ball. This will help your tree extend a dense mat of tiny roots well out into the soil during the first few months after planting.
- 3. Loosen the soil near the base of the trunk to find the trunk flare.** This is 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 until it is visible.
- 4. Dig a hole in the center of the loosened area.** The hole should be 2-to-3 times the diameter of the root ball or tree container, and no deeper than the depth of the root ball at the trunk flare — shallow is better than deep! Use your shovel to roughen the sides of the hole. A rough side to the hole helps new roots grow out into the surrounding soil.
- 5. Gently remove the root ball from the container.** Loosen the roots with your fingers. Prune damaged or circling roots at the point where they grow out or down from the center of the root ball.
- 6. Place the tree in the hole.** The bottom of the root ball should rest on solid soil. When finished planting, the trunk flare should be at or just above the soil surface. Planting too deeply is the most common mistake. Soil above the trunk flare can cause the tree's bark to rot!
- 7. Stand back and look at the tree.** Check the orientation of the tree before putting the soil back into the hole. This is the time to make careful adjustments to planting height to avoid seriously harming the roots.
- 8. Gently backfill with the hole with original soil.** Do not add fertilizer, compost or other material. Break up dirt clods and remove any grass, weeds or rocks. Lightly pack the soil with the shovel handle to remove air pockets. Do not stamp on or compress the soil heavily, especially the top of the root ball. The best soil for root growth has spaces for both air and water, but not large air pockets, which cause problems. The trunk flare should be slightly above the soil surface. Water thoroughly.
- 9. Use extra soil to construct a small earthen dam around the planting hole.** This dam should be less than 4 inches tall, just outside the root ball zone. This will help hold water until it soaks into the soil, rather than letting it run off across the surface. Watering is the most important factor for the long-term health of your tree.
- 10. Cover the entire loosened area of soil with 3-to-4 inches of mulch.** Mulch consists of wood chips or compost. Mulch will slow water loss, reduce competition

Continued on back side



from weeds and grasses, moderate soil temperature, and provide a small amount of nutrients. Keep mulch at least a hand-length's distance from the tree trunk to prevent disease.

11. Staking Your Tree.

Place 2-to-4 new stakes outside the root ball — on the east and west sides of the tree if possible — to help ensure that the tree grows straight. Remove nursery stakes at the time of planting, and remove all support stakes once the tree is firmly rooted. Make sure the stakes do not rub the trunk or branches. Staking is a temporary measure. Remove the stakes as soon as possible (typically 1-2 years) to allow tree trunk to gain strength and speed growth.

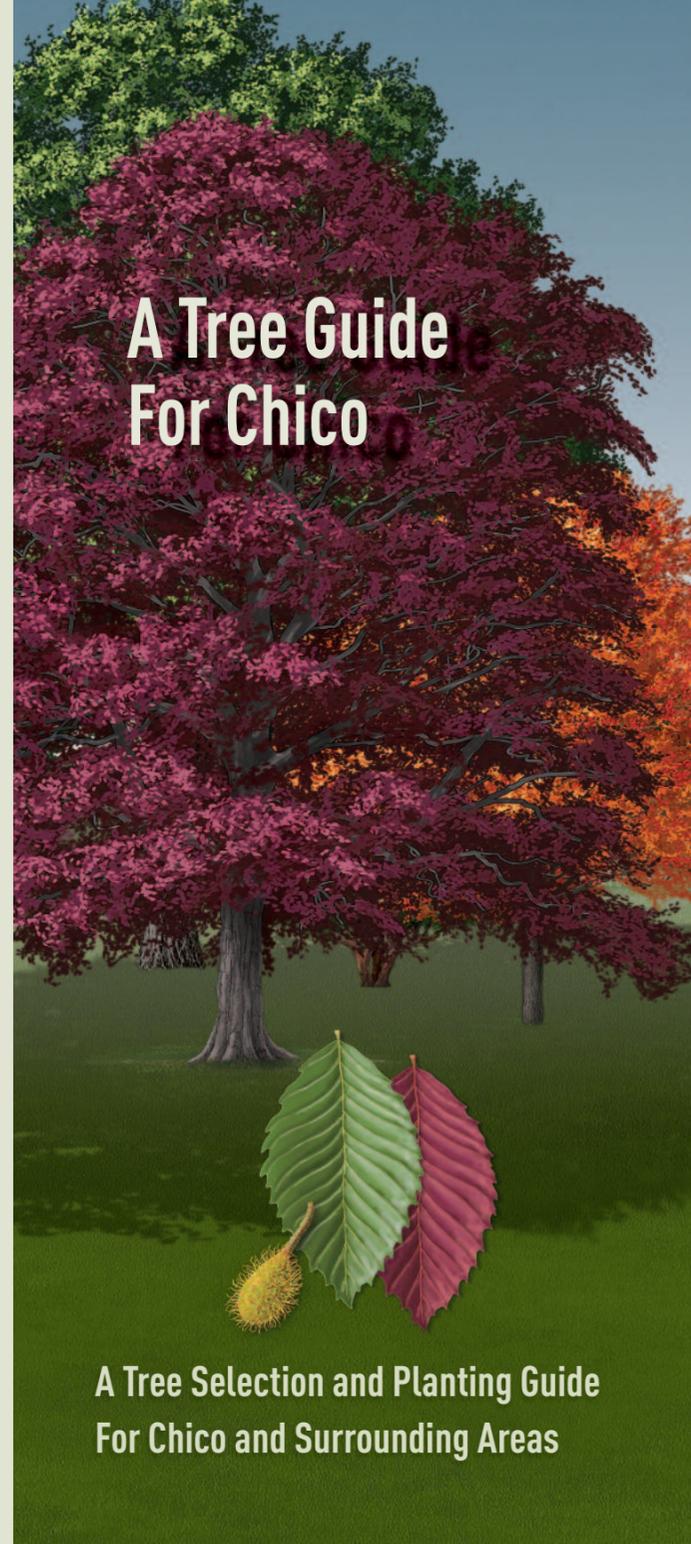
12. Regular watering is extremely important during the first three years.

Trees need 15-to-20 gallons of water each week for the first dry season. After that, most species can get by on 15-to-20 gallons every other week during the dry season until they have been in the ground for three years. At that point they can rely on finding their own water, although they will require supplemental water when it is hot or windy for long periods of time. Deep, thorough watering is best! Do not maintain a saturated soil condition in poorly drained soils where the roots cannot breathe.

Please contact the City of Chico if you have any questions.

Phone: (530) 896-7800 • Fax: (530) 895-4731 • Email: parkinfo@chicoca.gov
City of Chico • 411 Main Street • PO Box 3420 • Chico, CA 95927

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A Tree Guide For Chico



A Tree Selection and Planting Guide For Chico and Surrounding Areas

The City of Chico embraces a "Right Tree, Right Place" philosophy for tree planting. A healthy community forest begins with careful planning. Consideration of the planter size, placement of utilities, traffic safety, soil type, and tree objectives will help ensure that your tree provides shade, grows well, avoids conflicts with infrastructure, and improves aesthetics and your property value.

- A City of Trees, Chico has a legacy of beautiful native trees, and the City encourages the planting of California Native trees in appropriate locations. Remember, many native trees like oaks and sycamores need a lot of room.
- A number of non-native trees can invade natural areas such as Bidwell Park and along creeks. The City encourages the removal of these undesirable trees. Fortunately a number of good alternatives exist.
- The City of Chico maintains an Approved Street Trees List for additional varieties and species.
- We can accept donations for tree planting and will host volunteer events.
- All tree planting or other tree work in the Public Right of Way requires a City of Chico Tree Permit. In addition, certain tree removals or work associated with development or a building permit may require a City of Chico Tree Permit as well. Please contact the City for the latest information.
- The City of Chico accepts donations toward tree planting and hosts volunteer events. The City can accept donations directly or thru the North Valley Community Foundation (City of Chico Parks Division) at nvcf.org.

Power Wise Tree Planting Tips from PG&E

To ensure safe and reliable electric service, plant the "right tree in the right place" to avoid future conflicts between trees and power lines:

- Plant trees that grow no taller than 25 feet at maturity near high-voltage distribution lines.
- Plant only small shrubs near or underneath high-voltage transmission lines.
- Avoid planting at the base of power poles and in proximity to pad-mounted transformers.

Safety Concerns

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 inspection of your tree and power line situation.

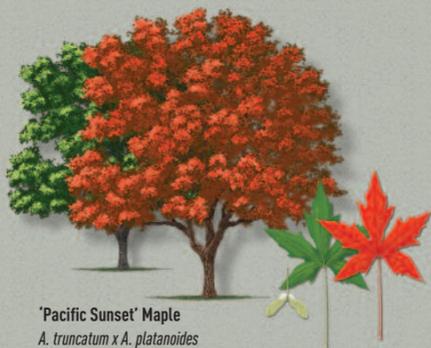


Recommended Trees for Chico

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Tree Type	Height	Spread	Growth Rate	Water Use	Lawn	Utility*	Comments
SMALL	Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia hybrids</i>	Deciduous	20-30'	15-25'	moderate	low to moderate	yes	yes	Year-round interest with showy, long-lasting flowers, fall color and decorative bark; tolerates heat; plant disease-resistant varieties for low maintenance
	Dogwood	<i>Cornus spp.</i>	Deciduous	15-25'	15-25'	slow to moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Select varieties Eddie's White Wonder dogwood (<i>Cornus x 'Eddie's White Wonder'</i>), or Startlight dogwood (<i>Cornus kousa x nuttallii</i>)
	Maple, Rocky Mountain Glow	<i>A. grandidentatum 'Schmidt'</i>	Deciduous	30-40'	20-30'	slow to moderate	low to moderate	yes	yes	Good structure, brilliant yellow-orange fall color; requires somewhat dry, well-drained soils
	Redbud, Forest Pansy	<i>Cercis x 'Forest Pansy'</i>	Deciduous	20-25'	20-25'	moderate	moderate	yes	yes	Heart-shaped leaves and magenta flowers in early spring; pollinators enjoy this tree; drought tolerant once established; also consider Western redbud
MEDIUM	Maple, 'Pacific Sunset'	<i>A. truncatum x A. platanooides</i>	Deciduous	20-30'	20-25'	fast	moderate	yes	no	Also consider Norwegian Sunset maple (slightly larger than Pacific Sunset) and Crimson Sunset maple that has burgundy colored leaves
	Maple, October Glory	<i>Acer rubrum 'October Glory'</i>	Deciduous	40-50'	30'-40'	fast	moderate	yes	no	Good fall color; tolerates poor soils, but prefers acidic soils; needs full sun; drought-tolerant; consistent fall color and uniform growth habit
	Maple, Trident	<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	Deciduous	25'-35'	20-25'	fast	low to moderate	yes	no	Low maintenance, good fall color; new growth often emerges bronze; tolerates poor, dry and infertile growing conditions, prefers well-drained soils
	Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus 'Marina'</i>	Evergreen	25-45'	20-30'	moderate	low to moderate	yes	no	Native evergreen with clusters of small, cream colored flowers; good for bees and hummingbirds; forms red, strawberry-like fruit; attractive red bark
LARGE	Ash, Autumn Purple	<i>F. americana 'Autumn Purple'</i>	Deciduous	40-50'	30-50'	fast	moderate	yes	no	Vigorous, attractive tree; deep red or purplish fall color; tolerates heat, poor soil conditions; prefers moist, well-drained soils; sensitive to drought
	Ash, Oregon	<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Deciduous	60-80'	40-50'	moderate	moderate	yes	no	Native riparian tree; prefers moist soils; requires full sun or partial shade; bright yellow fall color
	Bay Laurel, California	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	Evergreen	40-80'	50-60'	moderate	low to moderate	no	no	Dense, dark green native evergreen; attractive form; prefers good drainage, though somewhat tolerant of waterlogged soils
	Beech, Rivers Purple	<i>Fagus sylvatica 'Riversii'</i>	Deciduous	40-50'	20-30'	moderate	moderate	yes	no	Purple leaves; silver-gray bark; also consider <i>Fagus sylvatica 'Fastigiata'</i> (columnar shape)
	Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Deciduous	50-65'	20-30'	slow to moderate	low to moderate	yes	no	Consider <i>Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'</i> or other varieties with upright growth habits for narrow street medians
	Hornbeam, European	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Deciduous	40-80'	40-80'	slow to moderate	moderate	yes	no	Dense, pyramidal shade tree; yellow to red fall color; good street tree; also consider more upright, columnar variety <i>Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'</i>
	Kentucky Coffee Tree	<i>Gymnocladium dioicus</i>	Deciduous	60-75'	25-30'	moderate	moderate	yes	no	Interesting bark and branches; yellow fall color; large leaves emerge bronze; long legume fruit provide visual interest; fast growing for shade
	Maple, Autumn Blaze	<i>Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred'</i>	Deciduous	40-55'	30-40'	moderate	moderate	yes	no	Tolerates heat, resists sunburn, good fall color; also consider the narrow crown Bowhall Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum 'Bowhall'</i>) when space is limited
	Oak, Blue	<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	Deciduous	40-50'	40-50'	slow	low to moderate	no	no	Low-water California native well adapted to heat, drought and dry climates; short with an open canopy
	Oak, Interior Live	<i>Quercus wislizenii</i>	Deciduous	40-50'	40'-50'	slow	very low to none	no	no	Native evergreen adapted to drought and dry climates; also consider Coast Live Oak (<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>)
	Oak, Skyrocket	<i>Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'</i>	Deciduous	50-60'	10-20'	moderate to fast	moderate	no	no	Uniform narrow shape, tolerates heat; also the columnar 'Crimson Spire' oak (<i>Quercus x bimundorum 'Crimson Spire'</i>) is recommended
	Oak, Valley	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Deciduous	70-100'	60-75'	moderate	low to very low	no	no	Native shade tree; good habit tree; fast growing in moist sites; also consider Black Oak (<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>)
Oak, Willow	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Deciduous	60-80'	40-50'	fast	moderate	yes	no	Long lived, low-water California native plant adapted to drought and dry climates; tolerates poor soils, good shade tree	
Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Deciduous	30-50'	20-30'	slow	moderate	yes	no	Shade tree with beautiful red fall color; good lawn tree; tolerates waterlogged soil; avoid shallow, dry soils; horizontal branching structure	
Zelkova, Sawleaf	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Deciduous	90-100'	60-80'	moderate	fast	no	yes	Upright growth pattern, deep rooting; fast growing; attractive fall color; tolerates drought and nutrient poor soils; resistant to Dutch Elm disease	

* May be planted near utility lines

Recommended Trees for Chico AND SURROUNDING AREAS



'Pacific Sunset' Maple
A. truncatum x A. platanoides

Also consider the slightly larger 'Norwegian Sunset' maple and 'Crimson Sunset' maple that has burgundy colored leaves.



'Autumn Glow' Rocky Mountain Maple

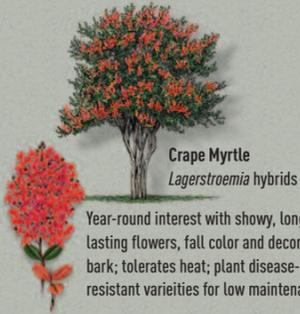
Acer grandidentatum 'Schmidt'
Good structure, brilliant yellow-orange fall color; requires somewhat dry, well-drained soils



Dogwood *Cornus spp.*
Select varieties 'Eddie's White Wonder' dogwood or 'Starlight' dogwood



'Rivers' Purple Beech
Fagus sylvatica 'Riversii'
Purple leaves; silver-gray bark; also consider the columnar shaped *Fagus sylvatica 'Fastigiata'*



Crape Myrtle
Lagerstroemia hybrids

Year-round interest with showy, long-lasting flowers, fall color and decorative bark; tolerates heat; plant disease-resistant varieties for low maintenance



California Bay Laurel
Umbellularia californica
Dense, dark green native evergreen; attractive form; prefers good drainage, though somewhat tolerant of waterlogged soils



Valley Oak *Quercus lobata*
Native shade tree; good habit tree; fast growing in moist sites; also consider Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*)



'Skyrocket' Oak
Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'
Uniform narrow shape, tolerates heat; also the columnar 'Crimson Spire' oak is recommended



'Forest Pansy' redbud
Cercis occidentalis
Heart-shaped leaves and magenta flowers in early spring; pollinators enjoy this tree; drought tolerant once established; also consider Western redbud



Trident Maple *Acer buergerianum*

Low maintenance, good fall color; new growth often emerges bronze; tolerates poor, dry and infertile growing conditions, prefers well-drained soils



'October Glory' Maple
Acer rubrum 'October Glory'

Good fall color; tolerates poor soils, but prefers acidic soils; needs full sun; drought-tolerant; consistent fall color and uniform growth habit



Willow Oak
Quercus phellos

Long lived, low-water California native plant adapted to drought and dry climates; tolerates poor soils, good shade tree



Sawleaf Zelkova
Zelkova serrata

Upright growth pattern, deep rooting; fast growing; attractive fall color; tolerates drought and nutrient poor soils; resistant to Dutch Elm disease



Blue Oak *Quercus douglasii*

Low-water California native well adapted to heat, drought and dry climates; short with an open canopy



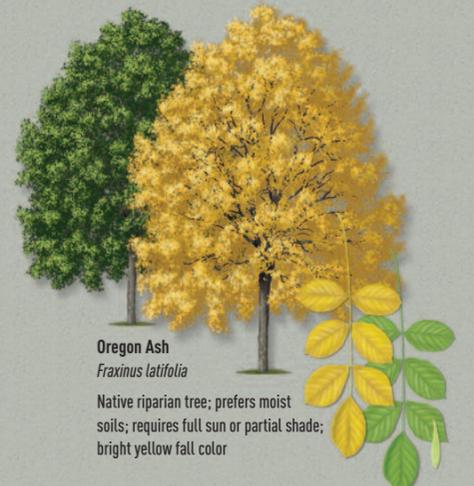
European Hornbeam
Carpinus betulus

Dense, pyramidal shade tree; yellow to red fall color; good street tree; also consider more upright, columnar variety *Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'*



'Autumn Purple' Ash
Fraxinus americana 'Autumn Purple'

Vigorous, attractive tree; deep red or purplish fall color; tolerates heat, poor soil conditions; prefers moist, well-drained soils; sensitive to drought



Oregon Ash
Fraxinus latifolia

Native riparian tree; prefers moist soils; requires full sun or partial shade; bright yellow fall color



Ginkgo *Ginkgo biloba*

Consider *Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'* or other varieties with upright growth habits for narrow street medians



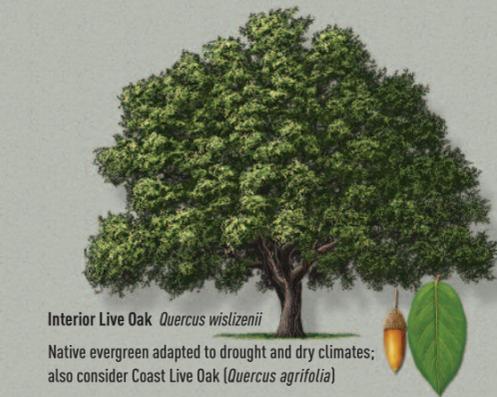
Strawberry Tree
Arbutus x 'Marina'

Native evergreen with clusters of small, cream colored flowers; good for bees and hummingbirds; forms red, strawberry-like fruit; attractive red bark



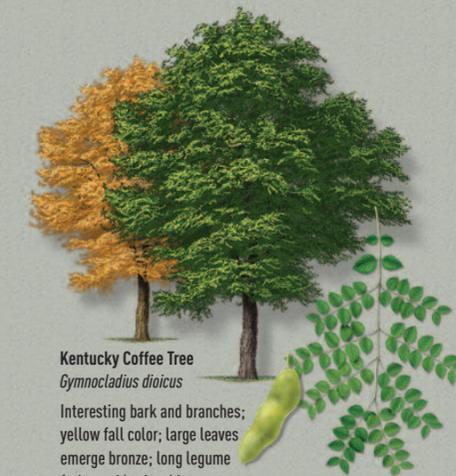
Tupelo *Nyssa sylvatica*

Shade tree with beautiful red fall color; good lawn tree; tolerates waterlogged soil; avoid shallow, dry soils; horizontal branching structure



Interior Live Oak *Quercus wislizenii*

Native evergreen adapted to drought and dry climates; also consider Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*)



Kentucky Coffee Tree
Gymnocladus dioica

Interesting bark and branches; yellow fall color; large leaves emerge bronze; long legume fruit provide visual interest; fast growing for shade



'Autumn Blaze' Maple
Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred'

Tolerates heat, resists sunburn, good fall color; also consider the narrow crown Bowhall Red maple (*Acer rubrum 'Bowhall'*) when space is limited



Relative Tree Heights

