



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**City of Chico**  
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June 19, 2017

### **Summer Limb Drop**

During the summer months, Bidwell Park and our community experience a sudden rise of reported tree limbs falling to the ground. Healthy tree limbs that drop in the summer without any apparent cause are not uncommon. Arborists call it “summer limb drop.” This phenomenon usually occurs in the afternoon on hot, dry, windless days, which are typical of Chico’s summer months. Summer limb drop is more common in larger, over-mature trees. Oak and Sycamore trees most commonly experience sudden limb drop but Ash, Poplar, Pear, Pines, Cedars, Eucalyptus, Sweet gum, Pistache and Maple trees can also be affected. Over the past few weeks, the City has received several limb drop calls. As we enter the heatwave over the coming week, the number of calls is expected to increase.

So when outdoors enjoying our beautiful City of Trees, please exercise caution and be aware of your surroundings, especially if wearing headphones. Citizens should be alert when out driving, parking, walking, or any outdoor activity that brings them under the shade of trees. Sudden noises of cracking or “popping” like fireworks often indicate imminent branch drop. Take evasive action because you might only have a few seconds to get out of the way.

If citizen’s notice any hazardous conditions such as broken branches (especially those greater than 2 inches diameter) or limbs blocking a trail or road in Bidwell Park or in the public right of way, please contact the Public Works Department at 530-896-7800.

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