Guidelines for Application Submittal:

Our City’s Tree Preservation Ordinance provides for removal of an ‘ordinance’ size tree under the following criteria: that the tree is dead, dying, diseased, structurally unsound, or that reasonable work will occur, causing the tree to die, or become unstable. Reasonable work may include approved plans, and other permitted improvements, which might compromise the health and stability of an otherwise sustainable tree; this criteria must be supported by a written recommendation from a Certified Arborist, referencing the scope of work for proposed improvements, and ruling out other forms of mitigation.

Checklist for success: (the last 3 items apply to construction & new development sites)

- The Application – filled out completely with the property owner’s signature.
  - A brief statement – listing criteria for removal.
  - Supporting documents - see reporting requirements below.
- The Estimate – official company letterhead (*), explaining the scope of work.
- The Endorsement – (if applicable) - Official HOA approval for proposed work.
- The Plot Plan – a diagram of trees on the lot, with respect to home and property lines.
- The Photographs – showing trees in the yard, corresponding to criteria and report.
  - The following items may be required for additional information:
    - The Architectural Plans – approved set of plans, with building or demolition permits.
    - The Tree Inventory – large projects & new development, listing trees by “tag” number, proposed pruning or removal, and recommended appropriate replanting.
    - The Tree & Landscape Appraisal – may be required by the City Arborist.

(*) – Redwood City residents and owners are encouraged to refer to our list of [Work Verified Tree Care Companies](#), local businesses voluntarily providing assurance that a Certified Arborist will represent them, evidence of a current Redwood City Business License, a current California State Contractor’s License (required by the CA Department of Consumer Affairs - Contractor’s State License Board ‘CSLB’ for jobs over $500.00), and proof of insurance for Liability and Worker’s Compensation.

Here are some tips to guide your tree care decisions:

Ask yourself, can ‘the problem’ be fixed with proper pruning (branches or roots), to avoid tree removal?

Are there alternative design, repair, or construction methods and materials available that haven’t been considered, which may allow for tree preservation, and help avoid tree removal?

Ask yourself, will my property value, curb appeal, and health be impacted if my tree is removed?

Pruning a neighbor’s tree, over your property line, requires their consent and must be done properly.

Thank you for celebrating our urban forest in Redwood City – proud to be a Tree City USA member.

“Climate best, by government test”