

Proposal from Bruce and Mark:

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1. Add bullet for tree maintenance to the UFAC web page

<http://www.ci.encinitas.ca.us/Government/Boards-Commissions/Urban-Forest-Advisory-Committee>

2. Ask city Environmental Commission to publicize the tree-maintenance link in their online material.

3. Include the tree-maintenance link in various city newsletters as convenient.

4. Our proposed tree-maintenance page would look something like this:

PROPER CARE OF TREES IN YOUR YARD

Protect the investment in your home and property. Trees, especially large trees, contribute much to the value and beauty of your home, not to mention reducing greenhouse gasses, providing needed shade, improving air quality, and many other benefits.

Trees in the city right of way (street trees) are maintained by the city, so a call to the city can result in an inspection and scheduling of needed maintenance (760-633-2850).

Trees in your yard are the responsibility of the homeowner. Tree care for smaller trees, for which all trimming can be done with hand tools and one's feet on the ground, is the easiest. Small trees can be maintained by either an arborist or by a homeowner willing to learn proper pruning techniques:

(http://www.treesaregood.org/portals/0/docs/treecare/Pruning_YoungTrees.pdf).

Larger tree care requires an arborist trained in safe and effective maintenance.

The City of Encinitas Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC) has a few suggestions will help you to properly maintain trees and avoid problems.

1. Hire a licensed arborist. <http://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist> Ask each candidate arborist for proof of license and current insurance (with certificate of insurance for workman's compensation liability).

<https://www2.cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicenseII/checklicense.aspx>

2. Learn how to select, maintain and care for trees properly at your home:

<http://www.treesaregood.org/treeowner>

or

<http://www.urbantree.org/prunehome.shtml>

Remember to think before each cut – there's no Undo button once the branch has been removed.

3. Avoid topping trees.

Topping:

- Weakens tree structure
- Increases likelihood of disease by opening large wounds
- Lowers property values due to poor aesthetics

For more information, see [Why Topping Hurts Trees](#) by the International Society of Arboriculture.

Beware: some professional tree trimmers still practice tree topping.

4. The following videos offer a good introduction to maintenance of both large and small trees.

- How to care for your small tree - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mllj0PribmI>
- Hiring a good arborist - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhac1J7VSVO>
- Examples of poorly maintained trees - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HbUikVb_Cc

<<< Tim to provide ISA pages of interest. >>>