

Firewise Landscaping

August 13, 2014

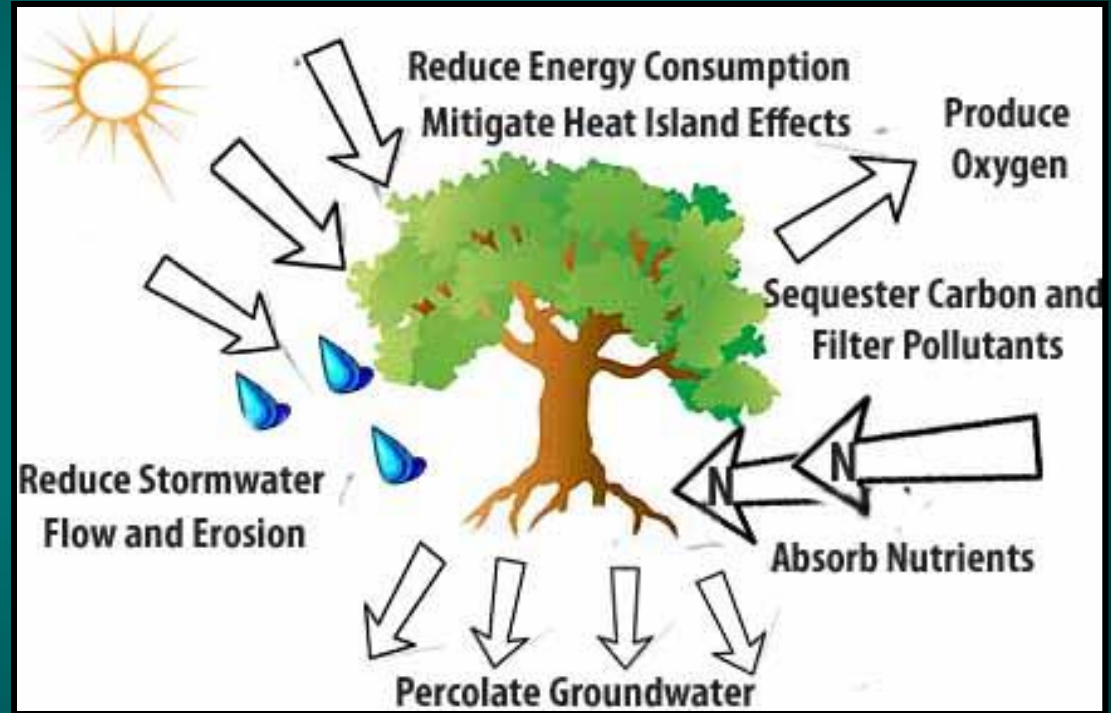
MITIGATING TO PRESERVE HIGH VALUE TREES

*Michael Embesi
City of Austin Arborist*

Trees Play Critical Role With Austin's Quality of Life



- Air and Water Quality
- Wildlife habitat
- Screen views & noise
- Property value
- Sense of place
- Aesthetics
- Added ecological value of mature trees
- Infrastructure which improves with time



Jurisdiction and Authority

City Limits

Tree Preservation

Tree Protection

Tree Replacement



TREE & ROOT PROTECTION ZONE

Per City of Austin code (Chapter 25-8, Subchapter B, Article 1) this protective device is to remain in place for the entirety of the development project and illegal removal is subject to fines and work suspensions. Additional information can be obtained at the:

City Arborist (512-974-1876)

web site (<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/trees>).

Zona de Protección del Árbol y las Raíces el dispositivo protector debe quedarse en el lugar para la totalidad del proyecto de la construcción. Para información adicional, contacta la Arborista Municipal (512) 974-1876 o http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/trees/trees_spanish.htm.

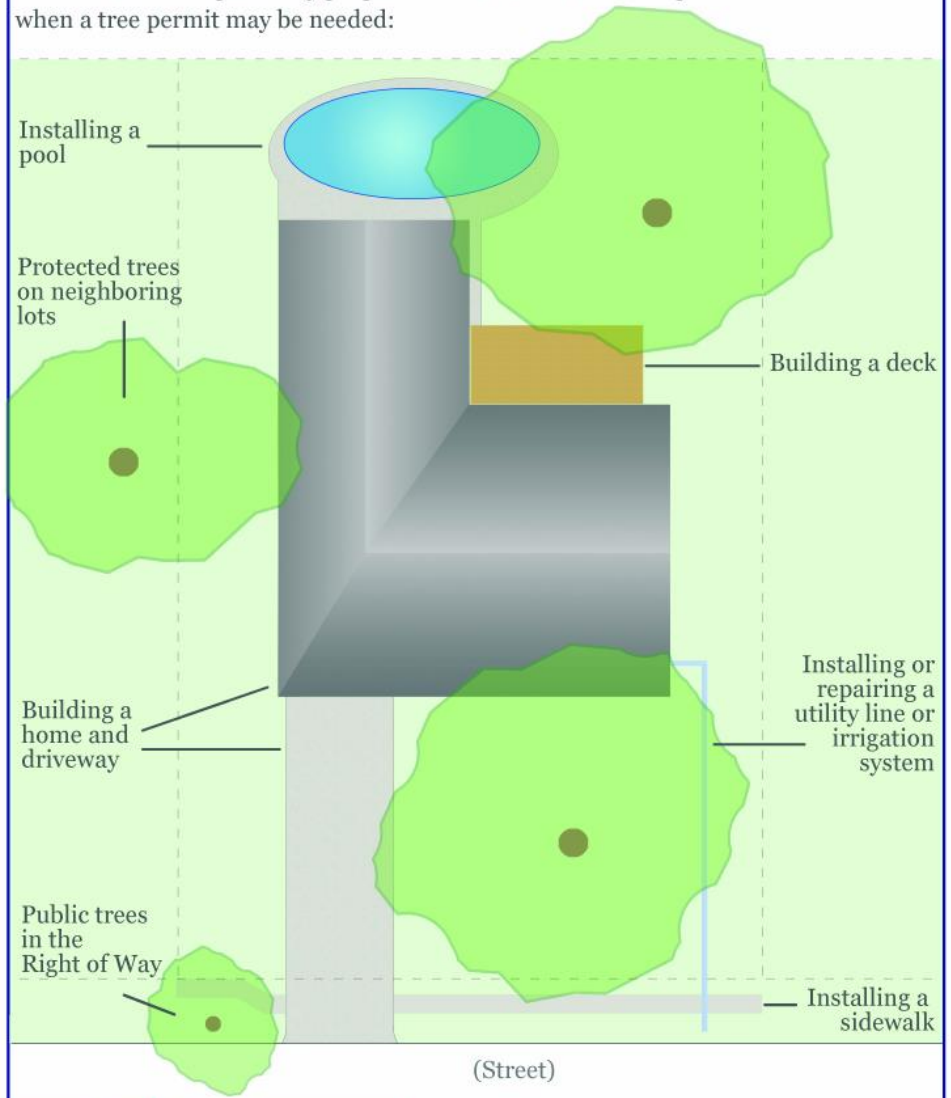


Residential Development

Trees 19-inches and larger



A tree permit is required when the canopy or roots of a protected size tree will be impacted by proposed work. Below are examples of when a tree permit may be needed:



A **protected size tree** measures 19 inches and greater in diameter at 4.5 feet from the ground

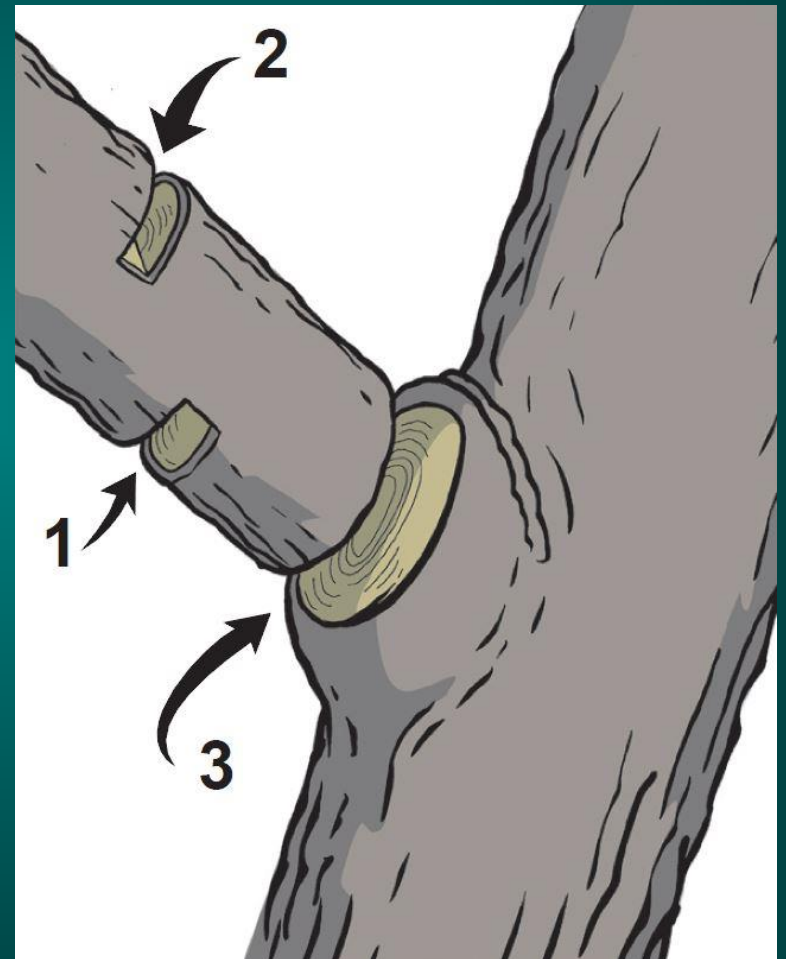
IMPROPER PRUNING CUTS



PROPER PRUNING CUTS

When removing a large limb, reduce its weight first (reducing pruning impacts to tree):

1. Make an undercut about 12 to 18 inches from the limb's point of attachment.
2. Make a second cut from the top, directly above or a few inches farther out on the limb. Doing so removes the limb, leaving the 12- to 18-inch stub.
3. Remove the stub by cutting back to the branch collar.



Oak Wilt Identification

*Oak Wilt is a disease caused by a fungus called **Ceratocystis fagacearum***

Causes a clogging of the water conducting vessels of infected oak trees (commonly fatal)





The Urban Forest Grant Program

Grant funds available for tree projects in Austin



The City of Austin's Urban Forest Grant Program, established to promote conservation and other projects that benefit Austin's urban forest, has funding available to help preserve and grow Austin's canopy of trees. Projects associated with tree planting and preservation, education, public service announcements, disease control and management of invasive species are eligible for funding.

[The City Arborist Program](#)



To learn more, please visit the website at

<http://austingo.austintexas.gov/page/urban-forest-grant-program>