

# **HERITAGE TREE FAQ**

## **How do I know if I have a Heritage Tree?**

Mountain View's City Code (Chapter 32, Article II) defines a "Heritage Tree" as a tree with any of the following characteristics:

- A tree trunk with a circumference of forty-eight inches (48") or more, measured at fifty-four inches (54") above natural grade. Multi-trunk trees are measured just below the first major trunk fork.
- Any of the following three species of trees with a circumference of twelve inches (12") or more, measured at fifty-four inches (54") above natural grade.
  - Quercus (oak)
  - Sequoia (redwood)
  - Cedrus (cedar)
- A grove(s) of trees designated as "heritage" by the City Council.

## **What responsibility do I have if there is a Heritage Tree on my property?**

Mountain View's ordinance states that if you own or control real property in the City, you are responsible for maintaining and preserving all Heritage trees in a state of good health. It is against the City ordinance to willfully injure, damage, destroy, move or remove a Heritage tree unless granted a removal permit by the City.

## **What if I want to remove a Heritage Tree on my property?**

Any Heritage Tree(s) proposed for removal requires a removal permit, which is issued by either the Community Services Department's Forestry & Roadway Division or the Community Development Department's Planning Division, depending on the type of property:

- Single family homes or multi-family up to 4 units are processed by the Community Services Department's Forestry & Roadway Division.
- All other properties, including multi-family over 4 units, commercial, industrial, etc. are processed by the Community Development Department's Planning Division.

*Please refer to "Heritage Tree Removal Permit Process" for more information.*

## **How do I appeal a decision to approve or deny a Heritage Tree removal permit?**

*Please refer to "Heritage Tree Removal Appeal Process" for more information.*

## **What is the Urban Forestry Board (UFB)?**

The Urban Forestry Board (UFB) is a City Council Advisory Body made up of the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Tree appeals that have been processed by the Community Services Department's Forestry & Roadway Division are reviewed by the UFB.

## **How will I know if a Heritage Tree Removal Application has been submitted or an appeal has been filed?**

For single family and multi-family up to 4 units, you can subscribe to MyMV to be notified when an application has been submitted or an appeal has been filed.