

HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INFORMATION PACKET AND FORM

HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM

PHILOSOPHY

Because of San Luis Obispo's heritage, where trees played an important part in the day to day life of our forefathers, and because of our unique and temperate climate in which a wide variety of trees can grow, it is appropriate to call attention to their part of our heritage and to illustrate their significant contributions. The Tree Committee proposes the following plan to formalize this Heritage Tree Program, so that citizens and groups may participate in this community program.

HOW TO APPLY FOR DESIGNATION

- a. Submit Heritage Tree proposal and agreement forms to Urban Forest Services
- b. Proposal will be reviewed by Urban Forest Services staff
- c. Proposal will be reviewed by Tree Committee
- d. Proposal will be reviewed by City Council – adopt resolution – designation as Heritage Tree

HERITAGE TREE TOURING MAP

The Heritage Trees of San Luis Obispo are mapped and become part of a self-guided tour that interested parties can visit at their own pace. Addresses, photos, facts and descriptions of each tree Heritage Tree are listed.

PROPERTY OWNERS – ADVANTAGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Property owner is to notify the City if any noticeable changes take place with its health on or near the tree.
2. A botanical description and photographs of the tree and its history will be developed and shall be provided to the property owner.
3. An estimate of the worth of the tree shall be developed by the City and provided to the property owner.
4. The property owners may or may not, at their discretion, allow close-up viewing and enjoyment of the Heritage Tree on their property.
5. The tree may be included as part of the "The Heritage Trees of San Luis Obispo" self-guided tour map including the location of each tree, photographs, description and information about the tree.
6. The City of San Luis Obispo will not be responsible for any tree that is injured or dies due to circumstances beyond our control; i.e., unforeseen natural occurrence, accidents, vandalism, life expectancy, etc., and the property owner may not look to the City for replacement or compensation.
7. This program involves no cost to the property owner.
8. A limited number of trees will be proposed.
9. There are three categories of Heritage Trees:
 - a. Public trees – parks, public buildings, playgrounds, etc.
 - b. Voluntary cooperation – privately owned trees.
 - c. Required cooperation – tree preservation in new developments, etc.

MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP

Property owners will provide all regular maintenance: i.e., watering, raking leaves, etc.

PROPOSAL FOR HERITAGE TREE DESIGNATION
Criteria for Designation as San Luis Obispo Heritage Trees

Trees shall be accepted for consideration as Heritage Trees when they fall within the following classifications:

1. Historical Interest
2. Arboricultural Interest
 - a. Size
 - b. Age (one of the oldest in the community)
 - c. Rare or unusual species for this area
 - d. Outstanding specimens
 - e. Distinctive structural interest

The Committee shall judge the request for consideration of each tree with the following factors in mind:

1. Condition and state of health of the specimen
2. Permanence of site location
3. Visual accessibility

1. Address of tree and location on lot _____
2. Requesting party (individual or group) _____
3. Property Owner _____
4. Species _____
5. Age _____ Height _____ Spread _____ Trunk diameter at 56" above natural grade _____
6. Describe – Arboricultural or Historical Interest _____

7. Photographs (2) minimum at right angles to each other.



Osage orange tree in Meadow Park, SLO

HERITAGE TREE PROPERTY OWNER AGREEMENT

I _____ have read the City of San Luis Obispo’s Heritage Tree Program with the City’s Tree Division staff and understood its impact on my property at the following described address.

I agree that the City of San Luis Obispo may designate my (tree species) _____

Located at _____

As a City of San Luis Obispo Heritage Tree, in accordance with the established program rules, regulations and guidelines.

Date

Property Owner

_____ I do not wish to have my tree listed in the self-guided Heritage Tree tour.

Return to: City of San Luis Obispo
25 Prado Rd.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Attn: City Arborist - Urban Forestry