



TREE PRESERVATION & OAK WILT PREVENTION

Presented by: Mark C Bird, City Arborist

Partnering with our community to build and maintain a safer San Antonio



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The DSD Team

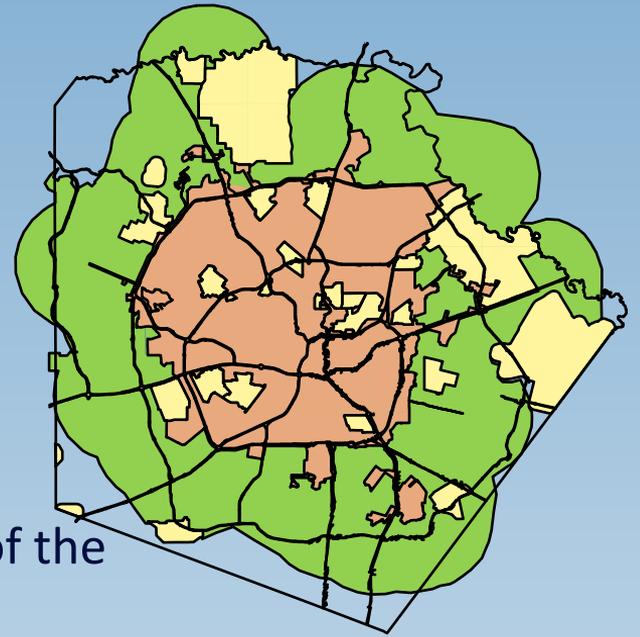
Purpose:

- Trees are an important public resource, enhancing:
 - Quality of life and welfare
 - Physical, historical and aesthetic environment
- Planting and preserving trees provide
 - Health benefits
 - Clean air and water
 - Reduce energy costs and increase property values
- To encourage tree preservation and planting of new trees
 - Reduce pollutants in streams and air
 - Green infrastructure vital to community



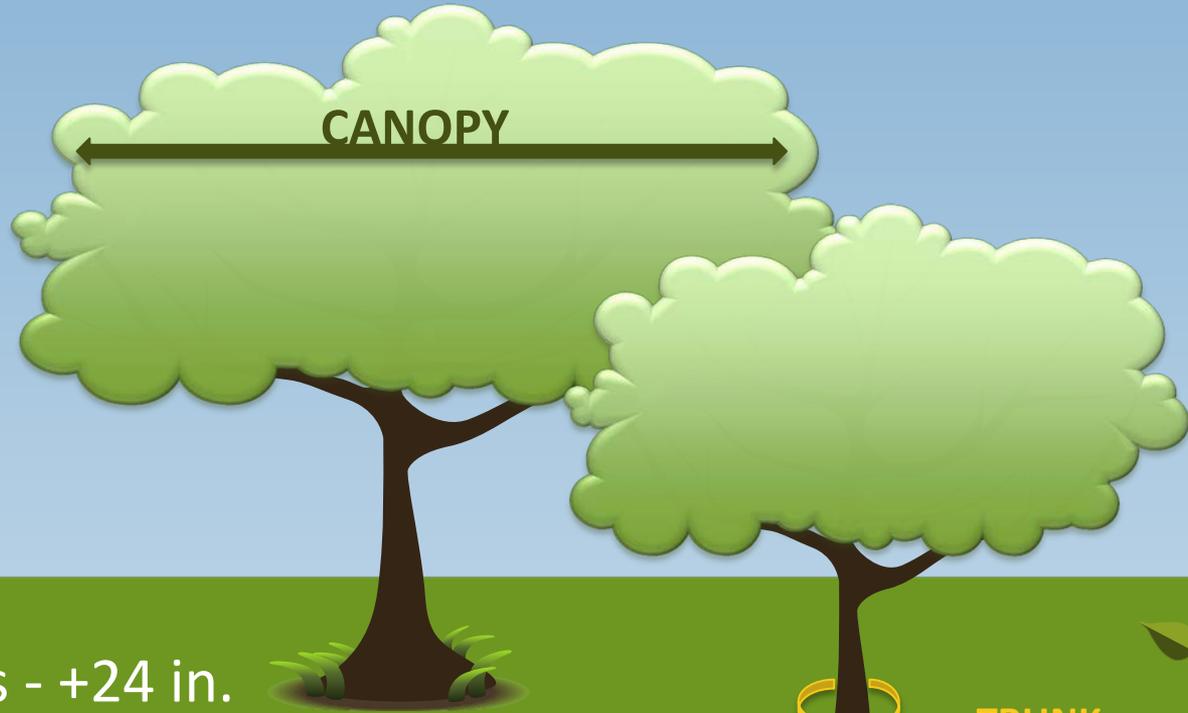
Why a Tree Ordinance?

- Tree preservation:
 - Goal for San Antonio is 40%
 - Currently at 38%
- Applies to:
 - San Antonio city limits
 - The Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
 - All public property held by or for the benefit of the city
 - All development impacting tree canopy
 - Includes new construction and additions
+2,500 SF



Where & When Tree Ordinance Applies

Tree Talk



Heritage Trees - +24 in.

Significant Trees – 6 to 23 in.



Newly Planted – 2 in.



- On residential properties where construction has been completed
- When trees are determined (by City Arborist) to be:
 - Diseased
 - Overly-mature
 - Dying or dead
- When trees are causing a hazard and require immediate removal as a result of:
 - A natural event (tornadoes, storm floods)
 - Endangers the public health, welfare or safety



Where Tree Ordinance *DOESN'T* Apply

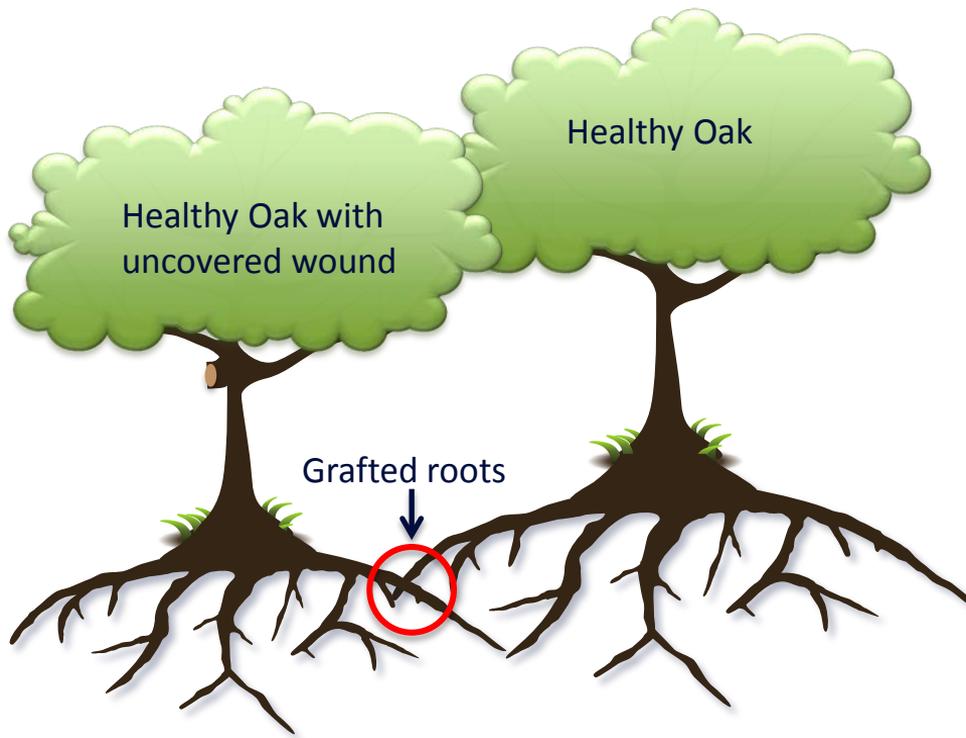
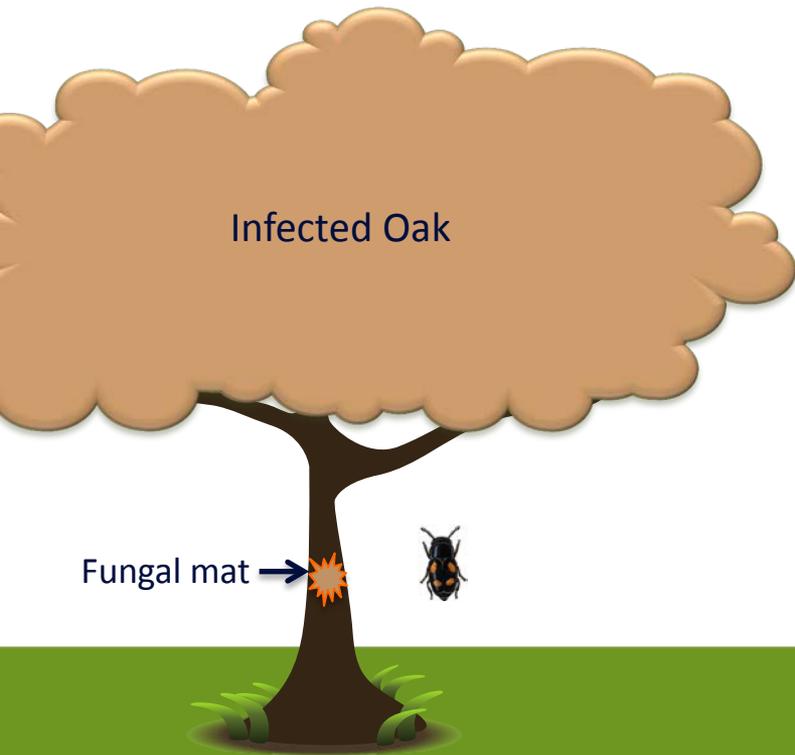


Application Fees

OAK WILT

A deadly fungal disease that infects and disables the water-conducting system in oak trees. All Oaks are susceptible to Oak Wilt, but some species more than others. With no known cure, methods to control and treatments are expensive and not guaranteed.





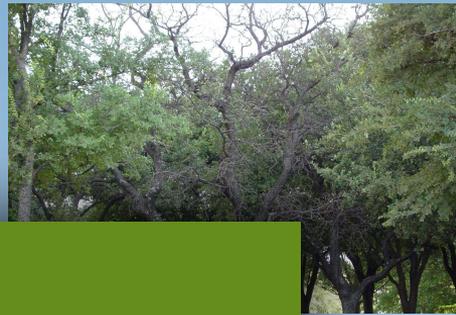
How Does It Spread?

Root System

Tree roots are **NOT** an underground reflection of the crown.

They spread out far and wide.





What Oak Wilt Looks Like





Oak Trees in Our Area

It's fairly easy:

- **AVOID** pruning Oaks between Feb. 1 – Jun. 30
 - This is when the beetles are most active
 - Fungal mats produce spores
- **DISINFECT** pruning tools
 - Before use (household disinfectant or alcohol)
- **PAINT** wounds immediately!
 - You can use latex or commercial tree paint
- Use **ONLY** seasoned firewood from known sources
- **HIRE ONLY** qualified tree care professionals licensed by the City



How To Prevent Oak Wilt?

- It's an ordinance
- Unlawful for any contractor or business to:
 - Prune or remove trees **without** a city tree maintenance license
- License requires:
 - Proof of current liability insurance
 - Completion of education credits
 - Written acknowledgement of the Code of Ethics for Tree maintenance License



Tree Maintenance License



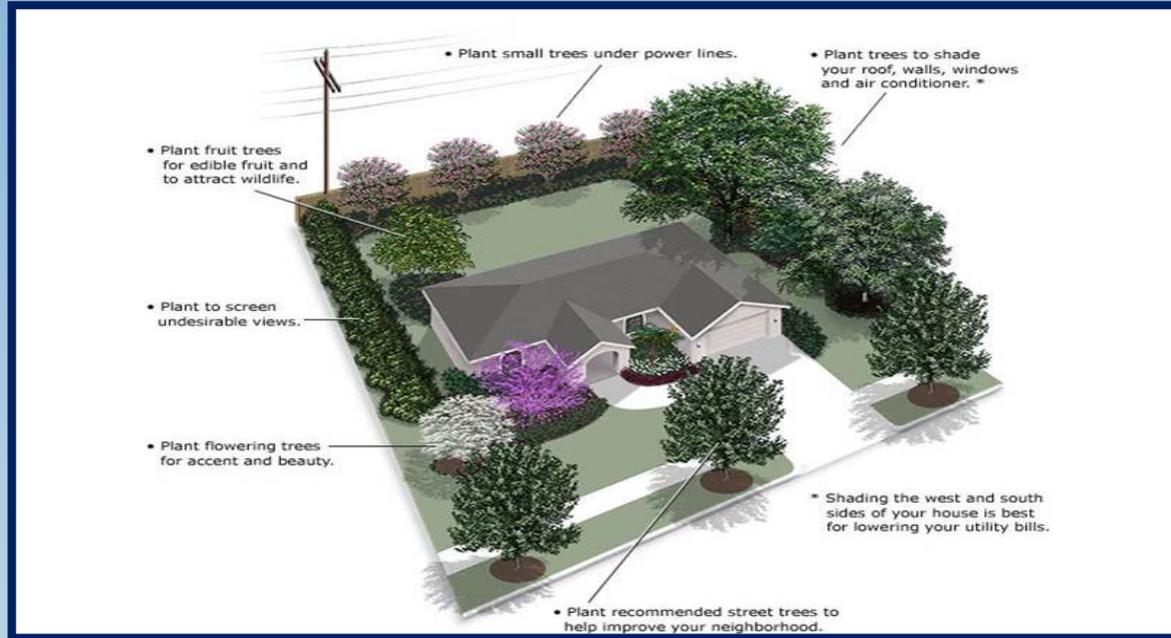
- Protect trees
 - Minimize improper pruning
 - Prevent spread of Oak Wilt
- Provide training and educational opportunities on proper tree care and maintenance
- Database of licensed tree care professionals for the public

Goal of License

Why Plant Trees?

- Shade – Save Energy – Save \$\$\$!!
- Aesthetics
- Air Quality/Bioremediation (TCEQ/EPA ATTAINMENT)
- Erosion
- Overall San Antonio Tree Canopy
- Wildlife Habitat
- Neighborhood Pride
- Fruit/Nuts!





Landscaping Around Your House

Where to Plant

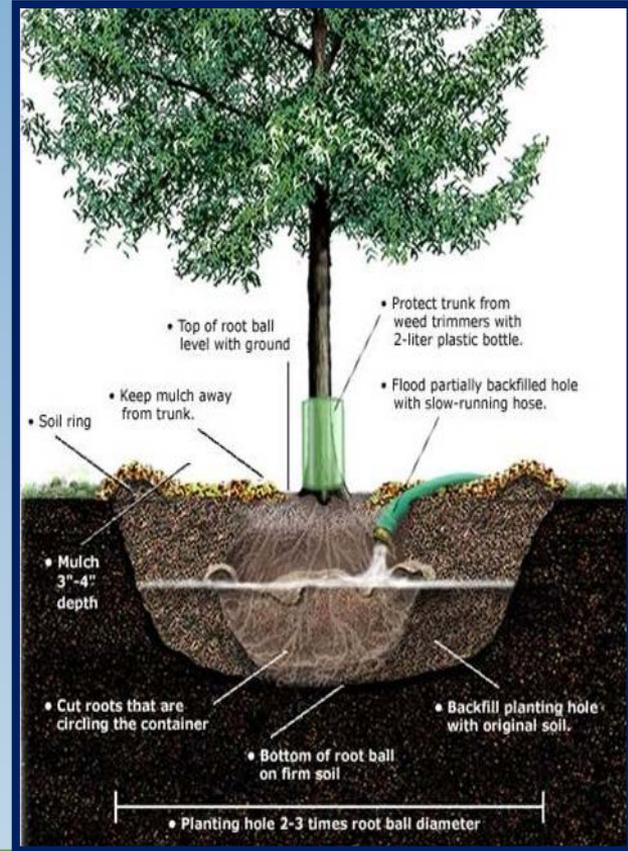
- Native trees
- Drought tolerant
- Watering
 - Overwatering can kill a tree
- Selecting a species
 - Characteristics



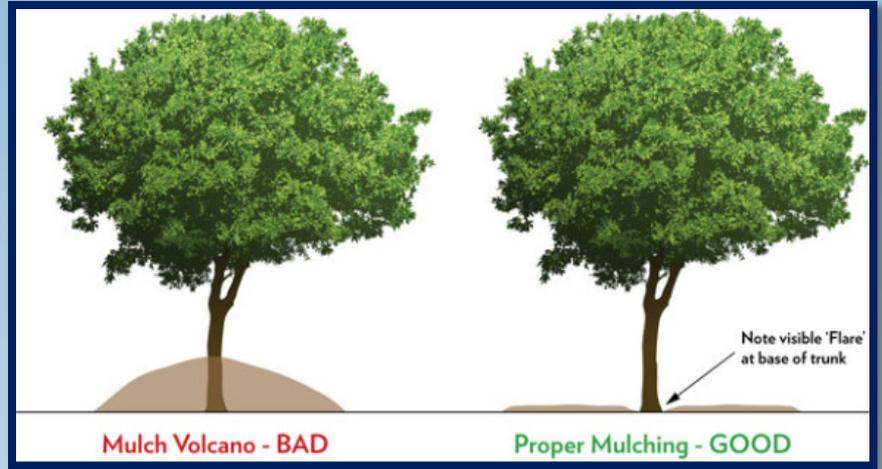
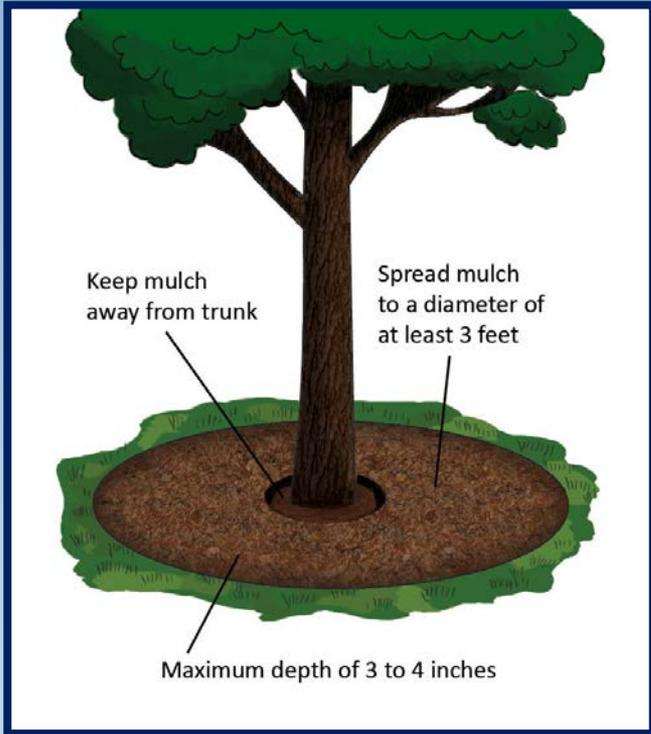
What to Plant

Plant Your Tree Properly

- Dig hole:
 - 2 to 3x wider than root ball
- Backfill with original soil
- Add 3 in. of mulch
 - Keep it away from trunk
- Add a stake or trunk protection

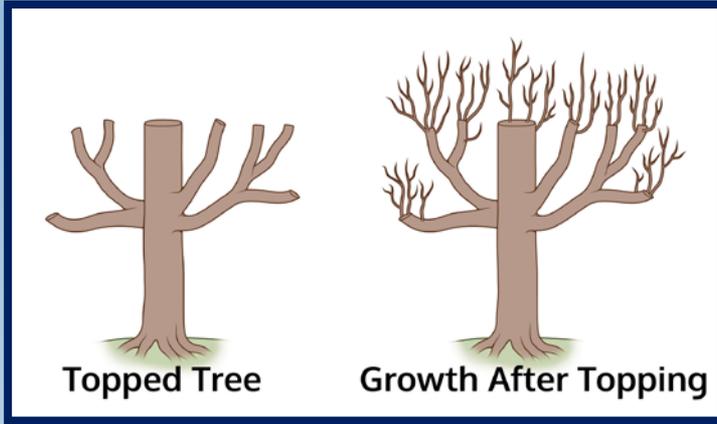


How to Plant



How to Properly Mulch Your Tree

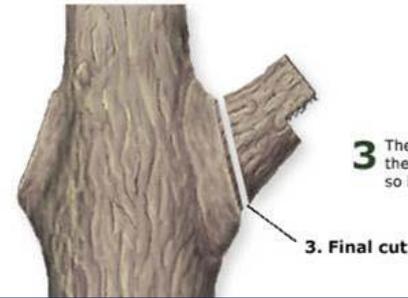
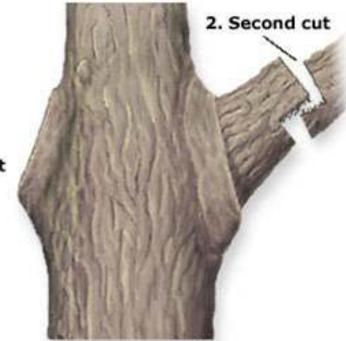
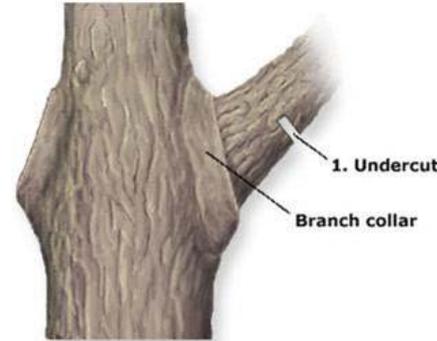
Prune Your Trees Correctly



Pruning a Large Limb

1 Undercut 12-24" up from the branch collar. This stops the bark from tearing.

2 Make the second cut from the top all the way through the branch, 2-3" above cut #1.



3 The final cut should be just beyond the branch collar. Support the stub so it does not tear the bark.

Maintaining Your Trees

Do I Need A Permit?

NO

Single-family homes

YES

Multi-family

Commercial

Undeveloped land (in city limits and ETJ)



Removing Trees



Not a parasite

It's an epiphyte

Member of the bromeliad family

Attaches to limbs, tree trunks,
power lines, buildings

Grows mainly under canopy (very
shaded) limbs that are dead or
dying



Ball Moss



Whoooo...Has a Question?



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