HELP YOUR TREES SURVIVE THE DROUGHT

BE WATER-WISE. IT'S EASY. HERE'S HOW.

Trees and water are both precious resources. Trees don't just make our houses feel like home–they also improve property values, clean our water & air, and even make our streets safer & quieter. When we water wisely and maintain our trees carefully, we enjoy a wide range of benefits at a low cost and with little effort.

YOUNG TREES

The roots of younger trees are less established & need easier access to water to establish deep root systems.

MATURE TREES

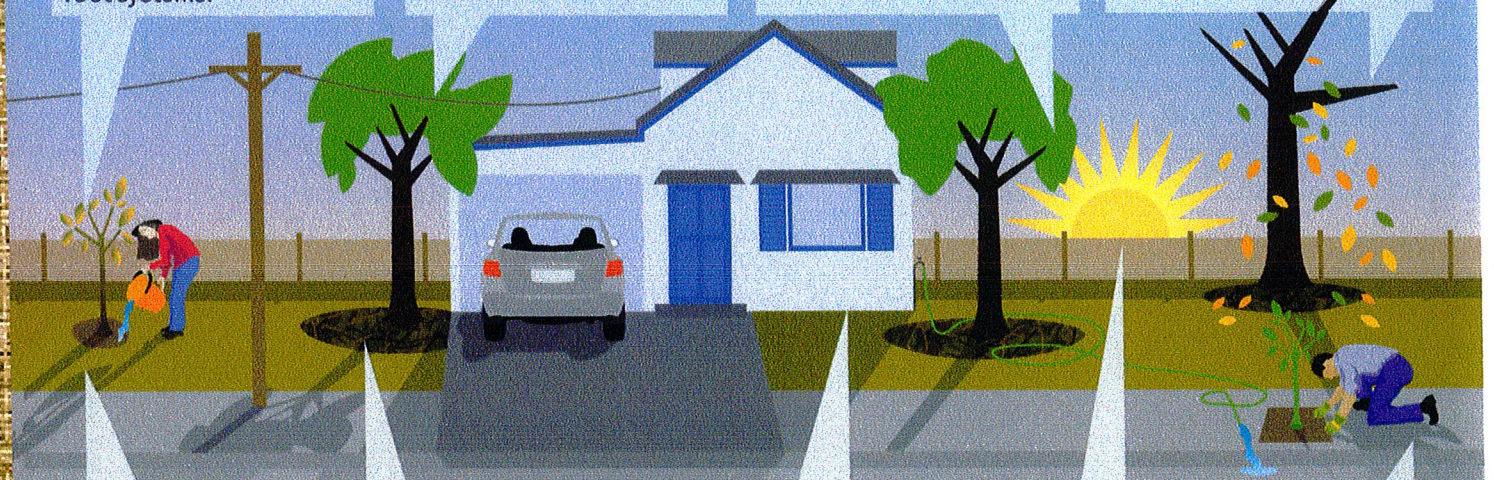
Mature trees require MORE water when growing near heat traps such as drive-ways & house foundations.

EXPOSED TREES

Water loss is greater where trees are exposed to hot afternoon sun & strong or constant wind.

DECIDUOUS TREES

The critical time for water is during bud-break in spring & bud formation in late summer.



THE RIGHT AMOUNT

Water young trees twice per week (about 5 gallons) & mature trees once per week in several places (the equivalent of 1 to 1.5 inches of rain).

IN THE RIGHT PLACE

Water the "drip zone," area directly beneath the foliage & shaded by the tree. Also, add mulch to lower soil temperatures & reduce water evaporation.

CONSERVE & RECYCLE WATER

Inside; place buckets in the shower to collect water. Recycle water from the dehumidifier, collect air conditioning condensation, & "save a flush" to conserve. Outside; convert irrigation systems to drip, low-flow or micro spray & fix leaks.

THE RIGHT TIME

Water early in the morning or after the sun has set as this is when trees replace the water they've lost during the day. Also less water is lost to evaporation at these times. Mulching your tree will also keep soils warmer in winter & cooler in summer.

DON'T WASTE WATER

Water so that it soaks into the ground rather than running off into the drain.

THE RIGHT WAY

During drought, water directly with a hose or 5-gallon bucket.

THE RIGHT DEPTH

Deep watering helps deep root growth & healthier trees.

THE RIGHT CHOICE

Plant native or drought resistant tree species that require less water. Choose trees over lawn as trees are a long term investment.

California urban forests council — invest from the ground up®

GROWING TREES MAKE GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS

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