



truckee meadows  
COMMUNITY  
FORESTRY  
COALITION

# TREE TOPICS in our community

## Participants

- City of Reno Recreation & Parks Commission
- City of Reno Urban Forestry Commission
- City of Sparks
- Community Services Agency
- Dale Carlon Consulting, LLC
- Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful
- Kennedy-Jenks Consultants
- Los Verdes Arborists
- The Nature Conservancy
- Nevada Division of Forestry
- Nevada Landscape Association
- Nevada Shade Tree Council
- NV Energy
- Signature Landscapes
- Truckee Meadows Water Authority
- University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
- Washoe County Commission
- Washoe County District Health, Air Quality Division
- Washoe County Regional Parks & Open Space
- Western Regional Water Commission
- Wilbur D. May Center & Arboretum

## Contact Information

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## Local Tree Ordinances

Tree ordinances are municipal regulations which provide authority over trees, define responsibilities, offer guidance to residents and establish minimum standards for a community's tree program.

Tree ordinances are important for protecting the community forest, while ensuring public safety. Planting the wrong types of trees in limited spaces can displace sidewalks and result in tripping hazards. Tree roots can also damage curbs, gutters and streets which can lead to costly repairs and replacements.

The Community Forestry Coalition encourages the development of a single regional tree ordinance that will provide consistent care and protection to the region's community forest.

### What role do tree ordinances play in the community?

Tree ordinances are tools that help local officials implement community forestry programs. Most tree ordinances are focused on publicly owned trees such as street trees, park trees and trees in public spaces. In addition, tree ordinances provide guidance to residents, developers, landscape architects, utilities and private contractors.

Other tree ordinance provisions require that only certified arborists can get permits when planting, pruning or removing public trees. With public safety in mind, these certified arborists are professionally trained which means the work is performed to industry standards.

**City of Reno** - The City of Reno has a tree protection ordinance in Chapter 18.12, Article V of its municipal code, which addresses the following:

- Tree preservation criteria
- Tree credits
- Replacement of trees and penalties for removal
- Tree mitigation plans
- Prohibited activities next to trees
- Permitted construction methods

Please visit <http://www.cityofreno.com/Index.aspx?page=856> for more information.

**City of Sparks** - The City of Sparks Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintaining the City's inventory of trees. Chapter 12.28 of the Sparks Municipal Code addresses the following:

- Definition of public trees
- Injuring trees and shrubbery
- Tree care responsibilities
- Interference with tree planting, maintenance and removal
- Prohibited Trees
- Appeals
- Penalty for violation

Please visit [http://www.cityofsparks.us/governing/muni\\_code/Title\\_12/28/index.php](http://www.cityofsparks.us/governing/muni_code/Title_12/28/index.php) for more information.

**Washoe County** - Washoe County's Parks and Open Space staff is responsible for maintaining public trees in county parks. Please visit <http://www.washoecounty.us/parks/> for more information.

