



Care and Maintenance of Your Parkway and Street Tree(s).

Throughout the community of Ladera Ranch, the character of the neighborhoods has been reinforced with the landscape design. The parkways (the area between the street and the sidewalk) in the neighborhoods have been lined with street trees and grass. These parkways and trees are an integral part of the overall plan of Ladera Ranch.

As the trees mature, it will create a beautiful look within the community, similar to the canopy effect seen in neighborhoods of older, well-established communities.

Did you know that the care and nurturing of that parkway and those trees is your responsibility? LARMAC trims the street trees per the posted tree trimming calendar, and will root prune when necessary, but all other aspects of the care and maintenance are up to the homeowner, including watering, fertilizing, tree stake maintenance and removal, mowing and replacement, if necessary. With your labor and love, we will have beautiful trees and lush grass throughout Ladera Ranch.

Your assistance in preserving and bolstering the vision of the community with mature street trees lining the streets is greatly appreciated and will serve to maintain Ladera Ranch as one of Orange County's finest and most unique communities.

Care and Maintenance Tips for your Parkway and Street Tree(s)

- **DO NOT WATER DAILY.** The roots of your trees and turf need air to thrive, so you must take time off to let the soil dry out. Before watering probe down 6-10 inches for your turf and 24-36 inches for your tree into the parkway soil and check the moisture content in the soil. If it is moist, then you do not need to water. If it is dry, then moderate watering should be completed. If the Parkway soil is saturated, shut down the irrigation system to that area and let it dry out for several weeks before you resume watering.
- Watering should be done in the early morning, right before the sun comes up. This is when there is the least amount of wind and the lowest rate of evaporation.
Winter – Your water should be off during the rainy season and depending on the exposure of your parkway strip area it can be off for the entire season if it does not get direct sun light. If you must water, no more than twice per week for a short time is all the top roots of the turf needs. 1-2 deep waterings with a hose for the trees can be accomplished near the end of winter as the trees are waking up and getting ready to grow.
Spring – The weather is getting warmer. Try 3 to 4 times per week dependent upon soil moisture and exposure.
Summer – The weather is warm to hot. Try 4 to 5 days per week dependent upon soil moisture and exposure, with a day off before you mow the lawn.
Fall – The weather is cooling and the days getting shorter. Try 3 to 4 times per week dependent upon soil moisture and exposure.
- How long should the irrigation run? We recommend consulting with Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) on this matter. The On Tap newsletter that comes with your monthly water bill has seasonal water use guidelines on the back or you can access the same information on the SMWD web site at www.smwd.com/watering-index.htm
- Use multiple start times. The most efficient way to water is to have more than one start time. This will depend on your automatic controller features, but if you typically run your irrigation for 6 minutes, try setting your timer for 3 minutes, 2 separate times, approximately 15-30 minutes apart. This will help reduce run-off and encourage a deeper root system.
- At least 16 inches from the base of the tree trunk should be free of grass and topped with mulch. This will allow water to get to the roots of the tree and prevent damage to the trunk from weed eaters and mowers used to trim the grass.
- Fertilize your tree regularly with a good balance fertilizer such as 9-9-9 by Best, or better yet, use a liquid such as Miracle Grow or 20-20-20. Pull the mulch back to apply the fertilizer. If you use Miracle Grow type liquid, apply about 10 gallons of liquid so it soaks down to the roots. Follow the mixing and application instructions on the fertilizer purchased.

How to replace you Street Tree if it dies or is damaged...

Replacement of a dead or damaged street tree is the responsibility of the property owner. The tree must be replaced with the same variety of tree in at least a 24" box size.

LARMAC is proud to offer a replacement program, utilizing the services of O'Connell Landscape, LARMAC's landscape maintenance contractor. O'Connell will assure that you receive the correct variety of tree and install it properly.

The cost to the homeowner to have their street tree replaced through the program is \$350.00. This price includes procurement, delivery, labor to install new tree, amendments and any other related materials. Trees will be guaranteed for 90 days. During the 90-day period, O'Connell Landscape Maintenance will monitor the tree and leave a "door hanger" with any recommendations for the homeowner to take. Please note that removal of an existing street tree is not included in the replacement cost. If you would like to obtain pricing for the removal of your existing street tree, please refer to the 'Homeowner Street Tree Removal and Replacement Policy'.

Should you wish to replace your street tree yourself, you will be required to plant at least a 24 box size tree of the same variety. Planting detail is provided in this pamphlet for your reference

If you would like to arrange to have your street tree replaced, please contact your LARMAC Member Services Representative at (949) 218-0900.

Ladera Ranch Street Tree Planting Detail

