



Serving real estate developers, engineers, homeowners, architects, municipalities, and environmental consulting firms since 1999

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Principal Services and Specialties

- Tree inventories with health and structural assessment.
- Tree valuations (plant appraisal).
- Advanced decay detection (invasive using a digital Resistograph device, or non-invasive).
- Innovative tree protection and preservation planning.
- Long range tree management planning.
- High risk tree management.
- Nursery stock grading and pre-installation girdling root mitigation.
- Construction monitoring.
- Landscape problem solving.
- Independent audits of pruning work to verify compliance with ANSI A300 tree care standards.

What is a consulting arborist?

A consulting arborist is a highly trained professional who provides technical expertise such as the value and condition of landscape trees. Rather than performing tree work, the consultant is proficient at communicating tree management and planning details in written reports.

A consulting arborist typically has a four year degree in an environmental science-related field, and has current or previous practical experience in professions such as tree pruning, soil science, hydrology, entomology, integrated pest management, forestry, urban forestry, landscape horticulture, environmental consulting, and/or other disciplines.

The consulting arborist always maintains a high degree of integrity through objective and independent analysis of a given tree situation, and can recommend measures for managing tree risk and maintaining the health of specimen trees without bias.

Why is it important to employ the services of a consulting arborist?

Many landscape, commercial, and residential construction projects are planned and implemented without the consultation of an experienced consulting arborist. Within one to five years, important specimen trees, sometimes valued in the tens of thousands of dollars, will begin to show symptoms of decline and often die.

These trees are important not only as aesthetically pleasing elements of the landscape, but offer free shade and reported property value increases up to 15%. Remember that trees declining in health and structure are at increased risk of limb failure or total catastrophic failure. The cost of timely, proper tree maintenance can be expensive, but property damage or personal injury resulting from tree failures is of greater overarching concern.

Examples of Recent Consulting Projects

- Contract City Arborist, City of Belmont, California. Planning arborist for Planning Dept, Parks Dept, Public Works Dept, and City Attorney's office continuously since 5/99.
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Contract Project Arborist, Bay Division Pipelines #3, 4, and 5. Tree database creation, high risk tree analysis, prescribe tree impact mitigation measures to preserve key oak specimens, root pruning, root preservation zone delineation.
- City of Menlo Park, California. Street tree assessment of nearly 3,000 mature trees using innovative set of ten 'defects and hazards' parameters. Assign action priority ratings to trees to effectively manage tree risk. Prepare new street tree management plan for Staff. Acquired hard-to-find oak species for street tree replacement program.

- City of American Canyon, California. City-wide street tree and parks tree GPS survey and assessment with action priority rankings. Presented tree risk assessment seminar to Staff.

Relevant Experience

10/10 – present	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Contract Project Arborist, Bay Division Pipe Lines 3, 4, & 5
11/01 – 6/06	Commissioner, City of Millbrae Community Preservation Commission (Tree Board)
5/99 – present	Contract City Arborist, City of Belmont Planning and Community Development Department
4/99 – 8/99	Barrie D. Coate and Associates Associate consulting arborist
1/99 – present	Independent Consulting Arborist
7/98 – 11/98	Bartlett Tree Expert Co. IPM technician, arborist, and tree pruner
2/96 – 6/98	Western Environmental Consultants Consulting utility forester to PG & E
5/95 – 9/95	U.S. Forest Service Biotechnician and hydrotechnician tree surveys and watershed restoration
3/94 – 3/95	U.S. National Park Service GGNRA habitat restoration volunteer
2/91 – 7/93	U.S. Peace Corps, Chiangmai, Thailand Agroforestry extension/env. education

Education

ASCA Arboricultural Consulting Academy Graduate
Class of 2000

B.A. Environmental Studies/
Soil and Water Resources
UC Santa Cruz, 1990
Chancellor's Award

Licenses

ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor
ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist #401
ISA Certified Arborist #WC-3172

Publications (partial list)

"Kino: The unique and mysterious exudate of eucalyptus"
"Responsibly planning a tree preservation system: City of Belmont"
"Resistance of eucalyptus species to the red gum lerp psyllid in the Bay Area"
2001 *Pan-Pacific Entomologist* 77(4) (co-author)
"Rootball treatment for optimal tree growth" *Pacific Horticulture* 69(1)
(Levison and Muffy)

Professional Affiliations

Member, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
Member, Western Chapter, ISA
Registered Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists