

Save Our Water and Our Trees

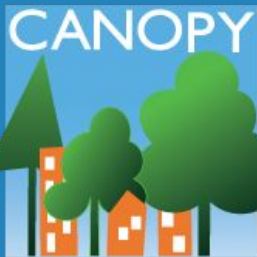


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Save Our Water and Our Trees



Share Canopy's best tips for water-wise tree care and how we engage and educate communities to protect our urban forests and safeguard our water resources.



Save Our Water, Save Our Trees



Trees are the most valuable element of our green infrastructure because of the benefits they provide and the investment they represent.

**Save Our Water
and Our Trees!**

saveourwater.com/trees

**Know your
trees, know
their needs**



Know your trees, know their needs

- **Different trees have different water and care requirements. To determine how much and how often your tree needs water, consider:**
- **Species.** Look up your tree species' watering needs on [Canopy's tree library](#). For help identifying your tree, [contact Canopy](#) or use a resource like the [Urban Tree Key](#).
- **Age.** Young trees require more frequent watering (but less volume of water) than mature trees. See [caring for young trees](#).
- **Health.** A stressed tree may require more water than a vital tree. If your tree is in poor condition, consider hiring a [certified arborist](#).
- **Soil type.** Water needs will also be affected by your soil type. For example, clay soil does not accept water easily, but holds on to water longer.
- **Other site conditions.** Factors like sun exposure, surrounding plants, and nearby water sources also influence watering needs.



Irrigation - Dos and Don'ts



Irrigation - Do's

- Water a tree once a week for the first year
- Practice deep water basin watering to establish deep roots (10-15 gallons a week)
- Water your tree during a drought
- Use Canopy's: Tree Watering Guidelines



Irrigation - Don'ts

- Stop watering your tree when you stop watering your lawn
- Stop watering your tree when we are in a drought
- Just rely on sprinklers for establishing a tree
- Water native oaks in the summer

(Native species thrive under two conditions: cold and wet, and hot and dry)



Young Tree Care



Regularly check your tree for...



- **Flattened watering basin**
- **Consider the dripline**

Regularly check your tree for...



- **Compacted soil**
- **Conflicting weeds**

Mulch to conserve moisture

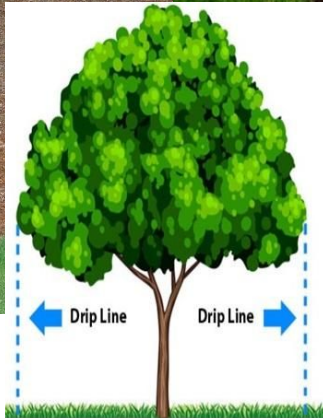


Mulch to conserve moisture

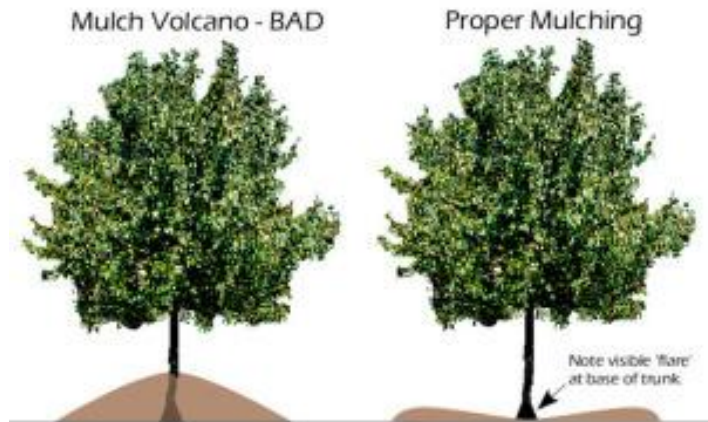


- Properly applied, mulch:
 - Insulates the roots from extreme temperatures
 - Slows soil moisture evaporation
 - Reduces water use
 - Suppresses weeds
 - Reduces soil compaction
 - Feeds nutrients into the soil as the mulch breaks down
 - Provides a buffer, protecting the tree from mowers and soil compaction

Mulch to conserve moisture



Mulching tips



- Use organic matter such as wood chips, with or without leaf matter. Trees actually prefer wood chip mulch and the “duff” created by their own leaves
- Apply mulch layer 3-5 inches deep (pr 1 inch deep if using spray irrigation), extending at least as far as the drip line
- No mulch volcanoes!
- If weeds persist, place a layer of newspaper or cardboard, or a biodegradable weed cloth fabric under the mulch
- Replenish mulch layer every spring

Remove Your Lawn But, Help Trees Transition



Help your tree transition...



- Deciding to remove your lawn or letting it go 'golden'? Consider the following options:
 - Substitute with a drought-tolerant native grass to conserve water yet still maintain the landscape
 - Ex. Tall red fescue mix
 - Lawn Conversion Rebates
 - Make a watering plan for your tree by using the *Canopy's Tree Watering Guidelines*
 - **Mulch the area around your trees**
 - **Consider installing drip irrigation**

Plant Drought-Tolerant Trees





Establishing Resilient/Drought-tolerant Trees

- Research tree before planting:
 - Ex: SelecTree or Canopy Tree Library
 - Plan for maximum height and width
- Plant correctly
 - [How to Plant a Tree Video](#)
 - Volunteer opportunities
- Right tree right place
 - Land use
 - Utility conflicts



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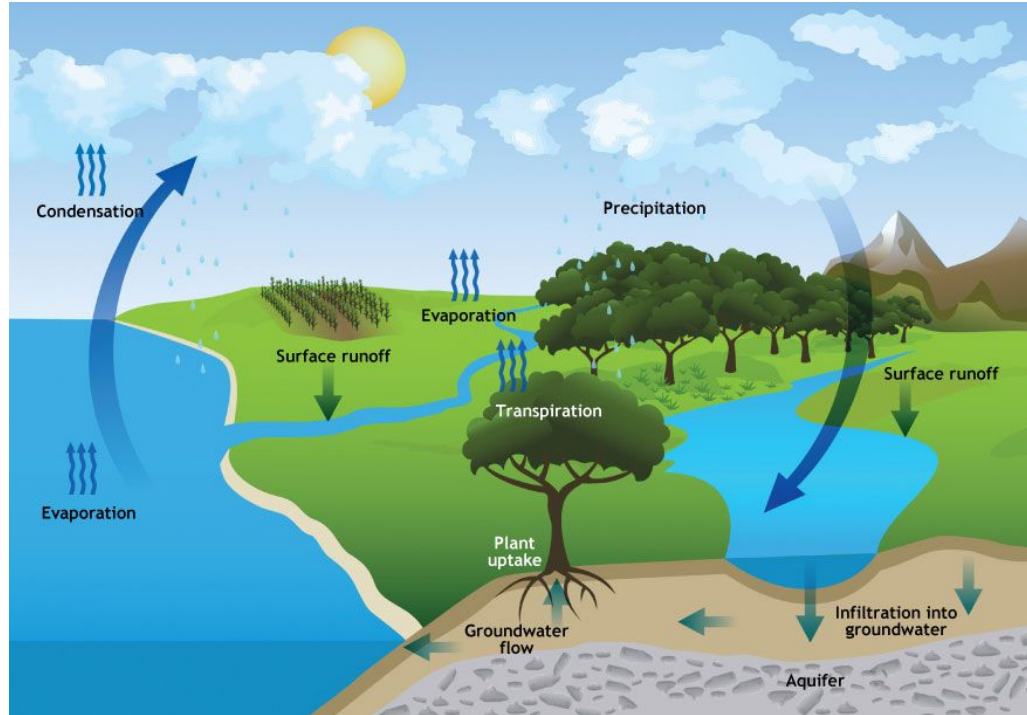


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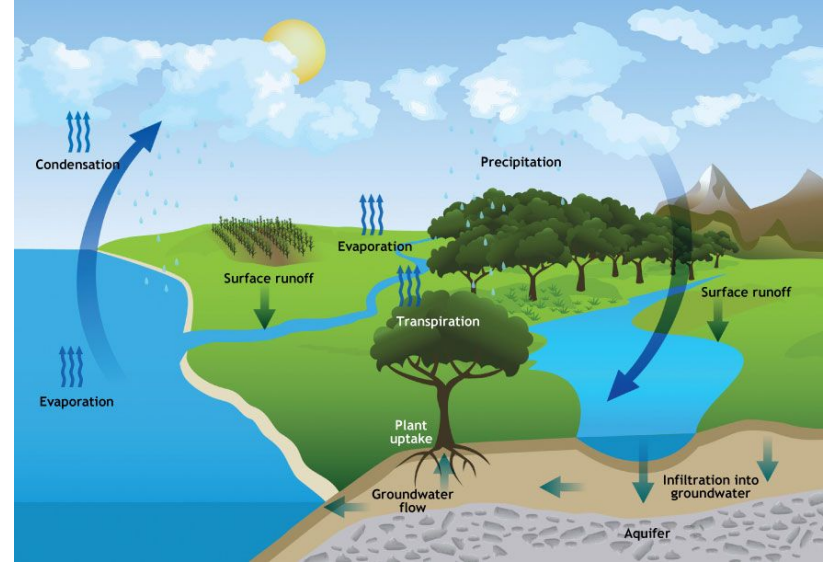
- Trees combat climate change
- Trees appreciate in value over time
- Don't let trees suffer during a drought
- Trees are “worth” the water, invest in trees
- Trees are a nature-based solution to Climate Change

How Trees Save Water



How Trees Save Water

- Manage rainwater in storm events
- Improve water quality
- Slows water down, helps recharge aquifers
- Drought-tolerance aids water conservation
- Maximize the water conservation of trees and landscaping



Community Engagement and Education



- Online resources
- In-person training, engaging residents in watering their tree
- Target Audiences and messaging:
 - Tree Stewards
 - SOWAOT Banner and Brochure
 - Watering reminders through TreEnews

Community Resources: Canopy.org



Tree Library



Benefits of Trees



Hire an Arborist

Community Resources

- **Canopy's Tree Watering Guidelines:**
<https://canopy.org/tree-info/caring-for-trees/trees-and-water/watering-guidelines/>
- **Canopy's Resources for Lawn Conversion:**
 - Learn more about protecting trees during turf conversion.
 - "Does removing your lawn really save water?" from Huffington Post.
 - Residential rebates (including for landscape) from Santa Clara Valley Water District.
- **Canopy's Tree Library**
<https://canopy.org/tree-info/canopy-tree-library/>
- **Canopy's Tree Hotline**
<https://canopy.org/contact-us-2/>



How to Save Water & Save Trees



Tree Watering Guidelines



Ask a Tree Question



Tree Library

Community Resources

- **Save Our Water Save Our Trees Brochure:**
<https://canopy.org/wp-content/uploads/Canopy-Save-Our-Water-and-Trees-Brochure.pdf>
- **Canopy's TreEnews: for watering reminders**
<https://canopy.org/get-involved/join-our-mailing-list/>
- **Canopy's Presents How To Plant A Tree Video**
<https://canopy.org/tree-info/planting-trees/#techniques>
- **SelecTree: (online tree database)**
<https://selecttree.calpoly.edu/search/>



How to Save Water & Save Trees



Tree Watering Guidelines

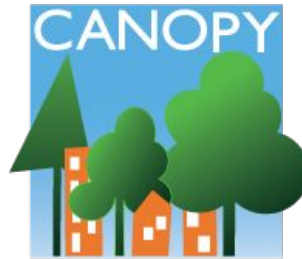


Ask a Tree Question



Tree Library

Thank you!



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