



WHY PLANT TREES?

Trees are proven to be critical for a healthy community.

That's why Forever Balboa Park prioritizes building and maintaining Balboa Park's urban forest for generations to come. In the last 6 years, Forever Balboa Park has planted more than 800 trees. It is Forever Balboa Park's plan to continue growing the urban forest in San Diego with tree plantings, maintenance and expert support to Parks and Recreation.

Environmental Benefits

Trees provide a multitude of environmental benefits wherever they are planted. These include:

Stormwater Capture:

Through promoting healthy soil and intercepting rainfall, trees reduce the impact of stormwater and support a healthy water cycle.

Air Quality:

Trees produce the oxygen we breathe and absorb harmful pollutants that can cause respiratory issues.

Carbon Sequestration:

A healthy tree canopy helps fight climate change through carbon sequestration (pulling carbon dioxide from the air and storing it in roots, trunks, stems and leaves).

Planting Considerations

There are several factors to consider when choosing which tree species to plant in a location.

Mature Tree Size:

How large will the tree get? Find out how tall the tree species grows and how wide its canopy and roots will become to make sure it will fit in the location you want to plant it in.

Water Usage:

How much water will the tree need? Southern California has a warm and dry climate, so it's best to plant trees with low to medium water needs.

Carbon Dioxide sequestration:

Some trees sequester more Carbon Dioxide than others. When selecting a tree species, you may want to factor in how much CO₂ the tree sequesters.



PERUVIAN PEPPER

The Peruvian Pepper (*Schinus molle*) has spear-shaped leaves and white flowers and is native to South America. It grows up to 50 ft high and 25-40 ft wide. The Peruvian Pepper is a low water use tree, meaning it needs lower quantities of water to thrive.



COAST LIVE OAK

The Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) is an evergreen tree with oval leaves that is native to coastal California. It grows up to 70 ft high and 30-70 ft wide. The Coast Live Oak is a low water use tree that sequesters a high amount of Carbon Dioxide.



TIPU

The Tipu tree (*Tipuana tipu*) has oblong leaves and yellow-orange flowers and is native to Bolivia and Southern Brazil. It grows up to 50 ft high and 25-50ft wide. The Tipu tree is a medium water use tree that sequesters a high amount of Carbon Dioxide.

Today we planted in Pepper Grove-- an area specifically dedicated to pepper (*Shinus*) trees. If you plan on planting in a different location, you will need different tree species that are the best fit for that planting spot!