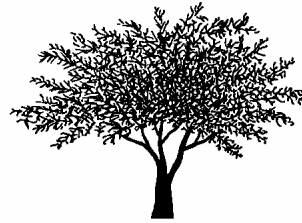


**MEASURING
THE CIRCUMFERENCE
OF A TREE**

The circumference of the tree is the distance around its trunk. The circumference is measured 4 ½ feet from the ground. If the tree forks or if there are branches below the 4 ½ foot mark, the circumference is measured at the narrowest point below the 4 ½ foot level. The distance around the tree should be recorded in inches.

**MEASURING
THE CROWN SPREAD
OF A TREE**

The crown spread of a tree is the distance its branches spread away from its trunk. The crown spread is calculated by measuring the distance of the widest spread and the distance of the narrowest spread in feet. These two figures are then added together and divided by two to get an average.



**MEASURING
THE HEIGHT
OF A TREE**

The height of a tree is measured from the top of the tree to the ground. We don't recommend climbing the tree, dropping a ball of string to the ground, and then measuring the string! The following methods are more realistic:

- 1) Find someone who has access to a clinometer and a tape and learn how to use them!
- 2) Hold a 12" ruler vertically, one ruler length from your eyes. Close one eye and slowly and carefully walk backward from the trunk of the tree until the top and bottom of the ruler appear to be even with the top and bottom of the tree. Mark your spot and then measure the distance to the tree's trunk. This is the approximate height of the tree.
- 3) Estimates can be made by comparing the tree to an object of known height such as a 5' tall person (How many 5' people will it take to reach the top of the tree?).

*If a tree is a possible Arizona Big Tree,
the measurements will be confirmed
by a representative
of the Arizona Register of Big Trees.*

**EXAMPLES OF TREES
IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES
FOR GREAT TREE OF ARIZONA**

HISTORICAL: Did a famous person plant this tree? Was there a special event that happened near this tree? (Sorry, but you playing under the tree when you were a child, doesn't quite make it historical!)

AGE: So you think any tree older than you are should qualify. Nope! Learn how long your kind of tree normally lives, and if it's lived a lot longer, it qualifies!

SIZE: It is a big tree, and I would agree. However, is it big in comparison to other trees of the same kind of tree? A mature Aleppo Pine tree is always bigger than a Palo Verde. Let's compare the same kind of trees, and then see if it's big!

RARE OR UNUSUAL SPECIES: Have you seen a ginkgo tree in Phoenix? If you have, that's rare! They normally don't grow in the desert. Sometimes people plant a tree here that they liked "back home," and it grows! It may not be unusual "back home" but it's unusual here.

OTHER: Here's where you can tell us about that tree you played under when you were growing up, or that perfectly shaped, most beautiful tree you've ever seen. But be sure to explain under the "Comments" why you are nominating your tree.

IDENTIFYING THE KIND OF TREE

Take a walk . . . at the Encanto Park Nature Trail or at Desert Botanical Gardens where you will find trees labeled.

Go to the library . . . and you'll find lots of books with pictures of trees. One of the best to help identify trees is "Plants for Dry Climates" by Duffield and Jones.

Check the web . . . try looking for Trees for the Desert and see what you find.

Take a picture . . . and take it or send it along with a leaf to Phoenix Urban Forestry, the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Service or Desert Botanical Gardens. Someone will help you find out what kind of tree you have!

Don't forget . . .

The correct address of the tree on your nomination form, and if it's not owned by you, include the permission of the owner.

The Phoenix Urban Forestry program also:

- Presents a "Puppet Show and Tree Talk" program to Grades K-4 and a "Slide Show Plus" to Grades 5 through Adult.
- Sponsors a matching cost tree planting program.
- Has a booth display at special events with educational information about trees.
- Administers the Living Tree Celebration program where you may give trees to City parks to recognize an event or someone special.
- Oversees the Great Trees of Phoenix program.

Please call for additional information.



City of Phoenix
Parks and Recreation Department
Phoenix Urban Forestry
1802 W. Encanto Boulevard
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 495-3763
www.ci.phoenix.az.us/FORESTRY

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This publication can be provided in an alternative format upon request. Call 602-262-6862 (voice). TDD 602-262-6713 (parks and recreation) or 602-534-5500 (city operator). FAX 602-534-3787. E-mail prrecep@ci.phoenix.az.us

GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATIONS

of

TREE-MENDOUS TREES

for

*Great Trees of Phoenix
and
Phoenix Register
of Big Trees*



*The best time to plant a tree
was twenty years ago--
The second best time is now.
---Anonymous*