

2021 Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

Participant guide and application

****Due no later than Thursday, 10/28****

A member service of
Burlingame Hills Improvement Association, Inc.

Serving "The Hills" since 1959

Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

Dear neighbor,

As I'm sure you've heard, Sudden Oak Death has become **a major threat** to the large oak trees in our community. Sadly, the situation has been getting worse each year. Recent studies have identified the forests of Burlingame Hills as Sudden Oak Death "hot spots." Particularly susceptible is the Coast Live Oak, the predominant tree in our area.

Having lost one huge oak and four large ones, **I know first-hand** how each tree that succumbs to this disease diminishes beauty and privacy, decreases our wildlife habitat, and can cause expensive damage to homes and landscape. Over a short period of time, we can expect that our community character and property values will be impacted.

Fortunately, **there is an effective mixture** of fungicide and surfactant that has been shown to prevent infection of large oak trees, if applied annually, prior to the winter rainy season, on the lower 8 feet of the main trunk. (Smaller oaks do not seem to be affected by the disease.) For oaks that are already infected, the treatment prolongs the life of the tree.

Although the mixture is expensive, the most effective and economical method for saving our community's oaks is a broad stroke of our tree canopy. That is why a group of homeowners and your community association, in cooperation with professional arborist firms, have teamed up to offer the **"Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program,"** to provide a low-cost solution to the high cost of treating our oak trees.

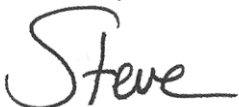
Participating arborists have committed to lower their "per tree" charge, **waive their minimum charge** (at least \$250 for one), and treat smaller oak trees for free. They have also agreed to follow our comprehensive "terms of service," listed on page 7, which will help ensure that you get the highest quality oak tree care. If you currently have an arborist, feel free to ask them if they would be interested in participating in this program this year or in future years. All are welcome! Have them call me for details.

This program **dramatically reduces the cost** for homeowners who have one to three large oaks. Even for homeowners who have 4 to 18 large oaks, the cost is less than that of virtually any other professional arborist on the peninsula. If you have 18 or more large oaks, then you may find that an arborist's standard pricing is more affordable.

Please see page 6 for details on the dates that your oaks will be treated and page 4 for the deadline for submitting your payment and completed form.

Our program has been hugely successful, with more than 1000 trees being treated each year. Whether you take advantage of this program or not, I hope you will make it a priority to get all of your larger oak trees treated before the winter rains set in. Thanks, in advance, for your support!

Sincerely,



Steve Epstein,
President,
Burlingame Hills Improvement Association, Inc.

120 Tiptoe Lane
Burlingame

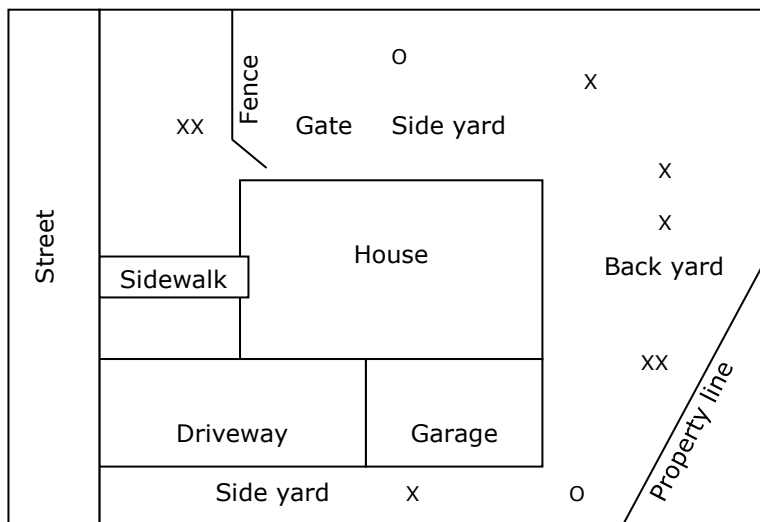
Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

Five easy steps to sign up

- 1) **Contact information:** Using the sign-up form on page 4, fill in the upper part with your name, street address, and the best phone number to reach you during the day.
- 2) **Make your diagram*:** Using the sample diagram (below) as a guide, fill in your diagram to show the location of the street, your house, and any landmarks on or near your property that would be helpful for the arborist in locating your oaks. Be sure to clearly indicate the location of your property line and any trees you don't want treated. (The treatment will cause the moss and any leaves it touches to turn brown—however, it will not kill other plants.)

***NOTE:** It is not necessary for you to fill in the diagram if it is obvious where your oak trees are located and you want the arborist to treat all of your oaks.
- 3) **Count your large trees, using the following method:** (honor system)
 - At a height of four feet from the ground, measure the approximate diameter of the tree. If the tree has two trunks, each trunk counts as a tree.
 - If the tree is greater than 12" in diameter, this tree will count as a "large" oak. Mark the approximate location of the tree on your diagram. Oaks smaller than 12" do not seem to be susceptible to Sudden Oak Death. Nevertheless, the arborist has agreed to treat these trees at no extra charge. (See "Terms of Service" on page 6.)
- 4) **Calculate the cost:** Use the lower part of the sign-up form to calculate the cost to treat your trees.
- 5) **Sign the form,** then mail it and the check to BHIA: *Make the check out to one of the arborists* who has agreed to the BHIA terms of service. (See the arborist bios on page 5 and "Terms of Service" on page 6.) ***Please DO NOT make the check out to BHIA.***

Sample diagram:



KEY

X=Large oak tree

XX=Large double trunk oak tree

O=Do not treat this oak

For help with filling in the form or for more information on this program, please do not hesitate to contact Steve at steve@burlingamehills.org or (650) 777-7899.

2020 Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

Sign-Up Form **Due no later than Thursday, 10/28**

Name: _____

Street address: _____

Best phone number to call on a weekday: _____ On a weekend day: _____

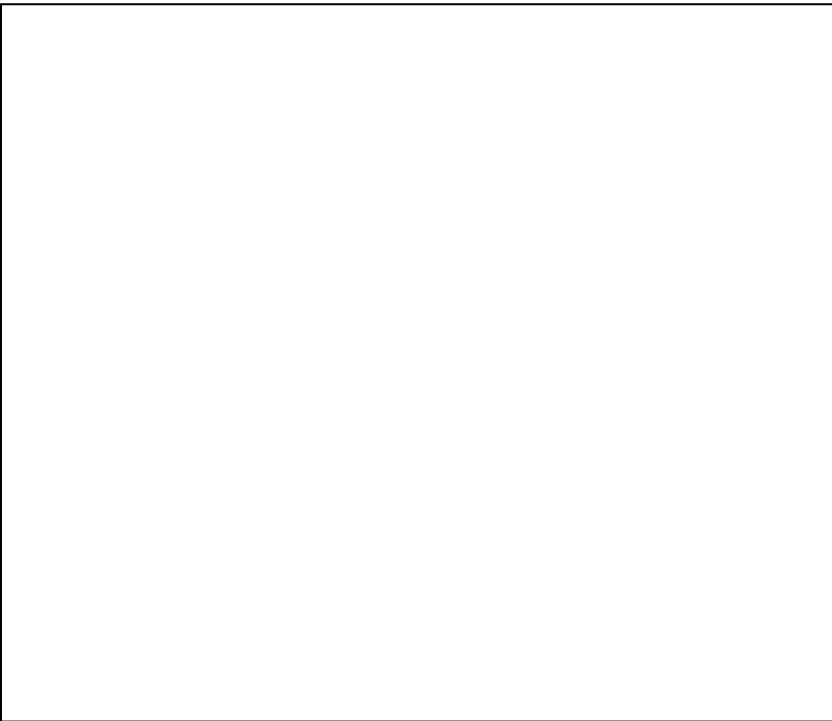
Property diagram (see sample on page 3)

KEY

X = large oak tree

XX=Large double trunk oak tree

O=Do not treat this oak



COST CALCULATION:

_____ Number of "large" oaks (Use step #3 on page 3 to count and measure your oaks)

x \$_____ Rate per "large" tree (\$33 for Mayne; \$30 for Kutches)

+ \$_____ \$10 per oak for Kutches soil remineralization treatment (see page 6)

= \$_____ Total amount for check (***made out to arborist***)

This box is for Kutches Tree Company customers ONLY

Check here for a free reminder call on your date of service: _____ Check all dates that work for you:
____11/6 ____11/7 ____11/13 ____11/14 ____11/20 ____11/21

I authorize _____ (name of arborist) to treat the oak trees on my property. I understand that the Burlingame Hills Improvement Association (BHIA) is not responsible for the arborist or their services, and I release BHIA from any such responsibility. BHIA does not endorse or recommend any arborists. Any guarantee is provided by the arborist.

_____/_____/_____
Homeowner signature (required) Date

Send your oak tree treatment check (***made out to the arborist***) and this completed form to:
Burlingame Hills Improvement Association, c/o Michael Corbett, 3108 Canyon Road, Burlingame

Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

(Keep this page for your records)

What happens next?

1. BHIA will provide the arborist with the sign-up form and your check.
2. In the next few days, remove as much moss and ivy from the lower 10-12 feet of the tree as possible. This is not required, but will greatly increase the chance that the treatment will be absorbed by the tree's bark. The treatment will cause all moss and leaves it touches to turn brown. However, it will not kill other plants.
3. The arborist will NOT contact homeowners in advance of the treatment date(s) except by special arrangement between the homeowner and the arborist. The homeowner must be responsible for keeping pets from coming into contact with the spray. A homeowner who has special concerns about the date and time of treatment should contact the arborist well in advance of the treatment date.
4. On the day of treatment, be sure to provide clear and easy access to all the oak trees that you want to have treated. Also, be sure that no pets are outside during the window of time. This will make it easier for the arborist to move around your property and will protect your pet from possible eye irritation and inhalation of the chemicals.
5. The arborist will treat all smaller oak trees along his/her way at no extra charge. If, for some reason, there is an oak tree you do not want the arborist to apply the treatment, be sure to make note of it on the diagram. If there is a smaller tree you want to be sure have treated, mark it on the diagram and pay the "large" tree rate for it.

Participating arborist bios:

Kutches Tree Company has been a family owned and run tree company since its inception in 1976. They pride themselves in their family values, quality of work, and commitment to customer satisfaction. Their Arborist, Martin Kutches Sr, has a degree in Ornamental Horticulture. He has worked with the respected UC plant pathologist, Dr Matteo M. Garbelotto, one of the pioneers in the pathology of *Phytophthora ramorum*. Martin has successfully treated large estates with 100+ trees on the Peninsula and in the Napa Valley for Sudden Oak Death and Pine Pitch Canker. For further information, please feel free to contact Martin Kutches at: (415) 584-6878 or martin@kutchestree.com.

Mayne Tree Expert was founded in 1931. Through continual education, their certified arborists are dedicated to caring for Peninsula trees using knowledge from the latest advancements in research and scientific tree care techniques. Their philosophy is to provide full tree care service for their clients under the direct supervision of their University-educated principal consultants. These consultants make the initial inspections and diagnoses, inspect the work-in-progress, and are available for any necessary follow-up work. Their tree care crews consist of certified arborists and experienced tree workers. Their Plant Health Care Program provides monthly monitoring of your garden for pests, diseases, and structural or environmental problems that might threaten the health and safety of your trees and shrubs. Call for info: (650) 593-4400.

Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program

Terms of Service

(Updated 10/6/21)

(Keep this page for your records)

All arborists participating in the Burlingame Hills Group Rate Oak Tree Treatment Program agree to the following terms of service:

1. All treatment should be completed by November 30. However, an extension until December 10 is permissible upon request of the arborist.
2. The arborist may offer up to four possible dates for the treatment. In case of rain, another date (s) may be announced. The homeowner will be responsible for keeping pets from coming into contact with the spray. A homeowner who has special concerns about the date(s) of treatment should contact the arborist well in advance of the treatment date.
3. The arborist will treat all "large" oaks, which are oaks with a diameter of 12" or more, as measured from four feet from the base of the tree, as specified on the homeowners diagram.
4. The total cost for treating will be determined by multiplying the number of "large" oaks by the arborist's cost per "large" tree.
5. Unless clearly specified by the homeowner on their property diagram, the arborist will treat all "smaller" oaks with a diameter of 12" or less at no extra charge.
6. Tree treating must be done on a day when no rain is forecast during the time for which the treatment is planned. Tree treating may only be done when precipitation is no more than a mist.
7. Burlingame Hills Improvement Association, Inc. (BHIA) does not endorse or recommend any arborists and only serves to facilitate the process of connecting homeowners to arborists for the purpose of getting oak trees treated. BHIA assumes no liability or responsibility for the arborist's work.
8. The arborist will only use full-strength Agri-Fos® fungicide and Pentra-bark™ surfactant (or their equivalent) and will use these chemicals only in accordance with their labeling and generally accepted practices. This includes spraying the lower 8 feet of each large oak with enough of the mixture to start to cause run-off. For questions about these products, contact your arborist.
9. The arborists will use their best discretion if they identify an oak tree that should not be treated. The arborist will notify the owner about this and refund the cost to treat the tree.

10. Additional terms for Kutches Tree Company customers:

If you wish to add a calcium soil treatment to re-mineralize and assist in overall tree health, then add \$10 **per tree** to the sign up form on page 4. As rain leaches out calcium from the soil, the soil becomes more acidic. This treatment adds back the calcium that oaks need to protect themselves from Phytophthora Ramorum, which causes Sudden Oak Death. Oaks will be treated the first two Saturday and Sundays in November.

11. Additional terms for Mayne Tree Expert customers:

If you want to know the approximate date of service, you may call their office at (650) 593-4400 during business hours of 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday-Friday to find out. Then call them a second time as that date nears to get a further verification. If you would prefer to have them contact you, include an additional \$10 with your check and make a note on the sign up form to let Mayne know that you are requesting this call (see page 4). Oaks will be treated the first two Thursdays and Fridays in November.