

Caring For Trees in MARINA DEL REY

A quick guide to safe responsible tree trimming and removal in our coastal community

Tree pruning and removal are regulated under the Land Use Plan (LUP) of the Marina del Rey Local Coastal Program, outlined in the “Important Biological Resources” chapter. Los Angeles County established Tree Management Policies 23 and 34 to ensure the long-term protection of bird habitats in the Marina.



**Tree Work
Timing Is Strictly
Regulated**

Pruning or removal is only allowed Oct. 1 – Dec. 31 unless strict health, safety or emergency criteria are met.

- To protect sensitive bird habitats, tree maintenance, landscaping, and construction must be planned carefully around this narrow window to avoid delays or violations.



**Nesting Bird
Habitats Are
Legally Protected**

No tree work is allowed unless approved by a qualified biologist within:

- 300 feet of active colonial bird nests
- 500 feet of active raptor nests
- These protections are required under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code.



**Tree Removal
Requires Expert
Evaluation**

Emergency tree work is only allowed when a tree is dead, diseased, dying, or poses imminent danger to public health, safety, or property.

- All removals must be confirmed by a Certified Arborist and a qualified biologist or health official.
- Living trees require a Tree Risk Analysis.
- Dead or dying trees require a cause of death report.



**Tree Replacement
Rules Apply To All
Of Marina del Rey**

Trees removed from areas with historically active waterbird and raptor nesting, based on the [Annual Bird Nest Survey](#), must be replaced at a 1:1 ratio.



**Fallen Trees Must
Be Removed
Promptly**

If a tree falls naturally (e.g., due to storm damage), it must be safely removed—even during nesting season.

- Lessees are responsible for informing DBH and tenants and coordinating safe removal by a qualified professional.
- Replacement is not required for fallen trees.

All lessees, contractors, and County staff share responsibility for following these policies, obtaining a tree work permit and ensuring tree work is properly and safely conducted.

Learn more about policies, procedures and permits at beaches.lacounty.gov/tree-work-permit.

Let's continue working together to protect and preserve the natural beauty of L.A.'s Marina while ensuring safe, equitable access for all.



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