

# USE TREES & WATER WISELY

Trees and water are both precious resources. Add trees, instead of turf, to enjoy a wide range of benefits at a low cost and with little effort.



## MULTI-FAMILY HOMES

### 1. RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT REASON

Trees provide many benefits and key to maximizing those benefits is to select the right tree.

Start with the reason for planting the tree; is it for shade, privacy, fruit, beauty, reduce glare, etc?

Select appropriate trees for the climate where you live and the growing conditions.

### 2. CHOOSE SHADE TREES

Plant regionally appropriate shade trees. Trees planted on the east and west sides of buildings and over play and parking areas, where possible.

Trees that shade the home help to reduce cooling costs. Trees used as windbreaks will help reduce heating costs. Avoid high-allergen trees and those with high potential to create root damage if planting near structures.

### 3. BENEFITS FOR RESIDENTS

In multi-family homes, trees can be used to create privacy, to provide shade, as windbreaks, to reduce noise and glare and also to create attractive spaces. Trees have been shown to provide health benefits and research suggests make neighborhoods safer.

### 4. GROUNDCOVERS

Avoid planting water-loving groundcovers, like turf. Mulch is an attractive, water-wise option that reduces water evaporation when placed around plants. There are also many substitutes to using turf in play areas that are long lasting and safe for children, as well as waterwise. Try bark chips, mulch or sand.

### 5. PARKING AREAS

Trees provide shade for parking areas, extending the life of pavement also helping to reduce urban heat and unlike other shade structures, will help sequester carbon in the air.

### 6. OVERHEAD WIRES

Choose smaller utility friendly trees near overhead wires.

### 7. CHECK FOR SERVICES

Call 811 to check the location of any underground services before digging.

For more information and resources, visit our website, [www.caufc.org](http://www.caufc.org)



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