Los Angeles County Public Works Road Maintenance Districts

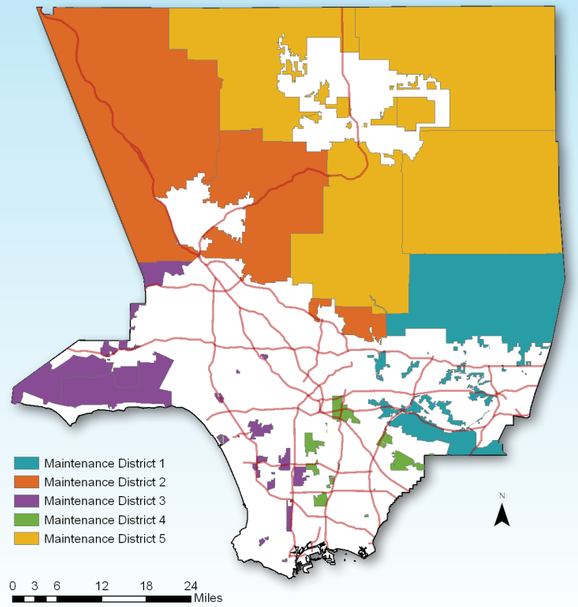
For more information on the County's Urban Forest, please contact the Public Works Road Maintenance District that services your area.

dpw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkways

MD1: 626-337-1277
MD2: 626-300-2080
MD3: 310-348-6448
MD4: 562-869-1176
MD5: 661-947-7173

Urgent Matters:
800-675-HELP (4357)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS

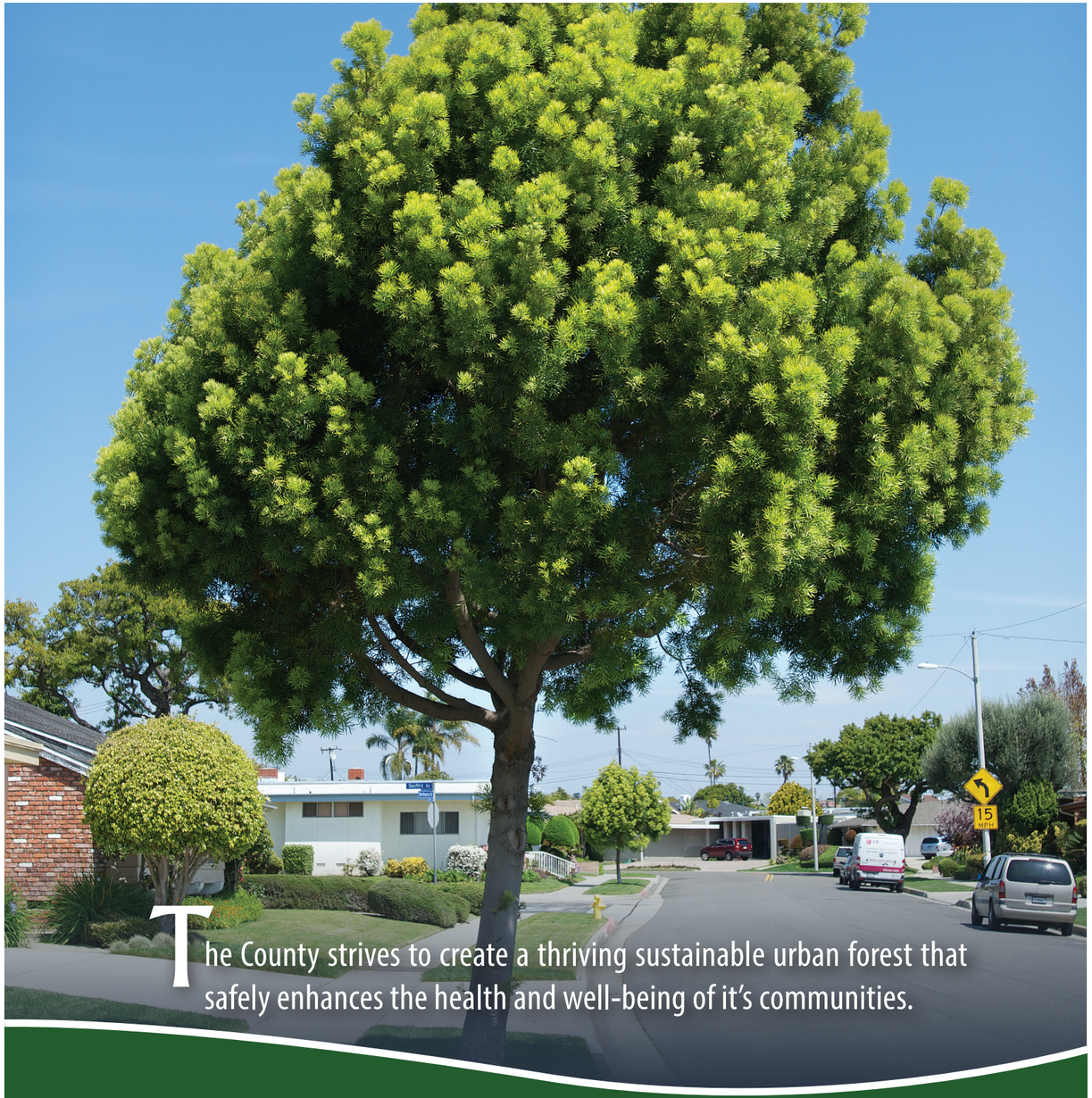


Los Angeles County Public Works

CARING FOR THE COUNTY'S URBAN FOREST

Public Works
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

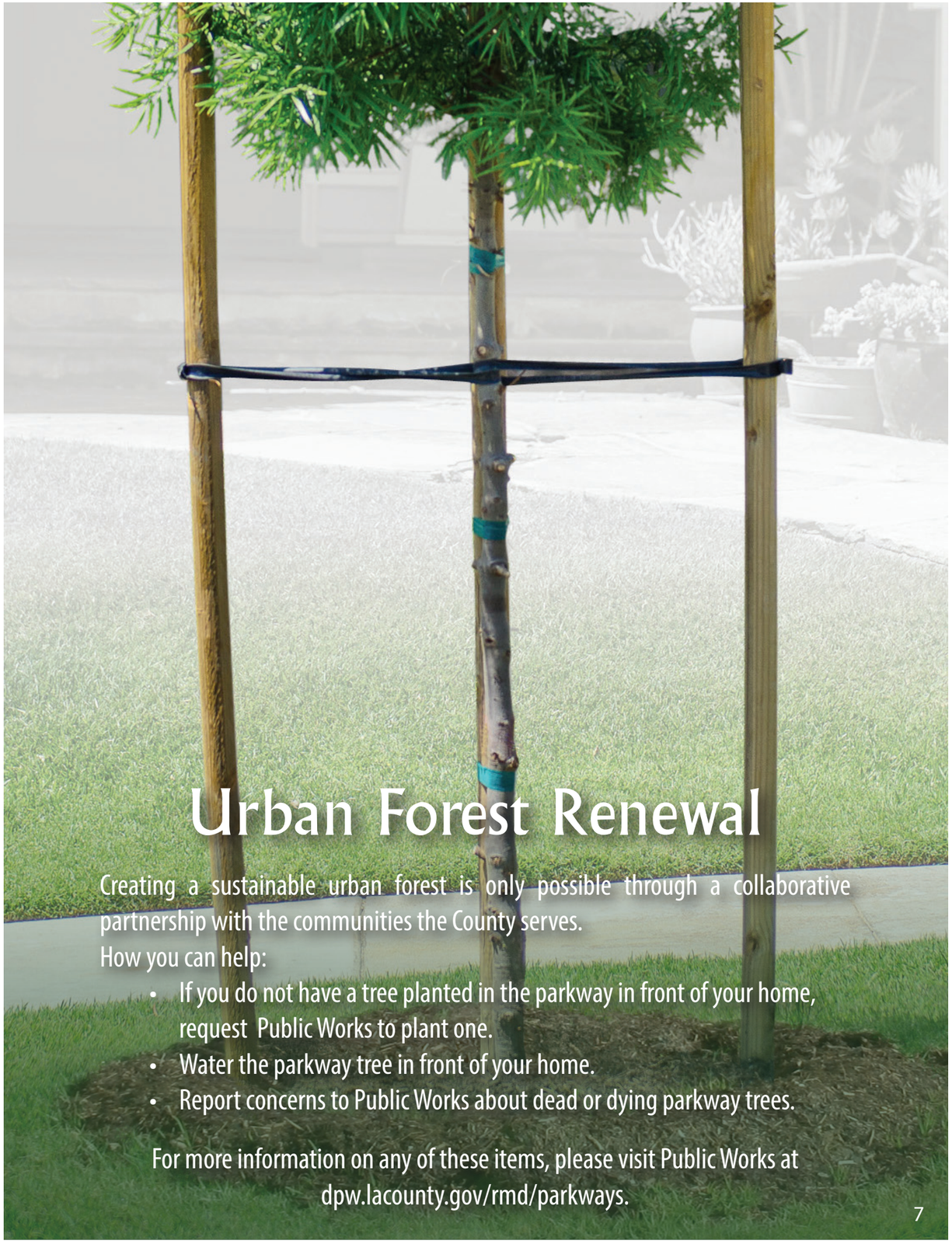
December 2018
dpw.lacounty.gov



The County strives to create a thriving sustainable urban forest that safely enhances the health and well-being of it's communities.

Parkway and median trees are part of Los Angeles County's urban forest, which is an essential element of a healthy, livable community. A well-managed, thriving urban forest is vital to our region's future.

Since October 1983, Public Works has cared for and maintained over 170,000 parkway and median trees located throughout the County's unincorporated area along more than 3,000 miles of roadways. Public Works recently took over the maintenance of approximately 20,000 additional trees within road right of way in various Landscape Maintenance Districts.



Urban Forest Renewal

Creating a sustainable urban forest is only possible through a collaborative partnership with the communities the County serves.

How you can help:

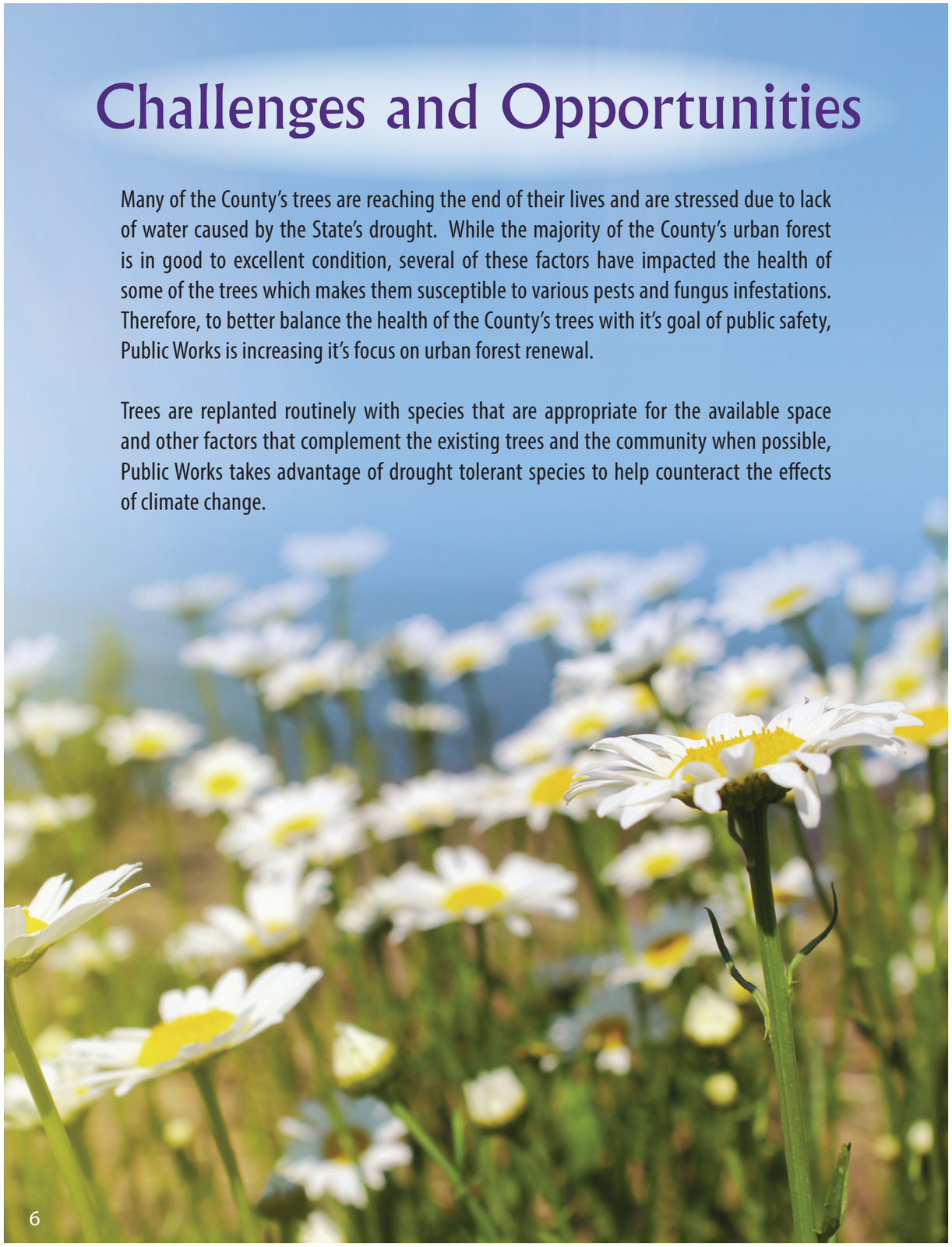
- If you do not have a tree planted in the parkway in front of your home, request Public Works to plant one.
- Water the parkway tree in front of your home.
- Report concerns to Public Works about dead or dying parkway trees.

For more information on any of these items, please visit Public Works at dpw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkways.

Challenges and Opportunities

Many of the County's trees are reaching the end of their lives and are stressed due to lack of water caused by the State's drought. While the majority of the County's urban forest is in good to excellent condition, several of these factors have impacted the health of some of the trees which makes them susceptible to various pests and fungus infestations. Therefore, to better balance the health of the County's trees with it's goal of public safety, Public Works is increasing it's focus on urban forest renewal.

Trees are replanted routinely with species that are appropriate for the available space and other factors that complement the existing trees and the community when possible, Public Works takes advantage of drought tolerant species to help counteract the effects of climate change.



Benefits of a Healthy Urban Forest

* Clean air
* Heat reduction
* Stormwater capture
* Improved community walkability
* Increased property value
* Noise suppression
* Habitat for wildlife
* Increase well-being

Caring for the County's Urban Forest

Tree Information

Public Works gathers information on the species, size, location, condition, and maintenance work for each tree in it's inventory.

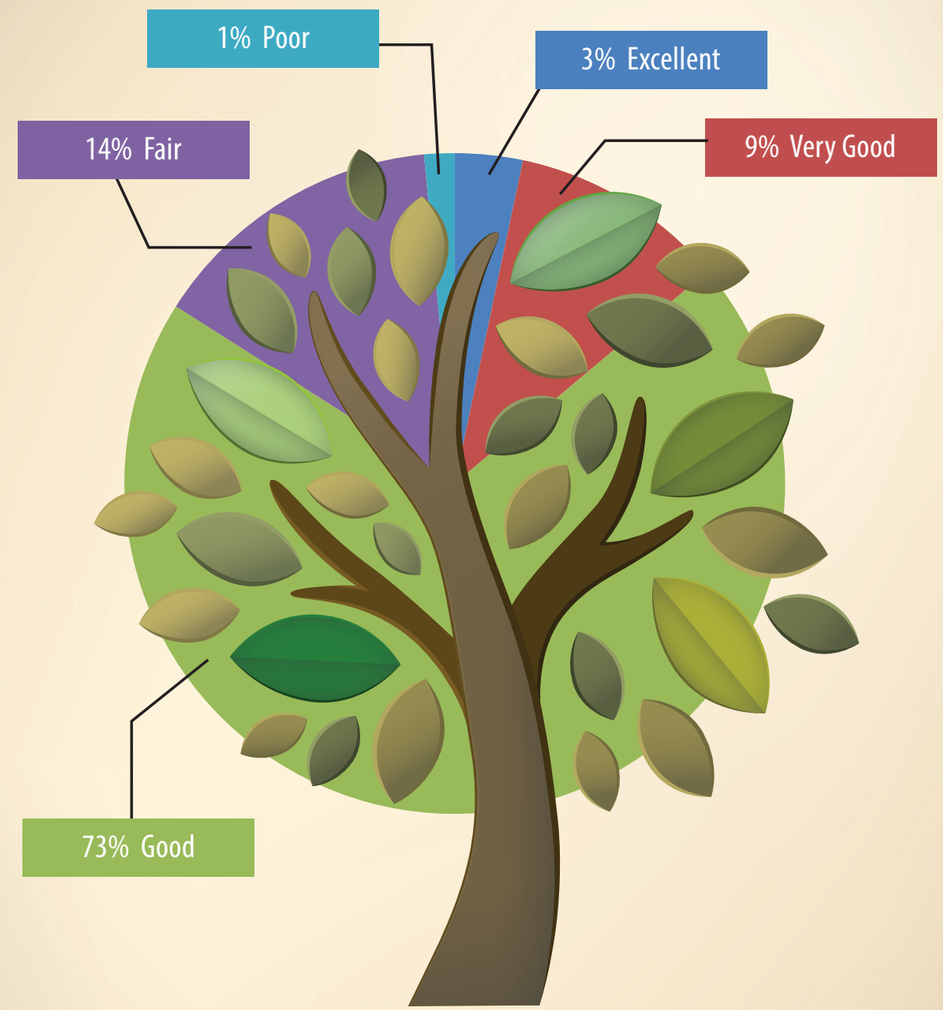
Inspection & Trimming

Public Works routinely inspects and trims trees, every two, three, or six years, depending on the growth rate. All trimming is done per arboricultural standards for the health and safety of the trees and the public.

Safety

Expedited evaluation of trees are also performed when a tree is identified as structurally unsound, overly stressed, diseased, dying, dead, or a potential risk to the public's safety. If the tree is determined to be a threat to public safety, Public Works immediately schedules to remove the tree or creates a safe area around the tree.

Condition of Parkway Trees in Los Angeles County's Urban Forest



Trees were rated as being in poor condition and noted for continued monitoring if there was potential for recovery. Public Works will continue to evaluate those trees and upgrade their condition assessment if there is improvement or remove those that have declined in condition. The number of trees in poor condition are shown below for each of the Supervisorial Districts (SD) along with the corresponding percentage of the total number of trees in that SD.

SD1 – 293 trees (1.4%), SD2 – 387 trees (1.7%), SD3 – 170 trees (1.3%), SD4 – 291 trees (1.1%), SD5 – 975 trees (1.6%)

Condition ratings are performed prior to trees being trimmed.