



## Street Smarts

"When you see kids, slow down!" This and other Street Smarts traffic safety tips have been appearing around Davis since last fall. As part of the public education campaign, colorful traffic safety posters adorn 30 bus shelters throughout the city. They remind residents that traffic signs, signals and laws exist to protect us. The messages promote respect for all who share the roads: drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

You may have seen Street Smarts Crosswalk Safety or Back-at-School television ads on KCRA3. Comcast stations currently broadcast the campaign's Cyclist Safety video. Other Street Smarts ads can be seen before films at the Varsity Theatre and Regal Cinemas, on DCTV, on KDRT 101.5FM and KDVS 90.3FM, and in the Davis Enterprise.

Street Smarts assemblies and raffles have been taking place in our elementary schools.

On the horizon: Street Smarts is working with the Parks & Community Services Department, UC Davis Department of Campus Recreation and Child Development Centers to integrate traffic safety education into existing youth summer and after-school programs. In the 2007-08 school year, Street Smarts will host a junior high traffic safety video contest as well as an elementary school poster contest.

The Street Smarts program is grateful to its sponsors and partners who make our public education campaign possible.

Please visit [www.cityofdavis.org/StreetSmarts](http://www.cityofdavis.org/StreetSmarts) for a listing of our generous contributors and for other information about this important program.

# Caring for your trees

The Davis community is fortunate to have many mature trees, which provide shade during hot summer months, offset our carbon footprint and provide for a pleasing streetscape. Individual property owners should take some preventative measures in order to ensure that trees on private property thrive.

**Controlling Aphids:** If left unchecked, the small bugs known as aphids can wreak havoc on certain trees. Tree owners can eliminate aphid infestation in Chinese Hackberry and other trees with the following tips:

- Check the tree trunk for ants. Ants protect aphids in order to feed on the honey dew droppings aphids produce. Controlling ants will allow for natural predators, such as lady beetles and lacewings, to feed on the aphids, reducing the aphid population.

Limit the use of nitrogen fertilizers, as they produce lush new growth upon which aphids will feed.

- For heavy infestation of aphids or to control the Hackberry Woolly Aphid, UC extension recommends systemic insecticides with active ingredient Imidacloprid. Examples of appropriate insecticides are Bayer Advanced Garden Tree and Shrub Insect control and Merit. Apply in early



Mature coffee trees on Regis Drive in east Davis provide shade and shelter.

spring to allow for full absorption by the tree. Large trees may take two to three weeks to fully absorb the treatment.

Residents with questions regarding aphid control should contact Rob Cain, Parks & Community Services, Urban Forest Manager at 757-5656 or at [rcain@cityofdavis.org](mailto:rcain@cityofdavis.org).

**Classes: Proper Tree Care & Pruning:** TREE Davis and the city of Davis Parks & Community Services Department will host community tree care classes this spring. Sign up to learn about proper tree care techniques, small tree pruning, young tree maintenance, and finding a credible tree service.

For more information, contact TREE Davis at 758-7337 or at [www.treedavis.org](http://www.treedavis.org).



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**Davis Focus** is a publication of the Davis City Manager's Office, and is distributed to all city residents. Our goal is to inform our community about policies and services. For more information or comments, e-mail us at [focus@cityofdavis.org](mailto:focus@cityofdavis.org), [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org)

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