

Forestry Department Tree Removal Policy

The Forestry Department of the Grand Forks Park District manages the trees on the city easement between the city street and the public sidewalk (berm) which comprises a large portion of our urban forest. Trees in our urban forest provide us with many benefits including; shade, reduced cooling costs, clean air to breath and decreases the amount of stormwater and pollutants that reach our local water ways. A goal in managing our forest is have as many healthy trees along the boulevards as we have adequate space available for trees to mature. Unfortunately, not all trees in our urban forest are found to be healthy and the Forestry Department will remove trees on the berm as necessary on a case by case basis.

This policy is to help clarify when we WILL remove a tree and when we WILL NOT remove a tree from the berm

The Park District WILL remove a tree if:

➤ **The tree poses a safety hazard:**

(Hazard tree assessments will be determined by a Trained Certified Arborist from the Grand Forks Park District: Forestry Department)

- Examples of a hazard tree include (but not limited to) a tree that is:
 - Split
 - Rotten
 - Dead
 - Unsafe amount of anchor roots has been severed
 - Uprooting
 - Blocking visibility at intersections or street lights where it's not practical or effective to prune the tree away to clear the visibility hazard.

➤ **The tree is in poor health or Location:**

- Examples of a tree in poor health include (but not limited to) a tree where:
 - Over ½ the canopy of the tree is dead
 - The main central leader of a young tree is dead
 - The root system has been damaged, causing the tree to severely decline
 - The tree doesn't have adequate space to grow next to other trees and nearby buildings.

➤ **The tree is Diseased or infested and threatens our urban forest which requires proactive removal to eradicate or slow the spread to other trees:**

- Example of diseases and infestations include (but not limited to):
 - Dutch Elm Disease (**Only effects Elm Trees**)
 - Emerald Ash Borer (**NOT found in Grand Forks Currently**)

The Park District WILL NOT remove a tree because:

➤ **The tree is a Nuisance:**

- Examples of a tree Nuisance are (but not limited to):
 - Fruit
 - Leaves
 - Flowers
 - Insects
 - Dripping Sap
 - Provides too much shade
 - Unwanted tree or Species

Questions or to REQUEST A TREE INSPECTION of a berm tree
CONTACT:

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