

Appendix N – Tree Removal Guidelines, City of Winnipeg, March 1, 2014



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT • SERVICE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Urban Forestry Branch • Direction de la foresterie urbaine

TREE REMOVAL GUIDELINES

These guidelines are applicable to situations where trees in fair to good condition are proposed to be removed or have been removed and include, but are not limited to, the following situations:

- Movie sets
- Private and commercial approaches
- Planned construction, street work, and water and waste projects.

(0 – 10cm) Trees can be replaced at approximately the same size. Customer pays removal cost if the Urban Forestry Branch is requested to remove trees. Cost represents the replacement costs (currently \$740 / tree).

(10 – 30cm) Trees are not easily replaced and are valued according to the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisal Formula.

(30cm +) The position of the Urban Forestry Branch is to deny removal.

Funding received by the Urban Forestry Branch will be invested back into tree planting within the ward to maintain the canopy of the urban forest.

Additional Guidelines:

- 1) There shall be no charge for removal / replacement for trees that are dead or in decline.
- 2) Trees that are part of emergency water and waste projects shall be priced for removal and replacement cost.
- 3) For new easements related to Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba Hydro shall consult with the City of Winnipeg Urban Forestry Branch prior to any proposed tree removal. During the consultation, all attempts shall be made to minimize tree removal. Trees that are removed shall be compensated at a value of 1 new tree per 10 cm of dbh (ie. 40 cm dbh tree = 4 replacement trees @ \$740 / tree = \$2960). If Manitoba Hydro fails to consult with the Urban Forestry Branch in these matters, the **Guide for Plant Appraisal (current edition)**, Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers, shall be used to determine the value of trees.

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- 4) Natural stand trees growing in an "A" and "B" quality habitat are valued 1:1 ratio for those greater than 5cm dbh. Trees greater than 10cm dbh are valued at one replacement tree for every additional 7.5 cm of dbh (ie. 17.5cm dbh = 2 replacement trees @ \$740 / tree = \$1480). Natural stand trees growing in a "C" and "D" quality habitat shall be priced for removal.

When habitat is assessed it is assigned a grade from A-D. "A" is a very good grade while "D" is not good. The definitions for these grades follow.

"A" Quality Habitat (Maximum sensitivity to disturbance): Virtually undisturbed by man or recovered to an extent where community structure and composition is intact and reflects historical natural vegetation and wildlife habitat. Other factors include soil disturbance, a high degree of native vegetation present and conversely, a lack of weedy or non-native plant species.

"B" Quality Habitat (High sensitivity to disturbance): Light to moderate disturbance, for example, encroachment of non-native species, may have a minimal amount of weeds but maintains a more natural condition where native species are still the major vegetation community.

"C" Quality Habitat (Low sensitivity to disturbance): Moderate disturbance, a significant number of weed species that have replaced native species, few native species present. For example, an old agricultural clearing that has not been used in recent times and native plant species are slowly returning, or an area that is occasionally mowed.

"D" Quality Habitat (Minimum sensitivity to disturbance): Heavily disturbed site, the vegetation is dominated by weed species or absent all together. No or very few native species present.

UPDATED March 1, 2014

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