

Dear Burnside Gorge Community Association,

**Re:** 2018 Winter City Tree Removals

The purpose of this note is to advise your neighbourhood association about the upcoming removals of City trees in your area that are at the end of their healthy lifespan.

**2018 Winter Tree Maintenance Program**

This past fall, 251 City trees were identified as either dead or in significant decline and require removal.

There are 16 trees in your neighbourhood that have been identified for removal. The specific trees, their conditions and their locations are as follows:

Address	Street	Species	DBH (cm)	Reason for Removal
715	BAY ST	Betula pendula	47	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
2300	BLANSHARD ST	Betula papyrifera	38	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3023	CARROLL ST	Crataegus species	25	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3080	CARROLL ST	Crataegus species	22	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
1961	DOUGLAS ST	Betula pendula	23	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3000	GALLOPING GOOSE REGIONAL TRAIL	Acer macrophyllum	28	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3000	GALLOPING GOOSE REGIONAL TRAIL	Acer macrophyllum	27	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3000	GALLOPING GOOSE REGIONAL TRAIL	Acer macrophyllum	27	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
243	GORGE RD E	Juniperus virginiana	27	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
3165	IRMA ST	Acer rubrum 'Armstrong'	41	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
111	MADDOCK AVE E	Betula populifolia	35	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
215	MADDOCK AVE E	Betula papyrifera	11	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
2828	ROCK BAY AVE	Betula papyrifera	33	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
2925	WASHINGTON AVE	Pseudotsuga menziesii	4	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
2925	WASHINGTON AVE	Acer macrophyllum	5	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.
335	WATERFRONT CRES	Betula papyrifera	22	Dead or in severe decline where pruning is not an option.

These 16 tree removals will take place between February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 and March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. New trees will be selected and plantings will begin in the fall of 2018.

## **Caring for Our Urban Forest**

Planning for a healthy urban forest is very important to the City of Victoria. We manage 33,000 City-owned trees, most of which are on 300 kilometers of boulevards and in our 137 parks and open spaces.

In addition to being beautiful, these trees help improve air quality, absorb water during storms and reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in our environment. They also help shade our streets and buildings, helping to cool our city.

Guided by the Urban Forest Master Plan, our arboriculture team develops plans that involve identifying areas for planting new trees to expand the inventory, as well as identifying existing trees that are at the end of their healthy life. Removing unhealthy trees reduces safety risks and opens up space to plant new, young trees which will grow into our future urban forest.

The City of Victoria Urban Tree Inventory completed in 2012 found that 64% of public trees are in good or excellent condition and 30% are in fair condition and 6% are in poor condition.

This fall, 251 trees were identified as either dead or in significant decline and require removal. Each tree was identified through our inventory, and was inspected by our Certified Arborists, using an internationally recognized assessment process.

Removal of any tree is always a last resort. Pruning and other options to mitigate the risks of the unhealthy tree are always considered first. Our practice with each removal is for a new tree to be planted, with consideration for the species that will have the best chance for success given a particular location.

We thank you for your understanding as we work to improve the health of our urban trees. Residents that live close to a tree on the removal list will receive a letter and tree removal notices will be posted to each tree.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Parks Office at 250.361.0600 or [parks@victoria.ca](mailto:parks@victoria.ca) if you have any questions.