

VILLAGE OF EAST AURORA TREE BOARD



Tree Maintenance Policy

The East Aurora Tree Board refers to the following policy when determining recommendations for requests for maintenance or removal of park trees and street trees within the public right-of-way.

Village code Section 240 states that the volunteer Tree Board "...may...recommend upon any matter or question pertaining to the protection and enhancement of street and park trees." It is therefore our policy to never attempt to enforce any decisions regarding the

trees, but simply to offer our advice and recommendations to the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Village Board when necessary.

Our stated policy is to only recommend tree removal in cases where the tree is obviously dead or doomed, or if it's a clear and obvious danger to life and property.

Requests that come to us while deciduous trees are dormant (before leaf-out in Spring and after the leaves fall in Autumn) will normally be left until the following Spring unless obvious signs of danger are present. It is often difficult or unfair to assess a tree's condition when there are no leaves present.

Due to the value of mature street trees and the decades required to fully replace any existing street tree, we will almost always recommend maintenance of, and care for, an existing tree, with such activity to be performed by either the DPW or an arborist. Again, we will, of course, make exceptions in the case of obviously dead or dangerous trees.

When disagreements between homeowners, DPW or Tree Board members arise, our policy is to request an assessment of the tree in question by the Village's consulting arborist. Our board and the DPW have agreed to accept the arborist's recommendations, with the Village Board having the final say.

We are happy to help mediate requests from homeowners who feel their issues were met in an untimely or unsatisfactory manner, including bringing such requests to the Village Board for their consideration.