

City of Norwalk, Ohio Tree Board

2014 COMPREHENSIVE TREE PLAN

Pursuant to Norwalk Codified Ordinance section 943.05, the City of Norwalk Tree Board respectfully submits the following tree plan to Norwalk City Council for acceptance and approval. Upon approval, this plan shall constitute the 2014 Comprehensive Tree Plan for the City of Norwalk.

Tree City USA

Norwalk has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the past 30 years. The City will again receive this national recognition at an awards ceremony in April 2014.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forestry Service. To become a Tree City USA, a community must meet four standards: operate a tree board or department, have a tree care ordinance, follow a comprehensive urban forestry program, and observe Arbor Day each year.

This year, the Tree Board will celebrate Arbor Day on April 25, 2014 by planting a special tree.

2013 in Review

- 34 Trees Planted in Residential Areas
- 17 Trees Planted in Revitalization Area
- 64 Trees Removed
- 27 Trees Trimmed
- 26 Stumps Removed

2013 Budget

The Tree Board was budgeted \$24,000 in 2013 for tree removal and trimming. The budget was supplemented by an additional \$1,798 from the Uptown Revitalization Fund for replacing trees in the revitalization area.

Expenditures:

Tree Removal and Trimming	\$22,123
Tree Planting	\$5,677

PLANTING AND REPLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS

Planting

The board can select an area for planting that they feel has a greater need for trees. The Tree Board shall get approval from the administration before beginning special tree planting projects.

Replanting

It shall be the responsibility of the board to replace, whenever reasonably possible, all city trees that have been removed throughout the year.

The Clerk of the Tree Board shall keep an annual record of the location of city trees that have been removed. Telephone calls are also received in the Office of the Director of Public Service and Safety from residents requesting a tree be planted in their boulevard. Date, name, address of the person requesting a tree is obtained. Trees are then planted pursuant to specifications listed in the codified ordinance.

Street Tree Species

An official list of street tree species shall be compiled, updated and made available at the Office of the Service/Safety Director. Attached to this plan is the latest official list of Street Tree Species which was reviewed and accepted by the Tree Board on December 17, 2013.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSITION OF TREES

Requests for tree inspection and removal will be forwarded to the office of the Director of Public Service and Safety. Date, name, address, specific nature of problem is obtained. Inspection slips are distributed to board members and personnel as determined by the Director of Public Service and Safety, who make tree inspections and compose written maintenance recommendations, which are forwarded to the Director of Public Service and Safety. Whenever possible, the City of Norwalk will remove or trim the tree. Proposals for all other tree work are solicited to city-licensed arborists. Proposals must be submitted to the city within two weeks. Work is awarded according to the lowest price per tree (indicated by residential address). All work must be completed within 30 days.

Periodically the City will receive calls regarding dead trees on private property. When complaints are received, a member of the tree board and an independent professional arborist will make an inspection of the tree. If it is determined that the tree could be dangerous to safety of residents or property, a courtesy letter is sent to the property owner informing them of the possible hazardous tree. If it is determined that the tree could damage city property, the owner is given 60 days to remove or trim the tree or the city has the tree removed or trimmed and the cost can be assessed on property taxes.

When an inspection is made and it is determined by a member of the Tree Board and arborist that a tree is an immediate danger or threatening to the safety of its residents or property, the tree is removed immediately at the owner's expense or the cost can be assessed on property taxes.

Pursuant to changes in Norwalk Codified Ordinance 943, trees, shrubs, bushes or any other woody vegetation on the tree lawn may be planted, pruned, or removed by the adjacent property owner only with prior written approval by the Safety/Service Director.

Arborist License & Bond

It shall be unlawful for any person or firm to engage in the business or occupation of pruning, treating or removing street or park trees within the City without first applying for and procuring a license.

The Clerk of Tree Board annually notifies businesses with arborist license thirty days prior to expiration of their license that they must renew their arborist license. Before any license is issued, applicant must provide evidence of liability insurance and workers compensation insurance. City-licensed arborists must carry a minimum of \$500,000 liability insurance.

TREE BOARD GOALS

2014 Goals

1. Plant trees where trees have been removed
2. Maintain status as Tree City, USA
3. Increase ratio of tree planting to tree removal
4. Cooperate with Master Gardeners to complete City Tree Survey
5. Institute a Tree Pruning and Trimming Program for city trees

Short Term Goals

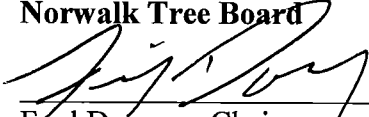
1. Increase number of trees at city parks
2. Aggressive tree planting campaign
3. Increase planting of multi-generational slow growing large trees (gift to future generations).
4. Maintain status as Tree City, USA

Long Term Goals

1. Tree line all city residential streets
2. Continue to increase ratio of tree planting to tree removal
3. Elimination of Emerald Ash Borer disease
4. Maintain status as Tree City, USA
5. Follow an on-going trimming and pruning program.
6. Maintain up-to-date information on the progress of invasive species
7. Decrease the number of healthy trees being removed due to sidewalk issues

APPROVED this 17th day of December, 2013.

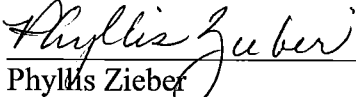
Norwalk Tree Board



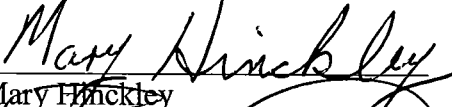
Fred Downey, Chairman



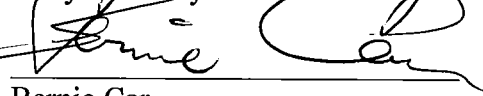
Judy Emmons



Phyllis Zieber



Mary Hinckley



Bernie Car

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL

This Comprehensive Tree Plan was accepted and approved by Norwalk City Council on the 7th day of January, 2014 by Resolution No. 2014-008.

STREET TREE SPECIES
For Planting on City Tree Lawn
Approved December 17, 2013

Small Matures Less Than 30' – for use under power lines

Malus 'Sugar Tyme' – Sugar Time Crab
Malus 'Profusion' - Profusion Crab
Crataegus c. inermis 'Cruzam' – Crusader Thornless Hawthorne
Acer ginnala 'Flame' – Flame Amur Maple
Acer campestre – Hedge Maple
Amelanchier x grandiflora – Apple Serviceberry
Cornus kousa- Kousa Dogwood
Syringa-Tree Lilac Ivory Silk
Ivy Leaf
Acer Griseum - Paperbark Maple
Acer Tataricum - Tatarian Maple
White fringetree
Canada Cherry
Other trees as proposed and approved by the City Tree Board

Medium 30-60' – not appropriate for under utilities

Acer rubrum 'Franksred' – Red Sunset Maple
Acer rubrum 'Armstrong' – Armstrong Maple
Acer rubrum 'Autumn Flame' – Autumn Flame Maple
Acer rubrum 'October Glory' – October Glory Maple
Gleditsia triacanthos inermis 'Sunburst' – Sunburst Honeylocust
Ulmus parvifolia – Chinese Elm
Ulmus x. 'Frontier' – Frontier Elm
Crimson King Maple (red leaf)
Royal Red
Ginko Sentry
Other trees as proposed and approved by the City Tree Board

Large – 60'+ - appropriate where tree lawn is greater than 7' & no power lines

Acer x. freemanii 'Celebration' – Celebration Maple
Acer x. freemanii 'Autumn Blaze' – Autumn Blaze Maple
Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain' – Green Mountain Sugar Maple
Acer saccharum 'Legacy' – Legacy Sugar Maple
Quercus shumardii – Shumard Oak
Quercus rubra – Red Oak
Quercus bicolor – Swamp Oak
Other trees as proposed and approved by the City Tree Board