



LOGAN
TREE EXPERTS

INFO SHEET

Peterborough Tree Removal By-law 21-074

Logan Tree Experts has Licensed Tree Service Providers (LTSP) on staff that are happy to submit your permit application for you. We can also discuss your planting needs if you are required to replace the tree after the removal.

*The information in this info sheet has been taken from

<https://www.peterborough.ca/en/city-services/tree-removal-on-private-property.aspx>

On June 28, 2021, City Council passed the Tree Removal By-law 21-074.

The by-law regulates the removal of trees within the City of Peterborough. It also helps to protect and enhance the tree canopy and natural vegetation in the municipality. The information on this web page is intended as a guide. Please carefully review the by-law for the most complete information.

This by-law requires that you obtain a permit before removing a tree that has reached or, at its physiological maturity, has the potential to reach a diameter of at least 7.5 cm at breast height.

When to apply for a permit

An application is required to remove any privately-owned tree measuring at least 7.5 cm at breast height, or 137 cm from the ground. Tree owners are required to submit an application to the City in advance of any work being completed. This can be done by the property owner, a Licensed Tree Service Provider (LTSP), or an applicant on the owner's behalf. Processing times for these applications is based on the accuracy of information submitted. It is highly recommended that you seek the assistance of a LTSP or an arborist to ensure your application is correct. There is a 72 hours waiting period after a permit has been submitted before a tree can be removed.

Application process overview

If you are intending to remove a tree from private property, it is essential that an application is submitted to the City in advance of any work being completed. This can be done by the property owner, a Licensed Tree Service Provider (LTSP), or an applicant on the owner's behalf. It is recommended that all property owners hire a LTSP to submit the online application form

on their behalf. Applications must be completed through our online portal and are not available to complete in person.

Permit Fee

There is a non-refundable Permit Fee to remove healthy trees that measure at least 15cm DBH. The fees are as follows:

\$50.00 - For an application submitted by a Licensed Tree Service Provider (LTSP).

\$150.00 - For an application submitted by a tree owner or applicant.

Application Fee:

There is a non-refundable Application Fee added to all applications regardless of size or status of the trees. The fees are as follows:

\$15.00 - For an application of 0-5 trees submitted by a LTSP, tree owner, or applicant.

\$15.00 - For an application of 6+ trees submitted by a LTSP, tree owner, or applicant.

There is no Permit Fee for the removal of dead or dying trees, high-risk trees, Emerald Ash Borer-infested trees, and buckthorn species. Application Fees still apply. High-risk trees need to be determined by a LTSP.

Information Required for Permit:

1. First determine if the diameter of the tree trunk is 7.5 cm or greater at breast height. This measurement is known as DBH, or diameter at breast height. Trees less than 7.5 cm DBH do not require an application or permit from the city in order to remove.
2. Confirm the ownership of the tree. If any part of the trunk up to the first branch (including the root collar) is straddling other properties, all property owners must submit an application to remove the tree. Provide the location of the tree including street number, street name, the tree owner's name and address if different from the tree location.
3. Establish whether the tree is located in the front, side, or back of the property.
4. If you plan to remove more than five trees, you will need to contact Urban Forestry Staff. If this is the case, it is highly recommended that you contact an LTSP to perform the work and submit the application on your behalf.
5. Provide a description of the subject tree including:
 - Species (scientific and common name)
 - Size (DBH)
 - Diameter at breast height (DBH) is a standard measurement for size of a tree. To determine DBH, first measure 1.37 m from the ground at the base of the tree. At

this height above the ground, measure around the tree trunk to get the circumference and divide that measurement by 3.14 (π). This will give you the diameter (width of the tree trunk). A multi-trunk tree is considered one tree. The diameter of the tree will be determined by adding together the diameter of the stems measured at DBH.

- The structural condition of the tree rated as good, fair, poor, or likely to fail. This is an assessment of tree structure (i.e. the stability of parts of or the whole tree itself).
 - The physiological condition of the tree (i.e. the health of the tree) assessed as:
 - Good (less than 10% dead)
 - Fair (10-30% dead)
 - Poor (30-50% dead)
 - Dying (50-100% dead)
 - Dead or death imminent (100% dead)
6. Provide an explanation why the tree is to be removed. For example: the tree is dead or dying, landscaping, installing a pool or a deck, building an addition, etc.
 7. Provide a detailed sketch that must include the following approximations: property lines, street(s), driveway, all buildings, all trees, tree numbers for each tree that is proposed to be removed.

Note that the City may not issue a permit for a boundary tree (a tree on or near a shared property line) without each owner submitting an application.

Photos:

Photos should show the entire tree where possible, and additional photos should be included that support your reason for removal (e.g., cracks, splits, dead areas of the canopy, storm damage, or pest/disease infestation).

Tree replacement requirement

If you are removing a healthy tree, your permit conditions include a requirement to plant a replacement tree. One replacement tree is required for each tree removed. The property owner must inform the City when the replacement tree has been replanted. If you choose not to replant on your property, you will be required to pay the Tree Replacement Fee. The Tree Replacement Fee is \$550 per tree, based on the City's current contracted rate. This rate is based on the annual cost to plant trees on City-owned lands.

Replacement trees must be a minimum of 2 cm in diameter and of a species that will have a similar size and stature to the removed tree at maturity. Replacement trees must be planted within the grounds of the property where the first tree was removed. The property owner must inform the City when the tree has been replanted using the notification form below. Follow the following link to submit your form: <https://forms.peterborough.ca/Urban-Forestry/Tree-Replacement-Notice-of-Fulfillment>