

City of Parksville Tree Management Bylaw Explained

Tree Management Bylaw 1484 which became effective on September 17, 2012, regulates the preservation, removal and replacement of trees within the City of Parksville. A protected tree is deemed to be any tree in Parksville, except poplar and alder, which has a diameter greater than 50 centimetres (20 inches) or any tree within 30 metres of a watercourse. This bylaw applies to hazardous trees as well.

Residents who are planning the removal of any tree which has a diameter of more than 50 centimetres (20 inches) on their property or the removal of any tree near a watercourse now require a tree cutting permit prior to commencing any work. The diameter of a tree trunk should be measured at breast height (1.4 metres/4.5 feet from ground) and confirmed by an ISA certified arborist.

A tree cutting permit is not required for pruning (selective removal of branches), however, branches which are more than 10 centimetres (3.9 inches) must not be removed.

Bylaw 1484 was developed in response to an expressed community desire to better protect trees in our City. The preservation of trees is a matter of great importance to communities across the province and the *Community Charter Act of BC* grants authority to local governments to regulate trees as part of their mandated authority just as they regulate land use and public safety. Bylaw 1484 updated a tree management bylaw adopted in 2006.

Residents should contact the City's Community Planning and Building Department at 250 954-4697 prior to obtaining a tree removal permit.

The City's Tree Management Bylaw 1484 may be viewed at:

<https://parksville.civicweb.net/Documents/DocumentList.aspx?ID=1103>

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For more information:

Community Planning and Building Department 250 954-4697