

City's Tree Maintenance Program

The operations department inspects and assesses trees within the City, part of a practice to monitor, remove or modify trees deemed to be hazardous. The City's tree maintenance program includes the general care of trees located in our parks and other City-owned properties.

The City strives to create and maintain a safe, healthy, diverse and sustainable urban forest which reflects the needs of the community. Trees provide value to our community, contributing to our environmental health and to enhance landscaping within City parks, sidewalks and medians. Trees benefit everyone by purifying the air we breathe, reducing the effects of pollution, increasing property values, creating and enhancing wildlife habitats and reducing home heating and cooling costs.

The City has a long history of protecting and enhancing our treed landscapes and urban woodlands. Our staff offers a wealth of knowledge regarding planning, design and conservation techniques for our trees. The City's arborists perform tree inspections and organize the required work to be done which is completed by City staff or by contractors. Hazard evaluations attempt to identify defective trees, assess the hazard posted by such trees and implement measures designed to prevent accidents caused by failures. Examinations are done in a systematic manner to ensure all trees in a target area are inspected. A standardized tree rating system is a fundamental requirement of any hazard control program. The tree rating system takes into account, failure potential, size of part and a target rating.

Areas requiring attention include Hamilton Park, Springwood Park, Sunset Boulevard Park and the City-owned property on Jensen Avenue East.

- **Jensen Avenue East** - A hazard evaluation was completed on the City-owned lots along the south side of Jensen Avenue East, between Craig Street and the Alberni Highway. Eighteen trees were identified as requiring maintenance or removal; the work is scheduled for June 22.
- **Hamilton Park** – Inspection of trees was recently completed and four pines adjacent to the playground will be removed. Stumps will be ground and more suitable trees will be replanted.
- **Springwood Park** – six dead trees (cedar, fir and alder) will be removed and turned into habitat stumps where possible.
- **Sunset Boulevard Park** – a large dead Grand Fir was identified as being in a riparian area and recently reduced to a 12 metre habitat stump.

If you notice a municipal tree is damaged or diseased, please contact the operations department at 250 248-5412.

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For more information:

Operations Department 250 248-5412