

LAUREL PARK TREE POLICY

1. Trees at laurel Park are to be protected and conserved. No tree may be taken down to accommodate construction except as a last resort. Contractors need to prove to the Property Committee, for recommendation to the Executive Committee, that no other alternative exists For septic systems, replacement of soil in an existing location must be used whenever technically possible instead of removing trees.

2. Absolutely no trees may be trimmed, or cut down without the written permission of the Property Committee. Any Homeowner desiring tree work must complete a written request form for the committee. It will then be discussed and voted upon and the request will be approved or denied and returned to the Homeowner.

3. A tree will be removed by the Property Committee if it is dead, diseased, or dying. It will be removed if it is a hazard to property. (Shedding of needles, pine cones, nuts, leaves, a natural dropping of small branches, or reduction of sunlight do not constitute a hazard.)

4. If a tree is to be taken down for a reason other than the above then all neighbors will be advised in writing and given an opportunity for input before the tree is taken down.

5. Trees taken down will be removed from the Park by a landscape service. However, first a general notice will be posted about tree removal and any Homeowner interested in the wood for a stove or fireplace may contact the Property Committee. A \$50.00 deposit will then be posted by the Homeowner with the Executive Committee before the tree is taken down and the Homeowner must agree (in writing) to have the tree cut into wood stove lengths and stacked within one month's time. If this is not done within one month's time then the Park will remove the wood and deduct the cost from the deposit. In the event that more than one Homeowner wants the wood, the wood and deposit will be divided equally among them. Softwood trees will not be a part of this policy as they present a fire hazard to burn.

6. Homeowners should check wires coming into their houses to make sure that all wires are free from touching branches. If a tree needs trimming to clear the wires, the Property Committee should be notified immediately. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should a Homeowner attempt to remove branches near wires.

7. Residents of the Park must refrain from inserting nails or other fasteners into trees or tying ropes and wires around them. Nails breach the protective bark of the tree and can cause disease and insect problems. Ropes and wires affect a tree's sap flow; wires also cut into the tree's bark.

8. If Laurel is removed it must be done so carefully and must be replanted.