

## **RD600 TREE REPLACEMENT / REMOVAL POLICY**

**Originating Document - PW-75-2002**

**Effective Date – May 14, 2002**

**Last Date Modified -**

1. The Public Works Department will endeavour to maintain and enhance the roadside tree stock and associated canopy for the enjoyment of present and future generations.
2. The Roads Manager or assign, shall be responsible for the planting, care, and removal of all trees upon or over highways which are the responsibility of the Municipality. Trees determined to be removed due to condition or health reasons shall be appropriately assessed and documented by qualified staff prior to removal.
3. The Roads Manager or assign is authorized to trim or caused to be trimmed, all trees on private property, the branches of which extend over Municipal highways, or to remove at the owners expense, trees, which in his or her opinion may be hazardous to the public using Municipal highways, provided the owner is given 30 days prior notice verbally to remove. Where, in the opinion of the Roads Manager, a tree is dead or partially dead, and is of immediate danger to passersby, the Roads Manager may undertake the removal without due notification.
4. The Roads Manager is authorized to plant trees upon corporation highways. For every tree removed from Municipal Level 1, 2, or 3 highways, at least one tree will be planted within one year of the removal. The replacement tree will be a minimum 2 meter (6 foot) in height or 5 cm (2 inches) caliper.
5. Approval must be granted by the Roads Manager or assign where the removal of a healthy tree is being requested by an appurtenant owner for the purpose of providing entrances to private property, for the protection of buildings, or the removal is being requested by a utility for the preservation or construction of its plant. If, in the opinion of the Roads Manager or assign, the removal is essential, the person making the request shall pay all costs of removal and reimburse the Municipality for replacement of the trees removed at a rate per planted tree as set by Council from time to time. In lieu of cash payment, and with the Road Manager's approval, the planting of trees of a suitable type and size in a location on the Municipal highway may be planted by the owner or developer requesting removal. The number of trees to be replaced and planting location will be at the discretion of the Roads Manager on the basis of tree population in the vicinity of the tree(s) to be removed and the nature and quality of stock removed.
6. No person shall damage, cut, carve, transplant or remove any tree, attach any rope, wire, nails, advertising posters, or other contrivance to any tree, allow any gaseous, liquid, or solid substance which is harmful to such trees to come in contact with them, or set fire to or permit any fire to burn when such fire or the heat thereof may injure any portion of any tree, which is situate upon Municipal highways without the prior approval of the Roads Manager or assign.

7. Any proposal for future street reconstruction within the designated Settlement Areas of the Municipality shall illustrate those trees which are required to be removed and those required to be protected due to the said construction together with a reference report on the types of trees being removed and protected and the number and size of trees which will replace those being removed and notice of the removal of trees shall be given to the abutting owners in accordance with the Municipal Act or the Class Environmental Assessment Process for Municipal Roads.
8. All species of trees to be planted will be approved by the Roads Manger or assign. Species or varieties such as Manitoba Maple, Poplar (all kinds) and Willows (all kinds) will not be planted on Municipal Roads. Red Maple will not be planted in Settlement Areas. All tree species planted on Municipal roads either through replacement programs or otherwise will be indigenous to the region. In locations where overhead utilizes do not constrain, species that are moderate to large when mature shall be planted such as black, sugar, red or silver maple, white or red oak, green or white ash, American elm or beech. Where overhead utilities or adjacent structures constrain, ironwood, blue beech, service berry, choke cherry or similar, appropriate size will be planted.
9. The Roads Manager or assign may refuse to permit the planting of trees, or the planting of any one or more species or variety of trees, upon a highway of the Municipality, or part thereof, by reason of the nature of the pavements, walks, sewers or other works thereon, or the use to which the lands abutting the property of the Municipality are put, or in consequence of the extent and nature of the traffic thereon, or the insufficient breadth thereof, or by reason of the existence of rock or unfertile soil thereunder, or where the planting of trees thereon would be impracticable or dangerous to traffic or constitute a nuisance upon the property of the Municipality.