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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RETHINK the design of our urban forest
RESTORE our existing Street Tree stock
REPLANT our available Street Tree sites

This tree guide provides (1) policy recommendations relating to Village tree planting and maintenance, (2) a planting scheme for the Village Business Block, and (3) an inventory of the Village’s 106 Street Trees. In addressing these three areas, we limit ourselves to existing trees and potential planting sites located in the Village “tree lawns,” the planting strips between curbs and sidewalks, and “tree pits,” the spaces cut out of sidewalks.

1. Major Policy Recommendations, Existing Trees

1) Provide sufficient public notice of the removal of living trees
2) Contract a professional arborist to conduct remedial and periodic pruning and to recommend the removal of diseased and stressed trees.
3) Direct the Village Streets and Water Crew to employ sidewalk construction and repair techniques that protect trees.
4) Increase annual funding for tree replacement, professional consultation, employee training, and “tree-friendly” sidewalk repair and redesign.


1) Encourage a two-tiered approach to tree planting: the Village will plant small trees in the tree lawns and encourage property owners to plant both large and small trees in front and side yards.
2) Plant only small trees in narrow tree lawns and small tree pits and under utility wires.
3) Extend plantings to additional tree lawn sites, especially along North Main Street
4) Encourage property owners to plant both large and small trees in front and side yards, but no closer than 3 feet to sidewalks or curbs.

3. Business Block Redesign Proposal

1) Implement a two-tiered planting plan.
2) Engage Alfred University, the adjacent property owner, in the plan.
3) Choose species with site considerations and aesthetics in mind.
4) Consider the replanting of Street Trees as a first step in strengthening the pedestrian experience on both sides of the business block.
VISION

By the year 2070, the Village of Alfred will exhibit a vibrant urban forest of Village-maintained Street Trees and owner-maintained Yard Trees that is healthy, diverse in age and species, visually appealing in form, and composed of trees appropriate in size for their planting sites.

1. Introduction

The Village of Alfred exhibits an emphatic public interest in maintaining the rural, green look of the community. Our streets are “pedestrian-friendly,” and the pleasant physical appearance of the Village, including houses, businesses, yards, and fields, has an enormous and indisputably positive effect on our community spirit and our area’s desirability as a hometown and college choice.

Trees planted along sidewalks shade our residents and visitors; they encourage walking for exercise and daily commuting to work and class; and they beautify our community. There are so many additional benefits that some communities are now calculating the monetary value of their Street Trees.

The responsibility for maintaining and improving our urban forest is shared between a multiplicity of actors—the Mayor and Board members, Streets Crew, private landowners and institutions, and utility companies—that have overlapping jurisdictions and a spectrum of safety and aesthetic interests. Our trees will thrive if we recognize this diverse web of ownership and exercise sufficient public spirit to pursue our proposed “vision” of a future Village of Alfred.

This report is both a response to the recent removal of trees in the Village’s business block and an overdue response to the need for a management plan and tree inventory for our community.

In the effort to compose a substantive draft of recommendations quickly, the authors have proceeded as an ad hoc team with the approval of the Village Board of Trustees. We offer the report to the public and Board for consideration. Some recommendations can be put into effect directly, while others may require changes to Village codes.

We wish to acknowledge our extensive use of the 2014 document prepared by The City of Ithaca Shade Tree Advisory Committee entitled *Ithaca’s Trees: Master Plan, Inventory, & Arboricultural Guidelines for the Public Trees of the City of Ithaca, New York*. With a substantial municipal budget for trees, over 13,000 street trees to tend, the available expertise of a City Forester, an association with Cornell University’s Urban Horticulture Institute, and a location in a similar tree hardiness zone to ours, Ithaca is a model of community commitment to the natural urban environment for us to emulate.
2. MAINTAINING EXISTING TREES

(Recommendations in Bold Type)

A. Removal and Replacement

Very few of the trees in the Village exhibit such poor growth form or limited potential for improvement that replacement is warranted. Granted, many trees that are reaching mature form and heights are large for the width of their tree lawn or tall for their presence under wires, and replacements should be appropriate for the restrictions of the sites. But with the exception of some dead branches, even our struggling trees generally pose no immediate dangers.

Dying and severely-stressed trees that pose no imminent risk to public safety should not be cut before replacement trees are planted, and every effort should be made to inform property-owners and the public of the intention to remove a tree.

The Emerald Ash Borer has arrived in the Village, and mature ash are already dying. There are only four ash located in Village tree lawns. However, ash are a major presence in our lawns and surrounding forests. As ash die and are removed, maintaining existing Street and Lawn Trees and planting new trees will be important to sustaining the green look of the community.

(1) Provide sufficient public notice of the removal of living trees. In the event a living or partially living tree must be removed, the tree should be tagged with a sign 60 days in advance. Tree tags are to include: the reason for a tree’s removal, the planned replacement, the timeline for removal and replacement, and contact information for questions, comments, and concerns.

(2) Identify stressed and dying street trees and replace after giving public notice.

(3) Continue to encourage the Streets and Water Crew to maintain its policy of responding rapidly to public hazards requiring the removal of large, dead branches or falling or fallen trees and to conduct periodic removal of branches for sidewalk, vehicle, and utility clearances.

(4) Remove street trees as an option of last resort during infrastructure projects.

B. Pruning and Tree Care

Virtually all our street trees can benefit by some amount of pruning for the purposes of improving growth, health, and form. Street Trees do not need to be trimmed to death, but
symmetrical form is visually pleasing and is often lost to pruning to provide for mandatory street and sidewalk clearances.

Branches pruned back to a tree trunk should be cut according to the procedure described in Appendix E; avoiding both stub branches and flush cuts. *Which branches to cut when dealing with live material is a judgment call best exercised on the spot by individuals and crews educated in good management practices.*

Following the top priority of public safety, other maintenance includes the need to:

(5) **Contract a professional arborist to conduct remedial and periodic pruning and to recommend the removal of diseased, stressed, and over-sized trees.**

(6) **Remove stub branches remaining due to breakage or poor pruning cuts.**

(7) **Remove interior branches that interfere with major branches.**

(8) **Remove branches that interfere with neighboring trees.**

(9) **Remove branches to improve overall growth form for appearance and health.**

(10) **Conduct judicious thinning of branches near street lamps to allow light to project to the sidewalk.**

(11) **Train the Village Streets and Water Crew in proper pruning techniques.**

C. Monitoring

Some of our trees suffer from scars that are a consequence of vehicle impacts. If not too severe, scars can heal. Some trees have bark splits, which can occur naturally and heal over time, and there are techniques to encourage proper healing.

Double leaders and branches growing in narrow angles to the trunk are both locations of potential weakness particularly susceptible to wind and ice or snow loading. Limited root areas can also weaken trees.

(12) **Monitor our street trees for potential problems and manage them proactively to encourage health and good form.**

(13) **Promote the Village Streets and Water Crew’s daily inspection of trees, in the tree lawns and rights of way for dangerous branches or tree trunks threatening public safety, and continue to encourage their rapid response to remediate dangers.**
D. Sidewalk Repair

The Village is encouraged to explore the expansion of pedestrian and Street Tree-friendly circulation systems. The primary component of these systems is physically separated sidewalks. The physical separation of sidewalks from curbs by an unpaved area increases pedestrian safety, promotes a walkable community, and allows space for trees that provide multiple public benefits.

Linear sidewalks parallel to the curb may be appropriate if wide enough to allow for the healthy growth of trees, but there are alternative approaches to traditional sidewalk design that the Village should explore and implement.

Trees too large for their tree lawns can be accommodated by narrowing or rerouting sidewalks using designs that will add variety to our Village streets.

Sidewalk slabs lifted only slightly by roots can be made safer by grinding high edges with machines specially designed for this purpose or by building small blacktop ramps between uneven edges. When new slabs need to be pored in the same location, roots can be shaved down, a technique already practiced by our Streets Crew.

A map in the Appendix locates sidewalks, including those not physically separated from vehicular traffic by a tree lawn.

(14) Develop a plan for replacing or upgrading existing sidewalks that are not physically separated from the curb.

(15) Direct the Village Streets and Water Crew to employ sidewalk repair techniques that protect trees, including grinding concrete edges; installing small ramps between uneven slabs; shaving roots; and narrowing or rerouting sidewalks.

E. Inventory

The Street Tree Inventory included in the Appendix provides data (location, species, size, condition, presence of wires, sidewalk conditions) on the Village trees growing in the tree lawns and brief recommendations for maintenance. Over time, and as additional trees are planted, it will be appropriate for the inventory to be updated by an arborist, with action items prioritized.

(16) Utilize the Streets Tree Inventory’s table of recommended actions to address individual trees.

(17) Hire a tree professional to update the Street Tree Inventory at least every 36 months. The inventory should include data on tree species, location, size, condition, site conditions, and recommendations for individual trees.
F. Budget

This year's budget has $1,500 in the "Shade Trees" line. This is insufficient for the level of tree planting and maintenance the Village needs.

(18) Increase annual funding for tree replacement, professional consultation, employee training, and “tree-friendly” sidewalk repair and redesign.
3. PLANTING NEW TREES

(Recommendations in Bold Type)

The City of Ithaca’s street tree planning is extremely useful for thinking through policies and guidelines for locating new trees in Alfred. The recommendations presented in pages five through seven of Ithaca’s Trees underlie many of the recommendations that follow. A draft Village of Alfred Model Tree Code is also useful to consult (although it differs in specifics with Ithaca’s plan). Respecting the relation of tree size to site characteristics is ultimately the most important factor, after species are selected for tolerance of a location adjacent to the streets.

A. Size Selection

The Village should consider planting two size classes of trees, selecting between them based on the size of the planting area and presence or absence of overhead wires. The two size classes are small trees that are less than or equal to 30 feet at maturity, and large trees that are taller than 30 feet at maturity. The height distinction is to be taken as a rough measurement.

(19) Encourage a two-tiered approach to tree planting: the Village will plant small trees in the tree lawns and encourage property owners to plant both large and small trees in front and side yards.

(20) Plant small trees where three lawns are 3 to 5 feet wide or where tree pits are smaller than 5 ft. x 10 ft. in area.

(21) Plant small trees under and near utility wires, but do NOT plant any tree under low utility wires.

(22) Plant only small trees under or within 5 lateral feet of any underground water, sewer or transmission line or other utility.

(23) Plant large trees where tree lawns are 5 feet wide or greater and tree pits are greater than 5 ft. x 10 ft. in area.

B. Site Criteria and Spacing Considerations

A map in the Appendix locates Village tree lawns and specifies widths of different sections. (This data was prepared by AU students and should be confirmed in the field before planting.)

1. Minimum Spacing Between Trees

(24) Space large trees (>30’ tall at maturity) no less than 30’ apart.
(25) Space small trees (<30’ tall at maturity) no less than 25’ apart.
2. Minimum Spacing of Trees From Street Infrastructure

(26) Plant trees no closer than:
- 20’ from the corner of intersecting streets
- 35’ in front of a stop sign
- 10’ from fire hydrants
- 15’ from a utility or street light pole
- 10’ from a driveway

C. Species Selection

The Urban Horticulture Institute at Cornell University has prepared a thorough assessment of street trees for our region entitled Recommended Urban Trees: Site Assessment and Tree Selection for Stress Tolerance. This and other sources, such as the Tree Selection and Planting Guide prepared by the City of Jamestown, New York can be consulted in preparation for discussions with regional nursery professionals.

(27) Concentrate on planting both large and small shade trees and avoid planting conifers and shrubs.

(28) Enact a moratorium on planting Norway maples and lindens due to their current abundance.

(29) Enact a moratorium on planting honey locusts until the trees recover from the present decline.

D. Sidewalk Design

(30) Plant new trees in appropriately sized tree pits located between vehicular and pedestrian spaces where the width of brick sidewalks accommodates both pedestrian traffic and Street Trees.

(31) Promote state-of-the-art and non-linear sidewalk designs to accommodate future large trees in the tree lawns.

E. Planting Guidelines

There are many considerations in aiding new trees to survive in our tree lawns in addition to site and species selection. There are season-to-plant considerations, bare-root vs. balled-root choices, deer and vandalism threats, soil and watering requirements, and protective options such as tree wrap, tree guards (fences), and tree pit guards.

For more information on planting guidelines, consult: Ithaca’s Trees, pps. 31-40 and How to Plant a Tree, New York State Department of Conservation
https://cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/379
https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5303.html
F. Priority Location for New Planting

(32) Extend plantings to additional tree lawn sites, especially along North Main Street.

G. Budget

(33) Increase the annual funding for tree replacement and “tree-friendly” sidewalk designs.

H. Private Initiative

(See discussion of ash decline in 2A above.)

(34) Encourage property owners to plant both large and small trees in front and side yards, but no closer than 3 feet to sidewalks or curbs.

(35) Encourage the formation of a Shade Tree Advisory Committee modeled on Ithaca’s committee. See *Ithaca’s Trees* p. 3:

- Oversee the development of plans and the planting of City street trees and open spaces, the purpose of which will be to strengthen existing streetscape images, create identifiable images for particular types of streets (such as city entranceways, major thoroughfares and commercial strips) and to create a more pleasant urban environment.

- Oversee the preparation of a plan that identifies areas to be inventoried and planted on an annual basis.

- Oversee the preparation of an inventory of existing trees in selected areas of the city and make tree-planting recommendations for the selected areas.

- Prepare and update a list of trees suitable for street tree planting in the City of Ithaca. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee shall review the approved list at least once every year to determine which are to be removed or added.

- Make recommendations to the Department of Public Works and Board of Public Works relating to the planting, maintenance, and removal of city shade trees as deemed necessary.

- Help to create greater community awareness regarding the value and care of the city’s trees.
4. BUSINESS BLOCK REDESIGN PROPOSAL

A. East Sidewalk Existing Conditions
B. Alternative One: ‘The North Main’
C. Alternative Two: ‘The South Main’
D. Alternative Three: ‘The Hybrid’
Village of Alfred Street Tree Guide
Business Block: East Sidewalk Existing Conditions

NOTE: For illustrative purposes the width of the sidewalk is shown at twice its actual dimension. In reality the sidewalk is 10.5’ wide, increasing to 15’ wide at the south end bump out.
Village of Alfred Street Tree Guide

Business Block: Alternative One ‘The North Main’

- This alternative extends the street tree planting in front of 30, 34 N Main.
- However, unlike the sidewalk in front of 30, 34 N Main, this stretch of sidewalk has no overhead wires.

NOTE: For illustrative purposes the width of the sidewalk is shown at twice its actual dimension. In reality the sidewalk is 10.5’ wide, increasing to 15’ wide at the south end bump out.
Village of Alfred Street Tree Guide

Business Block: Alternative Two ‘The South Main’

- This alternative is inspired by the street tree plantings along the lower portion of S Main.
- This alternative utilizes larger species tolerant of urban conditions to reestablish the tree canopy over the road.

*Possible Species Include:

- Zelkova
- Zelkova serrata
- Red Oak
- Quercus rubra

**Existing Hedgerow**

- streetlamp

The streetlamps are not spaced evenly, however, the alternatives assume they will not be moved.

See Alternative One for details on Japanese Lilac.

Tree silhouettes courtesy of Trees of North America by R. Phillips.

NOTE: For illustrative purposes the width of the sidewalk is shown at twice its actual dimension. In reality the sidewalk is 10.5’ wide, increasing to 15’ wide at the south end bump out.
Village of Alfred Street Tree Guide

Business Block: Alternative Three ‘The Hybrid’

- This alternative combines small and large tree species to create both pedestrian and business block shade.

- Streetlamps are not spaced evenly, however, the alternatives assume they will not be moved.

**NOTE:** For illustrative purposes the width of the sidewalk is shown at twice its actual dimension. In reality the sidewalk is 10.5’ wide, increasing to 15’ wide at the south end bump out.
5. APPENDIX

A. Definitions

Break-out Zone: specially prepared structural soil under sidewalk slabs allowing roots to grow from narrow tree lawns to adjacent soil (See *Ithaca’s Trees* p. 38)

Caliper: the diameter in inches of a tree trunk 12 inches above the base of the tree

Cultivar (cultivated variety): a plant variety that has been produced in cultivation by selective breeding

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH): the diameter of a tree trunk at a height of 4 feet 6 inches above the finished grade at the base of the tree

Large Tree: a tree that will mature at a height greater than 30 feet

Physically Separated Sidewalk: a sidewalk separated from a curb by a tree lawn

Tree Pit (also called Planting Well and Tree Basin): the planting area, often square or rectangular, that is cut out of a sidewalk

R.O.W.: right of way

Small Tree: a tree that will mature at a height less than or equal to 30 feet

Street Tree: a tree in a Village of Alfred tree lawn

Tree Lawn: the strip of soil between a sidewalk and curb

Yard Tree: a tree in a front or side yard but not located in a tree lawn
B. Village FAQs: Codes, Conventions, and Responsibilities

Who owns the streets in the Village?

The State of New York owns North Main Street from the north side of the Village to the West University/Pine Street intersection. The Village owns South Main Street and all other streets in the Village (with the exception of streets on the two college campuses).

Who owns the Street Trees?

The Village does not own the land adjacent to its streets—individual property owners do. It does, however, have a right of way (r.o.w.) along the streets, extending 25 feet to either side of the center of the street. This r.o.w. measurement is set by New York State. Most streets in the Village are approximately 20 feet wide, so the r.o.w. extends past the curb and sidewalk approximately 15 feet.

Who is responsible for the Street Trees?

The Village -- not property owners -- has the responsibility for planting and maintaining trees between the sidewalk and curb—an area known as the tree lawn.

The Village is also responsible for maintaining trees that grow in the rights-of-way along public streets when the trees or their branches pose a hazard to public safety on the sidewalks or streets.

What is the Village’s top priority regarding streets and sidewalks?

The Village government’s and employees’ top priority is to ensure the safety of pedestrians using Village sidewalks and drivers and their vehicles using Village streets.

Further, it is the responsibility of the Village Board to maintain Village infrastructure, including sidewalks; roadways; electrical, cable, telephone and other communication equipment and corridors (a responsibility shared with the utility companies); and water and wastewater conduits.

The Village Streets and Water Crew responds to problems relating to Street Trees as they arise, giving priority to maintaining lines of sight for traffic signs, especially stop signs and speed limit signs; removing dead, fallen, and broken limbs; and removing and replacing trees that have died.

How high should branches be removed for street clearance?

The Village is responsible for maintaining the New York State Department of Transportation’s standard for limb clearance above roadways. The standard is 16 feet, measured vertically from the curb and across the road. Roadways are typically crowned,
with the center of the street about 8 inches higher than the side. The tallest trucks are 13 ½ feet high.

*Who is responsible for our sidewalks?*

The Village constructs and maintains sidewalks along Village streets as a public service, but it does not own them. Landowners are responsible for snow and ice removal on sidewalks, although the Village traditionally clears the sidewalks when time allows to assist homeowners and business owners. The Village Streets and Water Crew mows the grass in the tree lawns.

Sidewalks are constructed and repaired according to standards that include ADA specifications. If roots lie under the sidewalk, which is typically the case near Street Trees, they may need to be excavated. Trees do not generally send major roots under impervious road surfaces.

*How high should branches be removed above sidewalks?*

*Village Ordinance Article IV—Streets, Section Three—Obstruction* obligates property-owners to maintain trees in the Village r.o.w. and to remove branches to provide 14’ clearance above the ground.

The Village Streets and Water Crew typically shares in this responsibility.

*How low do our lowest wires hang?*

Some of the wires in the Village are as low as 18’ above the ground. Only very small trees are likely to grow under or near utility wires without interfering with them in their mature age.

*What is the Village’s budget for Street Tree work?*

The Village’s current annual budget for street trees is $1,500.00. This is used for tree replacement only. The Village’s work in pruning, cutting, and removing dead trees and limbs is budgeted separately from this account.

*How many Street Trees do we currently have?*

There are 106 trees growing in the Village tree lawns and pits. The most numerous species are Norway maples (50) and lindens or basswood (22). The total of all maple species—Norway, red, silver and sugar—brings the count of maples to 66.
Are safe streets and sidewalks compatible with trees?

Yes! But selecting trees for available space and urban stresses, maintaining trees for both safety and appearance, and constructing and reconstructing sidewalks to accommodate trees takes time, money, expertise, and a positive vision of our Village.
C. Maps

1) Public Streets
2) Sidewalks
3) Tree Lawns
4) Existing Street Tree Locations (Coming Fall 2019)
Existing sidewalk locations were mapped by Alfred University students in Fall 2015. Locations should be field checked.
*Tree lawn locations and widths were partially mapped by Alfred University students in Fall 2015. Data collection needs to be completed.
D. Street Tree Inventory

1) Introduction

The elected officials, employees and volunteers in the Village can best use their limited time and resources to focus exclusively on trees growing or recommended for planting in the tree lawn and brick sidewalks. Consequently, this inventory tabulates data and presents recommendations only for these trees.

The key information gathered in this inventory is (1) the species, location, condition, and setting of existing trees, and (2) recommendations for maintaining and improving the health and form of existing trees.

2) Species Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linden</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red maple</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver maple</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree lilac</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar maple</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit tree (unident.) plus crabapple</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain ash</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zelkova</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeman maple</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Street Trees</strong></td>
<td><strong>106</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maple genus: 66 maples out of 101= 65% of total Street Trees
Linden genus: 22 lindens (basswood) = 22% of total Street Trees

3) Explanation of Recommendations

Consider removing girdling root: remove if root is strangling tree stem
Consider replacing: tree deemed to sickly or poorly formed to retain
Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree: tree has outgrown space
Monitor (for stress/cracks/splits): inspect injury periodically for infection and rot
Needs pruning: requires significant pruning to improve or encourage better growth form
Prune as needed in future: a recommendation for all trees, including those that are healthy
Prune at wires: eliminate interfering branches before they grow larger
Prune branches interfering with neighboring tree: eliminate interfering branches before they grow larger
Prune stub branches: remove stubs left in past pruning operations
Replace with all ashes in future: death likely due to Emerald Ash Borer
Thin canopy for streetlamps: remove branches before they grow larger
Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet
Location: Church Street
Total # Trees in Tree Lawn: 4
Tree Lawn Width: 3-5 ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #/Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.U. Church Office 1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy Bark split healed</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Repair uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.U. Church Office 2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy Bark splits healed</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.U. Church Office 3</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>Silver maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet  
**Location:** Ford Street  
**Total # Trees in Tree Lawn:** 3  
**Tree Lawn Width:** 3-5 ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #.Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU/Saxon Inn.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bark split healed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bark split healing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scars healing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Gothic Chapel.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet**

**Location:** North Main Street  
**Total # Trees in Tree Pits:** 5  
**Tree Pit Dimensions:** 6 ft. X 6 ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #, Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present Yes/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU/Greene Hall.1</td>
<td>Tree lilac</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune at wires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manhattan West.1</td>
<td>Tree lilac</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune at wires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terra Cotta 34.1</td>
<td>Tree lilac</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune at wires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terra Cotta 34.2</td>
<td>Tree lilac</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred Pharmacy 36.1</td>
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<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
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</table>
Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet  
Location: Park Street  
Total # Trees in Tree Lawn: 7  
Tree Lawn Width: 3-5 ft.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lot #/Tree#</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present Yes/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AU/Kruson Hall.1 | Norway maple   | 20+                                        | Bark split healed Gall present | Y                  | Good                      | Needs pruning  
Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree  
(Campus tree; not Village jurisdiction but part of Ford and Park Streets plantings) |
| 8.1         | Norway maple    | 10-20                                      | Healthy         | Y                   | Monitor uneven surface | Prune stub branches                                                        |
| 10.1        | Fruit tree sp.  | 10-20                                      | Stressed        | Y                   | Good                      | Needs pruning  
Monitor for stress  
Consider replacing                                                   |
| 12.1        | Silver maple    | 20+                                        | Healthy         | Y                   | Repair uneven surface   | Needs pruning  
Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree                                  |
| 16.1        | Norway maple    | 20+                                        | Bark split healed Stressed | N                  | Good                      | Needs pruning  
Monitor for stress  
Consider replacing                                                   |
| 18.1        | Norway maple    | 10-20                                      | Bark split Healing Stressed | Y                  | Good                      | Needs pruning  
Monitor for stress  
Consider replacing                                                   |
| 22.1        | Norway maple    | 20+                                        | Healthy         | N                   | Good                      | Prune as needed in future                                                  |
**Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet**  
**Location:** Sayles Street  
**Total # Trees in Tree Lawn:** 4  
**Tree Lawn Width:** 5+ ft.

<table>
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<th>Lot #, Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present Yes/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Lot.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.1</td>
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<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy Split healed</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Repair uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
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## Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet
### Location: South Main Street, East Side, Page 1
### Total # Trees in Tree Lawn: 27
### Tree Lawn Width: >5 ft.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lot #.Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU/Bandstand.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
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<td>Prune as needed in future Monitor scar</td>
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<tr>
<td>AU/Bandstand.2</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
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<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>Thin canopy for streetlamps Monitor scar</td>
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<tr>
<td>AU/Bandstand.3</td>
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<td>Healthy</td>
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<tr>
<td>AU/Bandstand.4</td>
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<td>5.1</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
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<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning Prune stub branches Thin canopy for streetlamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 (Confirm lot #)</td>
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<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning Prune stub branches Thin canopy for streetlamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 (Confirm lot #)</td>
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<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning Prune stub branches Thin canopy for streetlamp</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.6 (Confirm lot #)</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Thin canopy for streetlamp Consider removing girdling root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 (Confirm lot #)</td>
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<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches Thin canopy for streetlamp</td>
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<td>Lot #. Tree #</td>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Wires Present</td>
<td>Sidewalk Condition</td>
<td>Recommendations</td>
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<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Bark split healed</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Prune stub branches Thin canopy for streetlamps</td>
</tr>
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<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>21.1</td>
<td>Elm sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Dead top</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<td>Needs pruning Monitor for stress Consider replacing</td>
</tr>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning Monitor for stress</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Monitor for stress Consider replacing</td>
</tr>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>Y</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>31.3</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.1</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>Bark split healing</td>
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<td>35.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scar healing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lot #.Tree #</td>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Wires Present</td>
<td>Sidewalk Condition</td>
<td>Recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
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<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Repair uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet

**Location:** South Main Street, West Side, Page 1  
**Total # Trees in Tree Lawn:** 36  
**Tree Lawn Width:** >5 ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #.</th>
<th>Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU/Box of Books.1</td>
<td>Fruit tree sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Stressed</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Monitor for stress</td>
<td>Consider replacing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Box of Books.2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Crandall Hall.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| AU/Crandall Hall.2 | Norway maple | 10-20 | Healthy  
Bark split healing  
Scar healing | N | Good | Prune stub branches  
Monitor scar |
| AU/Crandall Hall.3 | Norway maple | 10-20 | Healthy | Y | Good | Prune stub branches |
| AU/Kenyon Park.1 | Linden sp. | 20+ | Healthy | N | Monitor uneven surface | Prune stub branches |
| AU/Kenyon Park.2 | Sugar maple | 10-20 | Bark splits healed | N | Monitor uneven surface | Needs pruning  
Prune stub branches  
Monitor for stress |
| 16.1 | Norway maple | 10-20 | Healthy | N | Monitor uneven surface | Prune stub branches  
Consider removing girdling root |
| 16.2 | Norway maple | 20+ | One leader dead  
Bark split healed  
Scar healing | N | Good | Needs pruning  
Prune stub branches |
<p>| 18.1 | Norway maple | 10-20 | Healthy | Y | Good | Prune stub branches |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #.Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present Yes/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
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<td>18.2</td>
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<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy Scar healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
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<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
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<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>22.2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
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<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
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<td>Prune stub branches</td>
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<td>22.3</td>
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<td>Needs pruning</td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
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<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
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<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
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<td>Healthy</td>
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<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
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<td>Good</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Tree #</td>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Wires Present</td>
<td>Sidewalk Condition</td>
</tr>
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<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Silver maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sugar maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Stressed</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Village of Alfred Tree Inventory Data Sheet  
Location: Terrace Street  
Total # Trees in Tree Lawn: 10  
Tree Lawn Width: >5 ft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #.Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Linden sp.</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Sugar maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Bark split healing Scar healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy; Bark split healing Scar healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>Sugar maple</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy; Bark split healing Scar healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune as needed in future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Repair uneven surface</td>
<td>Needs pruning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 14.1         | Ash sp.      | 20+                                         | Healthy                           | N                | Good                | Needs pruning  
Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree  
Replace with all ashes in near future |
<p>| 18.1         | Norway maple | 10-20                                       | Healthy                           | Y                | Good                | Prune stub branches                                                 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot #/Tree #</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Size in inches (diameter at breast height)</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Wires Present Yes/No</th>
<th>Sidewalk Condition</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU/Box of Books.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Needs pruning&lt;br&gt;Prune stub branches&lt;br&gt;Consider removing girdling root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Box of Books.2</td>
<td>Red maple variety</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU/Lot.1</td>
<td>Red maple variety</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune branches interfering with neighboring tree&lt;br&gt;Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>Zelkova sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy&lt;br&gt;Bark scar healed</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>Crabapple variety</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy; Scar healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>Norway maple</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Healthy&lt;br&gt;Scars healing</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>Ash sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune stub branches&lt;br&gt;Replace with all ashes in near future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>Mountain ash sp.</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Stressed</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Prune branches interfering with neighboring tree&lt;br&gt;Monitor for stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>Silver maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy&lt;br&gt;Tree base fills tree lawn</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Repair uneven surface&lt;br&gt;Consider removing girdling root&lt;br&gt;Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>Silver maple</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Monitor uneven surface&lt;br&gt;Prune stub branches&lt;br&gt;Consider sidewalk redesign to accommodate tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
E. Limb-pruning diagram

Cutting limbs off live trees can be performed in a way that minimizes the chance of stripping bark and maximizes the tree’s own ability to heal itself. The following explanation and diagram illustrate the proper technique.


*Making Proper Pruning Cuts*

Pruning cuts should be made just outside the branch collar. The branch collar contains trunk or parent branch tissue and should not be damaged or removed. If the trunk collar has grown out on a dead limb to be removed, make the cut just beyond the collar. Do not cut the collar.

If a large limb is to be removed, its weight should first be reduced. This is done by making an undercut about 12 to 18 inches (30 to 46 cm) from the limb’s point of attachment. Make a second cut from the top, directly above or a few inches farther out on the limb. Doing so removes the limb, leaving the 12- to 18-inch (30- to 46-cm) stub. Remove the stub by cutting back to the branch collar. This technique reduces the possibility of tearing the bark.
F. Model Tree Code, Village of Alfred

The following undated, anonymous document was likely prepared by the New York Department of Conservation’s Urban Forester for Region 9 in the fall of 2010.
TREES

ARTICLE I Definitions

1. Terms defined.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

   PARK TREES – Trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the city, or to which the public has free access as a park.

   STREET TREES – Trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues or ways within the city.

ARTICLE II Village Advisory Tree Board

2. Creation and establishment.

There is hereby created and established a Village Advisory Tree Board for the Village of Alfred, New York. The Village Advisory Tree Board will consist of the Board of Public Works of the Village of Alfred, which includes ______ members, citizens and residents of this Village, who shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the Village Trustees.

3. Term of office.

The term of the four to five persons to be appointed by the Mayor shall be three years, except that the term of one of the members appointed to the first Board shall be for only one year, and the term of two members of the first Board shall be for two years. In the event that a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, his or her successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of that term. Members should be drawn from a variety of backgrounds, including tree professionals; scientists; and homeowners. The services of consultants may be sought from time to time.


Members of the Board shall serve in a voluntary capacity without compensation.

5. Duties and responsibilities.

A. It shall be the responsibility of the Village Advisory Tree Board to study, investigate, counsel and develop and/or update annually, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal, or disposition, of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas. Such plan will be presented annually to the Village Board of Trustees and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive village tree plan for the Village of Alfred, New York.
B. The Board, when requested by the Village Board of Trustees, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter of question coming within the scope of its work.

C. The Tree Board shall promote the establishment of an inventory of street and park trees, to be updated at least triennially.

D. The Committee will foster community education via news media, special occasions such as Arbor Day, and workshops from time to time.

E. The Committee will assist the Village Board in preparing the annual tree budget.

F. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Director of Public Works, having no enforcement powers per se.

6. Operation.

The Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep a journal of its proceedings that will remain as public record. A majority of the members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. Meeting dates and locations will be posted publicly.

ARTICLE III Selection, Placement and Maintenance

7. Species Selection

The Tree Board will maintain a list of desirable trees to be planted on village property, in three size classes based on mature height: small (under 25 feet), medium (25 to 45 feet) and large (over 45 feet). Efforts will be made to assure a wide diversity of tree species, with no one species constituting more than 10% of the total urban forest. A list of trees not suitable for use in the city shall be created also.

8. Spacing.

No trees may be planted closer together than the following small trees: 15 feet; medium trees, 25 feet; and large trees, 35 feet; except in special plantings designed or approved by the Department of Public Works.

9. Distance from curb and sidewalk.

No trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following:
   A. Small trees: two feet (.61 m).
   B. Medium trees, three feet (.91 m).
   C. Large trees: four feet (1.22 m).
10. Distance from street corners and fireplugs.

No street tree shall be planted closer than 35 feet (10.67 m) to any street corner, measured from the point of nearest intersecting curbs or curb lines. No street tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet (3.05 m) to any fireplug.

11. Utilities.

No street trees other than small trees may be planted under or within 10 lateral feet (3.05 m) of any overhead utility wire, or over or within five lateral feet (1.52 m) of any underground water line, sewer line, transmission line or other utility.


The village shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to ensure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds. The Village Advisory Tree Board may remove or cause or order to be removed any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, water lines or other public improvements, or is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners, provided that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with 8 through 11 of this chapter.

13. Tree topping.

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or village department to top any street tree, park tree or other tree on public property. "Topping" is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this chapter at the determination of the Village Tree Board.

14. Pruning; corner clearance.

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the village shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of eight feet (2.43 m) above the surface of the street or sidewalk. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs that constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The village shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a streetlight, or interferes with the visibility of any traffic control device or sign.
15. Dead or diseased tree removal on private property.

The village shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city, when such trees constitute a hazard to public life and property, or harbor insects or disease that constitute a potential threat to other trees within the village. The Village Tree Advisory Board will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within 60 days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the Village shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal on the owner's property tax notice.


All stumps of street and park trees shall be removed at least six inches below the surface of the ground.

17. Protection of trees.

In order to maintain the overall urban forest, all reasonable efforts shall be made to replace trees that are removed and to protect quality trees that are endangered. Removed trees shall be replaced, insofar as possible, on a one-for-one basis within one year. Location, species and planting technique shall be determined by the committee. Street trees shall be protected as much as possible from damage during construction, sidewalk repair, utilities work above and below ground and other similar activities. The zone of protection shall include the ground beneath the tree canopy. In-ground tree planters in sidewalks shall be at least six feet square and covered with bricks or pavers as appropriate.

18. Risk management policy.

The Village of Alfred has an active policy to maintain the safety of public lands from potentially hazardous trees. The city will endeavor to eliminate, in a timely fashion, any tree deemed hazardous. When available fiscal, equipment or human resources limit the ability of the city to remove high-risk trees, priority shall be placed on trees deemed to carry the highest risk. The standard for rating the level of hazard of a particular tree will be the Department of Transportation’s hazard evaluation system. The Director of Public Works will administer this program and have final judgment in all matters concerning the mitigation measures taken for any tree deemed hazardous.

19. Interference with Village Advisory Tree Board.

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay or interfere with the Board, or any of its agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying or removing of any street trees, park trees, or trees on private grounds, as authorized in this chapter.
20. Arborist's license and bond.

It shall be unlawful for any person or firm to engage in the occupation of pruning, treating or removing street or park trees within the village without a license. No license shall be required of any public service company, including electric utilities and their agents and contractors or city employees doing such work in the pursuit of their normal endeavors.

21. Damage to trees.

No person shall mutilate, vandalize, carve or otherwise damage any public tree. When, as determined by the Village Advisory Tree Board, such damage results in destruction or removal of a tree, the guilty party shall replace that tree with a tree of equivalent value and species, or otherwise be subject to provisions of §§ 22, hereby appended.

22. Penalties for offenses.

Any person violating any provision of this article shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a fine not to exceed $1,000.

ARTICLE IV Administration

23. Review by Village Board of Trustees.

The Village Board of Trustees shall have the right to review the conduct, acts and decisions of the Village Advisory Tree Board. Any person may appeal from any ruling or order of the Village Advisory Tree Board to the Village Board of Trustees, which may hear the matter and make a final decision.

24. Penalties for offenses.

A violation of any provision of this chapter shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a maximum fine of $250 or 15 days in jail.

ARTICLE V Powers and Immunities in Regard to Dutch Elm Disease [Adopted 7-3-1968 as Ch. 80 of the 1968 Code]

25. Election to enjoy powers and immunities.

The village elects to exercise and enjoy the powers and immunities prescribed and granted in §§ §§ 164, 165 and 167 of Article 14 of the Agriculture and Markets Law with respect and in regard to the Dutch elm disease within the limits of the village.


2. Policies and Guidelines

Policies and guidelines regarding Ithaca’s Urban Forest have been formulated and approved by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee in consultation with the City Forester

Site Selection for Tree Planting

• Tree lawns must be equal to or greater than 4 feet wide.

• Tree pits shall have a porous opening at least 50 square feet (e.g. 5’ x 10’, 8’ x 8’, etc.).

• Trees shall not be planted (see also Minimum Spacing for Street Trees in Appendix II):
  - within 20’ from the corner of intersecting streets
  - within 35’ in front of a stop sign
  - within 15’ from hydrants
  - within 15’ from a utility or street light pole
  - within 15’ of a driveway
  - within 4’ of the street curb (additionally, trees should be planted as far from the sidewalk as possible)

• Breakout underground soil paths between tree lawns and adjacent private green space should be considered when tree lawns are less than or equal to 8 feet wide. Two sidewalk slabs, each typically 5’ x 5’ in size, should be removed where the tree is planted and no less than 24”, preferably 36”, of structural soil placed under the replacement sidewalk slabs. This provides a deep path for tree roots to grow into the adjacent private property while minimizing sidewalk damage as the tree grows (see also Structural Soil Break-out Zone from Narrow Tree Lawn to Adjacent Property in Appendix II).

• No tree is to be planted directly under or in competition with a large tree on private property

• All planting locations must be approved by the City Forester
• **Tree Selection**

  • Only trees that mature at 30’ tall or less shall be planted under single or triple phase utility wires.

  • These smaller trees shall be spaced no less than 25 feet apart, with a minimum of 240 cubic feet of soil (e.g. 8 x 10 x 3 = 240 cubic feet) per tree, unless there is opportunity for the tree to grow into adjacent green space.

  • When possible, small trees should have a mature shape and stature so that pedestrians may eventually walk under them.

  • Medium-large trees (>30’ at maturity) shall be spaced no less than 30’ apart, with a minimum of 720 cubic feet of soil (e.g. 60’ x 6’ x 2 = 720 cubic feet) per tree, unless there is opportunity for the tree to grow into adjacent green space on the other side of the sidewalk. See appendix for more information on soil volumes.

2. **Policies and Guidelines**

  • Entrances and main thoroughfares should be planted in such a way as to create visual compatibility among trees.

  • The Recommended Tree List for Ithaca should be updated periodically as new information becomes available. See current Recommended Urban Trees list at: [http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/index.html](http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/index.html)


• **Tree Planting**

  1. Open planting sites in areas with little or no shade shall be given priority over shaded streets.

  2. Where feasible, pavement should be removed to make spaces for trees in areas lacking shade.

  3. On main thoroughfares, large trees maturing at a height greater than 30’ should be planted in all sites unless there are primary electric lines overhead. Where primary wires are present, trees maturing at a height of 30’ or less should be planted.

  4. If a property owner doesn’t want a tree in front of his or her property, an effort should be made to change his or her mind if the site is a high-priority
location. However, if this fails, the tree should not be planted, and the site should be revisited at a later date.

5. All property owners should be given notification of planned planting, so that there is ample time for reaction.

6. Based on research, planting of bare-root trees in the fall should continue to be the main method of planting. Evergreens or large trees should be planted balled and burlapped in the spring.

7. All newly planted trees should have irrigation bags and mulch during their first growing season.

8. After the first year, the mulch should be renewed and/or low expandable tree trunk guards placed around the bases of young trees until they reach 6” caliper.

9. Species should not be over-planted. As a rule, no one species should make up more than 5% of the total population.

10. Species should be used that:
   a. Are tolerant of site conditions and not invasive
   b. Have few management problems
   c. Meet functional and aesthetic needs
   d. Are resistant to pests

11. Tree staking and guying should be used only where tree size and location warrant it at the discretion of the City Forester and then removed after 1-2 growing seasons. See tree protection details in the appendix.

**Tree Maintenance**

1. Watering of new trees and pruning of trees of all ages are the two highest-priority maintenance activities.

**2. Policies and Guidelines**

2. Pruning shall take place in accordance with the priorities identified by the tree inventory or through observation by the City Forester and crew. Every attempt shall be made to correct hazardous conditions first.

3. Tree Trimmers shall maintain qualification for line clearance. This will enhance safety in daily operations, provide for compliance with national standards
(ANSI Z133.1), and allow for mutually beneficial municipal-utility operations.

4. The Parks and Forestry Division must show preference to Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) accredited tree care companies when private arborists are contracted.

5. Parks and Forestry shall incorporate ANSI Z133.1 safety standards in daily operations.

6. Parks and Forestry shall incorporate ANSI A300 tree care performance standards in daily operations.

7. Citizen Pruners volunteers should train young trees to develop sound branching and good overall form.

Tree Protection during Construction

Tree protection shall be strictly enforced in accordance with the City Tree Ordinance and ANSI A300 Standards. See appendix for tree protection details.

Tree Removal

1. Trees shall be removed on the basis of safety first and foremost. Hazardous trees shall be the highest priority and shall not require notification to be given prior to their removal.

2. Dead trees, trees with greater than 50% of the crown dead, or those that are a significant nuisance (as defined by the City Forester in consultation with the Shade Tree Advisory Committee) should also be removed.

3. If the tree is not an imminent hazard, notice of its removal should be given prior to removal. The properties in front of and adjacent to the tree and the tree itself should be posted.

4. Replanting after removal should take place within a year if replacement is warranted. Every effort shall be made to explain the need for a tree’s removal when questioned by the property owner or neighbors.

5. The removal of any tree for the installation of solar panels shall not be done until reviewed by the City Forester. The cost of any removal shall be borne by the property owner.
H. References

*How to Plant a Tree*, New York State Department of Conservation.  
https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5303.html

*Ithaca Code: Chapter 306, Trees and Shrubs*

https://cityofithaca.org/DocumentCenter/View/379


http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/small_towns/

*Streets, Sidewalks, and Everything in Between*, NYCOM Municipal Management Series, New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials, March, 2017  
https://www.nycom.org/resources/publications/2-uncategorised/1084-publication-download


*Village Ordinance*. Article IV, Streets, Section Three, Obstruction.
I. Images

While working on this project, the authors took photographs while traveling. There are so many possibilities when it comes to the relationship of streets and the communities they support. Some of our favorites sights follow.

Sidewalk buffer, stormwater solution and butterfly habitat all at once.

This one has it all. The sidewalk is narrowed to increase root space for new tree. Tree water bag and stakes in place. Various pedestrian accommodations are visible in background.

A great way to protect a tree in a busy sidewalk – and provide pedestrian seating.
A change of material in the middle of the road breaks the width up. Having these at the north end of the business block would be a wonderful way to compress that very wide intersection. They are at grade so snowplow friendly.

The cross section here - from left to right - is sidewalk with street trees, bicycle lanes, car parking, travel lane, car parking, sidewalk with street trees. Whew. Can you see this on Church St?

Another example of creative pedestrian separation - if a tree lawn is not appropriate - and note the curb cut for storm water handling. And butterfly habitat!
Tree Guide submitted to the Village of Alfred Board of Trustees
by Drew McInnes and Justin Grigg
September 2019