



# Seattle Parks View Policy

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# Outline

- Current practice
- Goals
- Considerations
- Timeline
- Reference Documents



# Current practice

- 3+ page document describing requirements
  - Comprehensive
- Refers to ISA and NAA standards
- Includes maintenance agreement
- Based on City of Seattle Tree Policy (2001)

The following are details for specific actions outlined in the Tree Work Permit Process – Checklist. The requirements are fully described in the Tree Management, Maintenance, Pruning and/or Removal Policy, Sections 6 and 7. Complete each step entirely. All elements as described in the Checklist and Detail must be followed for successful completion of the Permit. **Failure to do so will delay permission and work.** Any violation of the permit will result in the imposition of civil and/or criminal penalties.

#### Arborist Certification Statement

A written statement must be submitted which certifies that all work will be done according to ISA/NAA standards by a qualified, bonded arboricultural contractor with an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist on staff, at no expense to the City.

#### Detailed Plan/Statement

A **Detailed Plan/Statement** is required for all work. The **Plan** must include:

A description of the number and kinds of trees (deciduous, coniferous, etc.) that are to be pruned, removed, or otherwise impacted.

It must also include the extent of pruning or other work, and any other pertinent information on the work being requested.

A sketch or map of the affected area, which includes the locations of the tree to be pruned or removed.

Modifications and alterations of the **Plan**, which includes scheduled start and completion dates of the trimming/removal work is required for approval of a Tree Work Permit.

#### Escrow Account

When required the permittee will deposit the full amount of the **Tree Work Bid** cost into an escrow account with the City of Seattle to be managed by the Senior Urban Forester. An escrow agreement outlining the conditions of the escrow account will be drafted by the City and signed by the permittee and Senior Urban Forester.

#### Fees

Two fees are required from the permittee. An initial \$30.00 fee submitted with the **Request for Tree Work**. If the Request is reviewed and a **detailed plan/statement** is required a non-refundable \$100.00 fee must accompany the detailed plan and documents. All fees shall be in the form of a check or money order made payable to the Seattle Parks and Recreation. All fees must be received by the Senior Urban Forester before any work can commence.

#### Insurance

The applicant must inform their arboricultural contractor to provide the Department a rider to the firm's existing liability insurance naming the City of Seattle as additionally insured, in minimum amounts of \$1,000,000 general liability. **The insurance rider must be filed with the Department's Senior Urban Forester, 1600 South Dakota Street, Seattle, WA 98108, before work may commence.** Those companies that regularly do business with the City of

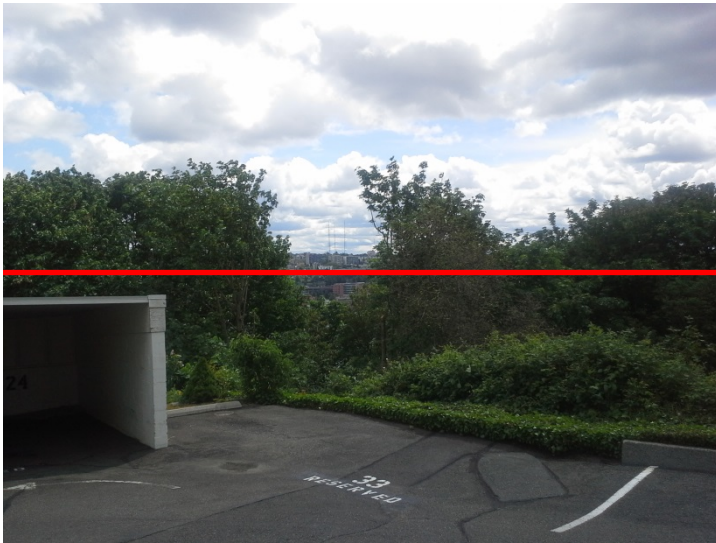
# Goals

- Maintain healthy trees and urban forest
- Protect steep slopes
- Provide clear permitting process for homeowners, tree care companies and Parks staff
- Bring in line with other City Departments
- Be fair to all applicants



# Not approved

Pruning multiple trees in view  
to the level of the red line



Topping of canopy



# Not approved

More than 25% of canopy removed – over pruning



# Considerations



Lifting canopy



Windowing

# Timeline

- May-December 2015 - Review policy changes internally
- Parks Board Review—Late summer 2015
- Public/UFC review – late fall 2015
- Spring 2016 - Issue revised permit policy



# References

- Seattle Parks tree policy:  
<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/Publications/policy/treepolicy.pdf>
- DPD rules for tree work in Environmentally Critical Areas:  
<http://www.seattle.gov/DPD/Publications/CAM/cam331.pdf>
- ANSI A-300 Standards:  
<http://www.isa-arbor.com/store/product.aspx?ProductID=124>
- Presentation on ANSI Standards  
<http://www.oregon.gov/odf/urbanforests/docs/ansi-a300puttingtogoooduse.pdf>

# Questions and comments?

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