

Village of Debden

Policy Title Tree Trimming Policy		Adopted By Council	Policy Number 3/2025	
Jurisdiction Village of Debden	Attachments:		Effective Date September 11, 2025	Page 1 of 1
Reviewed By Council			Amended:	

Purpose

The purpose of the Tree Trimming Policy is to provide clear and consistent tree management and maintenance guidelines for trees, hedges, and other foliage which may interfere with the safe use of municipal roadways or sidewalks. The Village of Debden will enforce this policy on a "best effort basis" given the financial and human resources available. This policy sets the procedure to enforce applicable sections of the Village's Nuisance Abatement Bylaw.

Policy Statement

The Village will exercise its authority to deal with trees on or adjacent to lands assumed for public use in accordance with the legislation. It is the policy of the Village of Debden to remove dead, dying or diseased trees on public property. Removal of any tree should only be considered as a last resort after other options are exhausted.

Policy

No tree shall impede access or interfere with public maintenance work or cause or have potential to cause damage to public property or safety. No tree shall obstruct a sightline for motorists or pedestrians.

1. SIDEWALKS

Pedestrian walkways shall be free from trees, shrubs, and hedges. Such impediments shall be trimmed away from the abutting sidewalk on a perpendicular plane and overhead branches trimmed so as not to interfere with any pedestrian using the walkway.

2. ROADWAYS

All roads, lanes, and alleys shall be free of trees, shrubs and hedges that interfere with the safe operation of any vehicle or that may cause damage to any vehicle that is in lawful use of said roadway. Such impediments will be trimmed to the degree necessary to allow adequate sight lines along adjoining streets and sidewalks to provide for safe operation of vehicles and further to provide for the operation of said vehicles from damaging overhanging tree branches.

3. TREE REMOVAL ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

- The Village is not responsible for the removal of trees on private property.
- If a privately owned tree is broken or uprooted and the tree or a portion thereof falls on Village property; the Owner of the tree shall be responsible for the removal from the Village property within five (5) days. If the Owner fails to remove the tree within five (5) days, the Village may remove the tree or portion thereof from the Village property and charge the cost to the Owner.



- c) Village employees may enter upon private land to inspect trees and to remove decayed, damaged or dangerous trees or branches if, in the opinion of the municipality, the trees or branches pose a danger to the health or safety of any person using a public space.
- d) Village employees may order an owner of land to remove a tree or limb that, in the opinion of the municipality, poses a danger to the health or safety of any person using a public space. Such order shall be in writing and shall specify the tree(s) in question, the remedy to be undertaken and the time by which the order must be completed.
- e) Where the Owner fails to remove tree or limb described in the order within the time required, a person authorized by the Village may enter the land upon which the tree or limb is situated, without warrant or other legal process, and remove the tree or limb.
- f) Costs associated with the removal of the tree or limb pursuant to section 4 will be invoiced to the owner of the property and upon failure to pay, may be added to the taxes on that property under the Nuisance Abatement Bylaw.

4. TREE REMOVAL ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

- a) The Village is responsible for the removal of trees on public property.
- b) Any trees posing immediate danger (from windstorm, ice etc.) or if interfering with traffic and pedestrian traffic will be pruned or removed as quickly as possible, at the direction of Public Works.
- c) Trees that are requested for removal by an adjacent property may be marked for removal, as determined by Public Works.
- d) Private individuals are not to prune or remove any trees that are on public property unless they have submitted a written request and received authorization to proceed.

Procedure

Each year, Public Works will cause to be conducted, an inspection of all streets, alleys and sidewalks to ensure compliance with the standards for trimming trees and other impediments as set out for maintaining standards for pedestrian walkways and municipal roadways as described above.

The person(s) responsible for inspections will compile a list of offending properties, the date of the inspection, the time of the inspection and the nature of the impediment.

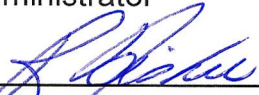
In addition to this procedure, if a situation is reported to the office, it will be investigated as per Attachment A.

In either case, if action is required, the Administrator by written notice delivered to the Owner or posted on Owners property, will deliver the Notice to Comply requiring the Owner to carry out such work as may be necessary to ensure compliance with Section 1 within a period of 20 days from the date of delivery or posting of the notice.

If the Owner fails to comply with an Order sent, the municipality may do, or cause to be done, any acts necessary to ensure compliance and the cost of doing such work is a debt due and owing to the Village by the Owner and may be added to the taxes of the property.


Administrator


Date


Mayor