

Arborist Report Requirements

Arborist Reports will include:

Title Page, Introduction and Definition of Scope:

- Property address and owner / applicant name;
- Consultant name, Title and Company name and contact information;
- Application file number (if known);
- Dates of site visits and report preparation; and
- Scope of Report (proposed works and summary of impacts to existing trees);

Outline the methodology and parameters of the work completed, including:

- A summary of any relevant related information reviewed (servicing and grading plans, etc.);
- Relevant background information including any site history and/or applicable legislation or regulated areas; and
- A discussion about how the Arborist Report will be used.

Observations will describe:

- Existing site conditions and existing trees (as per 2.3 Tree Inventory requirements, [Tree Protection Requirements for New Developments](#));
- Climatic or weather conditions; and
- Areas regulated by external legislation, such as CLOCA, MNRF, Province of Ontario and/or the Federal government.

Photographs necessary to support Observations, identifying:

- An aerial view of property including adjacent properties;
- Inventoried trees keyed to tree tags;
- Significant conditions (significant trees, hazardous trees, dead trees, etc.); and
- Inventoried trees on adjacent private and public property.

Analysis and Interpretation of Observations will discuss:

- The impacts of any legislated requirements and provide recommendations for appropriate response(s) (refer to [Policy Context](#));
- Priorities for preservation of existing trees through a discussion of function, quality and characteristics (rare species, landmark trees, significant trees, heritage tree candidacy, high quality vegetation, etc.); and
- An Arborist Report may be required by the Town to include a Tree Risk Assessment. This will be conducted in accordance with the “Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment, ISA” (current version). The Tree Risk Assessor will conduct a Tree Risk Assessment utilizing a rating system to evaluate the extent of a defect and determine the potential to fail and cause damage and/or injury to a target. Risks may be reduced by various arboricultural techniques; however, a tree may require removal to avoid a hazard.

Recommendations:

Arborist Report recommendations will reflect consideration of development constraints on the preservation of existing trees. Recommendations may include reasonable modifications to the proposed development to reduce or eliminate impacts to existing mature or significant trees, including realignment of circulation routes, driveways, or underground utilities.

A discussion of the fundamental principles of healthy trees, common impacts from construction on existing trees, and general recommendations for measures to prevent and/or minimize these impacts is provided in [Protection Recommendations for Common Construction Related Impacts Causing Tree Injury](#).

Recommendations in an Arborist Report will discuss:

- Tree removals including:
 - ❖ Permit requirements (if appropriate);
 - ❖ Timing (with reference to the [Wildlife Act](#) and [Migratory Bird Convention Act \(1994\)](#) and
 - ❖ Disposal recommendations related to contaminated species.

For more information, contact

Planning and Development
905.430.4306
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- Trees to be retained (protected trees) including, but not limited to:
 - ❖ Transplanting when protection is not feasible;
 - ❖ Installation of tree protection fencing and establishment of the tree protection zone (TPZ);
 - ❖ Maintenance of existing conditions with the TPZ;
 - ❖ Maintenance of existing drainage patterns;
 - ❖ Arboricultural requirements for retained (protected) trees (corrective pruning, vine removal, soil treatments, greater setback requirements, strategic mulching, etc.);
 - ❖ Post-construction care to be provided by the developer for retained (protected) trees such as aeration, mulching, watering and fertilizing; and
 - ❖ Recommendations for Monitoring / Inspections and Tree maintenance reporting requirements (the type and timing of the report and who will prepare it)

Appraisals:

An appraisal of the economic value of any trees proposed for retention and/or removal may be required at the discretion of Town. Additional information is available in Chapter 4: Compensation and Appraisals for Tree Removals, [Tree Protection Requirements for New Development](#).

Testing:

Depending on the scope of the Arborist Report, a Testing chapter may be required to be included. The analytical methodology and testing techniques used may be described in this chapter, along with the results of these activities.

Information in this chapter may also:

- Distinguish work done by the Arborist or by others;
- Describe the tests conducted and the analysis of the data;
- Provide additional relevant species, insect, pest, disease or other information that contributes to an understanding of factors impacting the trees;
- Provide analysis of soil, water or tissue sampling;
- Provide statistical or other numerical analyses; and
- Cite reference relevant literature, including legislative policy or industry standards.

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Summary and Conclusions:

A brief summary and concluding remark will be provided. An Arborist report will be signed by the Arborist and include their title, qualifications and ISA Certification number.

A **Limitation of Assessment** or **Disclaimer** may also be included at the discretion of the Arborist, and following the conclusion.

Supporting Materials / Appendices:

Information that supports the observations, analysis/testing and discussion and conclusions will be referenced and included in the Arborist report. This may include literature excerpts, the tree inventory illustrating surveyed tree locations, research notes, photographs, ISA specifications and policy and/or legislation references, and/or other relevant materials.

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