



City of Clifton
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SHADE TREE HARDSHIP APPLICATION FORM



NON-EMERGENCY REMOVAL APPLICATION

Date: _____

See attached letter

Applicant's Name _____

Applicant Address: _____

Applicant Contact Number: _____ Email- _____

APPLICATION DETAIL
<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICANT IS THE PROPERTY OWNER
<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICANT HAS A BID PERMIT
<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICANT IS AWAITING PLANNING/ZONING BOARD DECISION
<input type="checkbox"/> APPLICANT HAS AN ACTIVE PERMIT

AS A MEMBER OF TREE CITY USA, THE CITY OF CLIFTON MUST QUALIFYING STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS.

One of the standards is the determination of the removal of trees in accordance to the "Hardship" clause of the organization's standards.
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION AND RETURN VIA MAIL OR FAX TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR REVIEW.

1. GENERAL TREE CONDITION:

Good Fair Poor Dead Hazardous Other

2. REASON FOR REQUEST:

Development Tree condition

Pose hazard to Property People Traffic Other

3. HAS THE TREE CAUSED PROPERTY DAMAGE

Sewer block (Roots) Sidewalk repair Clearance of pipes/drains

Requiring the owner to have service provided 2x in a five-year period or more

I have attached invoices and documents for consideration

Property Owner Signature Authorizing Removal

APPLICATION REVIEW- TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY DPW PERSONNEL ONLY

Inspection date:		Inspected By:					
Applicant is property owner			Power line involved		Mark-Outs Required		Statutory Denial
Poses hazard to:		Pedestrians	Property	Traffic	Public	Infrastructure	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved for removal		By:		Date		<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal to CMI/Council	
<input type="checkbox"/> Denied removal							



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Dear Resident,

The City of Clifton cares about our trees.

Trees are beneficial to our community. Here are a few positive contributions that trees provide us:

- Reduced and more appropriate traffic speeds.
- Create safer walking environments.
- Increased security.
- Trees create more pleasant walking environments
- Improved business. Businesses on trees canopied streets show 12% higher income streams
- Less drainage infrastructure. Trees absorb the first 30% of most precipitation
- Rain, sun, heat and skin protection.
- Reduced harm from tailpipe emissions
- Lower urban air temperatures.
- Lower Ozone.
- Reduced road rage
- Added value to adjacent homes, businesses and tax base.
- Provides a lawn for a splash and spray zone, storage of snow, driveway elevation transition.
- Filtering and screening agent.
- Softens and screens utility poles, light poles,
- Longer pavement life.

However, we do recognize that there may be some situation where a property owner incurs discomfort and the hardship outweighs the benefits.

The ordinance allows for these conditions.

Since we are a "Tree City U.S.A." and eligible for grants and funding from the foundation, we must document whenever we remove a tree.

Kindly submit this form back to our office additional letter is optional, but not mandatory, (the enclosed comment box on page 1 will suffice) however, attach any invoices or any additional information you feel may help and our Shade Tree arborist to determine if your case is a "Hardship" and requires the city to remove the tree.

Thank you;

Jason Van Winkle

Jason Van Winkle CPWM
Director of Public Works

CHAPTER 433. TREES AND SHRUBBERY

ARTICLE III. SHADE TREES, ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS

§ 433-24. CUTTING DOWN OF TREES OR SHRUBS RESTRICTED.

A. No tree or shrub in or along any public street or park shall be cut down unless it shall be diseased, dead or dangerous to public health or safety.

B. When any tree or shrub, other than one diseased, dead or dangerous to the public health or safety, imposes a hardship upon the adjoining property owner, but not the public, the Director of the Division of Public Works may approve the removal thereof, and the property owner shall be responsible for the replacement of the tree or shrub

[Amended 2-4-1986 by Ord. No. 5051-86; 1-16-1996 by Ord. No. 5783-96]

C. A tree or shrub shall constitute a hardship to the adjoining property owner if [Added 12-1-1998 by Ord. No. 6015-98]

(1) It requires the adjoining property owner to have the sidewalk lifted or replaced more than once in a five-year period;

(2) It interferes with the sewer line for a second time within a five-year period; and

(3) The cost of the same to the property owner exceeds \$500.

§ 433-25. Procedure for removal of trees; fees [Amended 2-4-1986 by Ord. No. 5051-86; 1-16-1996 by Ord. No. 5783-96; 10-6-1998 by Ord. No. 6001-98; 12-1-1998 by Ord. No. 6015-98; 6-19-2007 by Ord. No. 6669-07]

A. Any property owner with reason to believe that a tree or shrub growing in or along any public street is diseased, dead or dangerous to the public health or safety, or constitutes a hardship to the adjacent property owner, shall request the Department of Public Works to remove the tree, setting forth the reasons therefor. Upon receipt of such request from the property owner, the Department of Public Works shall conduct an inspection in order to confirm that such tree or shrub is in fact diseased, dead or dangerous to the public health or safety or constitutes a hardship to the adjacent property owner. Upon confirmation that such tree or shrub is diseased, dead or dangerous to the public health or safety, or constitutes a hardship to the adjacent property owner, the Director of Public Works shall cause such tree or shrub to be removed, and the property owner shall be responsible for the replacement of the tree or shrub.

B. Tree removal permit [Amended 1-2-2008 by Ord. No. 6711-08; 4-16-2008 by Ord. No. 6733-08]

(1) Any property owner cutting down any tree in excess of six inches in diameter on the property but not within the right-of-way shall request a permit from the Director of Public Works for the removal of said tree.

(2) The fee for a tree removal permit shall be \$30 [Amended 1-5-2009 by Ord. No. 6788-09]

(3) The Director of Public Works shall have the discretion to waive the fee for a tree removal permit where such permit is requested within five days of a storm for a downed tree relating to the storm.

C. The City of Clifton shall remove any tree in excess of six inches in diameter from curbside if the work is performed by the property owner. If the tree is cut down by a contractor, the contractor shall be responsible for the removal of the same. In order for the City of Clifton to be responsible for the removal, the City of Clifton shall be notified by the property owner on the day the work is being performed in order for the City of Clifton to verify the party doing the work.

§ 433-26. Violations and penalties [Amended 10-18-1988 by Ord. No. 5302-88; 10-16-2012 by Ord. No. 7057-12]

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,250. A separate offense shall be deemed committed on each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues.