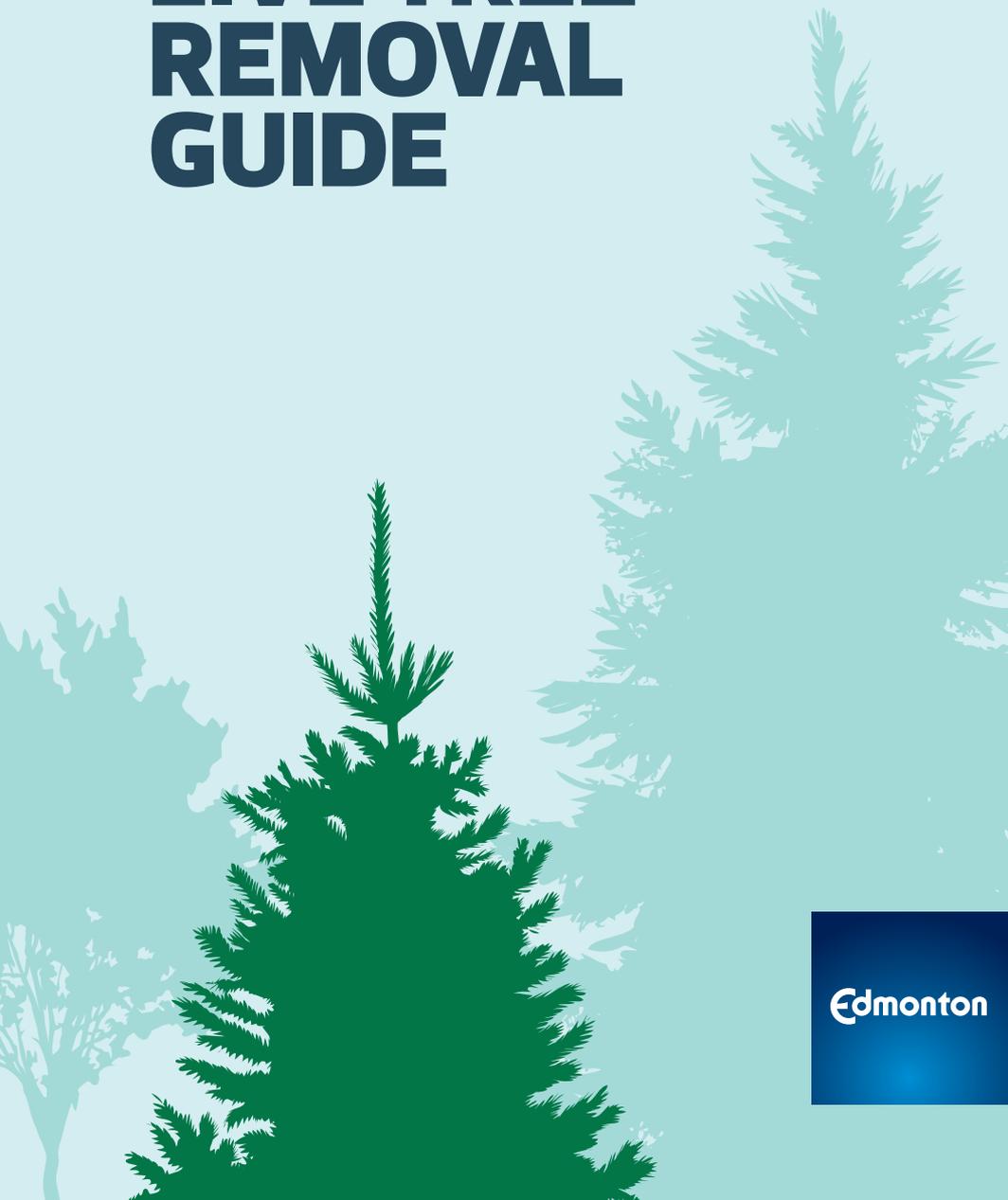


LIVE TREE REMOVAL GUIDE



Edmonton

The City of Edmonton owns and cares for over 325,000 park and boulevard trees. City-owned trees are a highly valued asset, and are only removed when all other preservation options are unsuitable.

To request a live tree removal, please contact an Urban Forester by calling 311.



REVIEWING REQUESTS



Live tree removal requests **may be considered if:**

- Urban Forestry determines a tree is **infested, diseased or in poor condition.**
- Tree removal is required as part of **City-approved construction** (e.g., a new driveway or access point).
- **A developer replaces existing trees with new trees in improved growing conditions.** Developers must have Urban Forestry pre-approval and Sustainable Development-approved landscape drawings indicating tree replacement will utilize enhanced growing conditions (e.g., soil cell technologies).
- Urban Forestry uses a formal review process to determine if a tree presents a **safety risk to the public** due to its condition or a sightline obstruction it creates.



Trees will NOT be removed for the following reasons:

- **Poplar fluff, seeds or leaves** are falling onto public or private property.
- The tree is casting **excess shade**.
- Tree removal is desired for **aesthetic reasons**, to improve a **view** or commercial **sign visibility**.
- **Honeydew** from aphids is falling on sidewalks or vehicles.
- Boulevard space is desired for a **construction laydown area**.

Urban Forestry reviews the details of each tree removal request to determine the best course of action: **transplantation, preservation or removal**.



TRANSPLANTATION

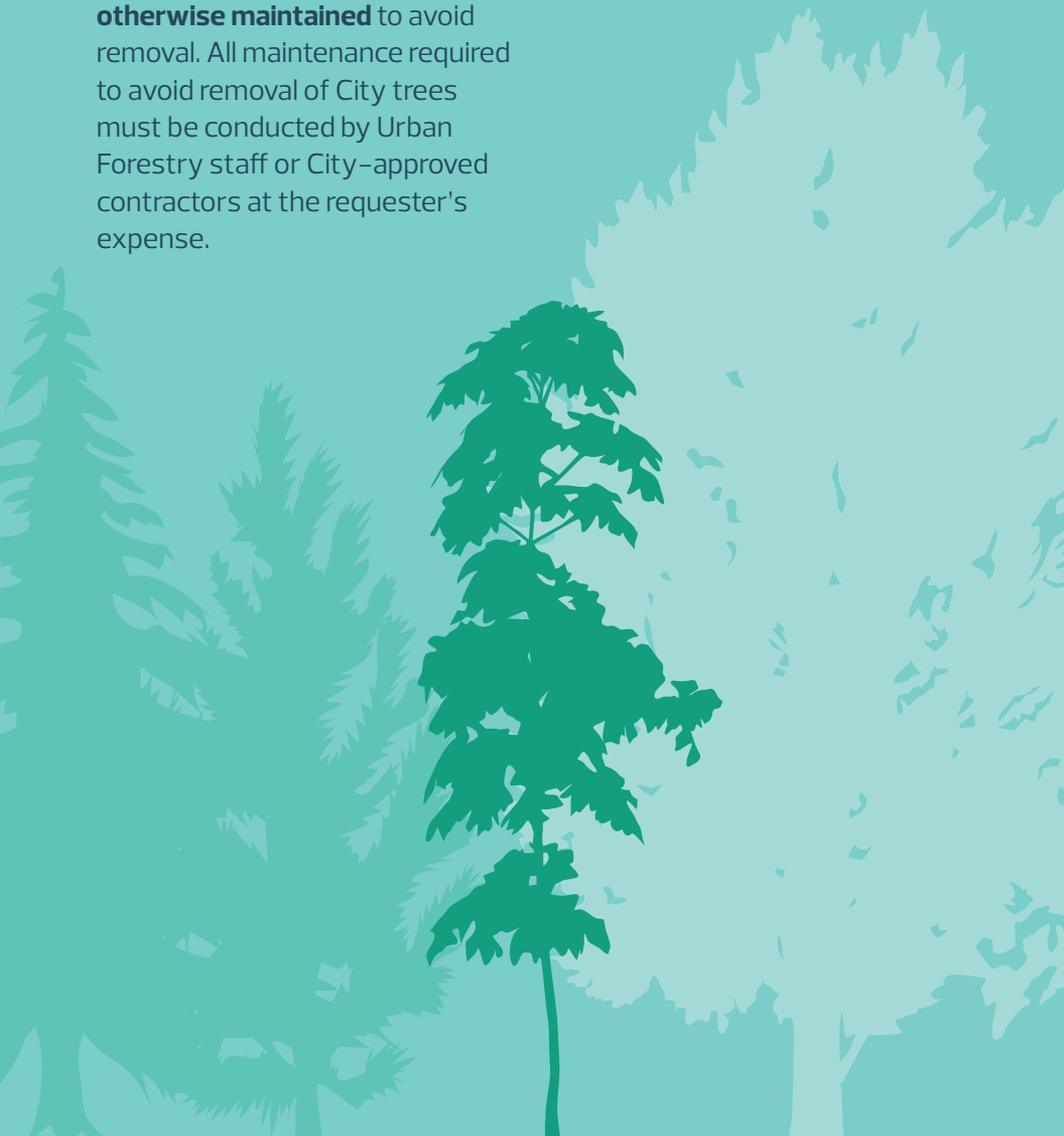
If the Urban Forester determines that a tree is small enough and healthy enough to be successfully transplanted, an attempt will be made to **relocate the tree to a new, suitable location on City property**, at the requester's expense.

The possibility of transplantation depends on access to the site and presence of utilities that could prevent digging and lifting.



PRESERVATION

Urban Forestry may determine the tree(s) can be **pruned or otherwise maintained** to avoid removal. All maintenance required to avoid removal of City trees must be conducted by Urban Forestry staff or City-approved contractors at the requester's expense.



REMOVAL



If an Urban Forester determines the tree is too large, not of sufficient health and vigor, or access to a construction site is too difficult to relocate or transplant successfully, the tree will be removed. In this case, the City will collect the value of the tree as defined under Equitable Compensation in the Corporate Tree Management Policy (Policy C456A; see definition 1.06).

Prior to removal, the requester must have neighbourhood support. The scope of required support varies, and will be determined by the Urban Forester.

Neighbourhood support may entail:

- A letter of support from the community league.
- Signatures from neighbours indicating support.
- Neighbourhood mail drops.
- Signs posted prior to removal.
- Public consultation (e.g., an open house).

COSTS



The **City pays for the cost of removing trees that are diseased or hazardous** prior to construction. If construction activities cause the tree to become a hazard, the cost of removal will be the responsibility of the requester.

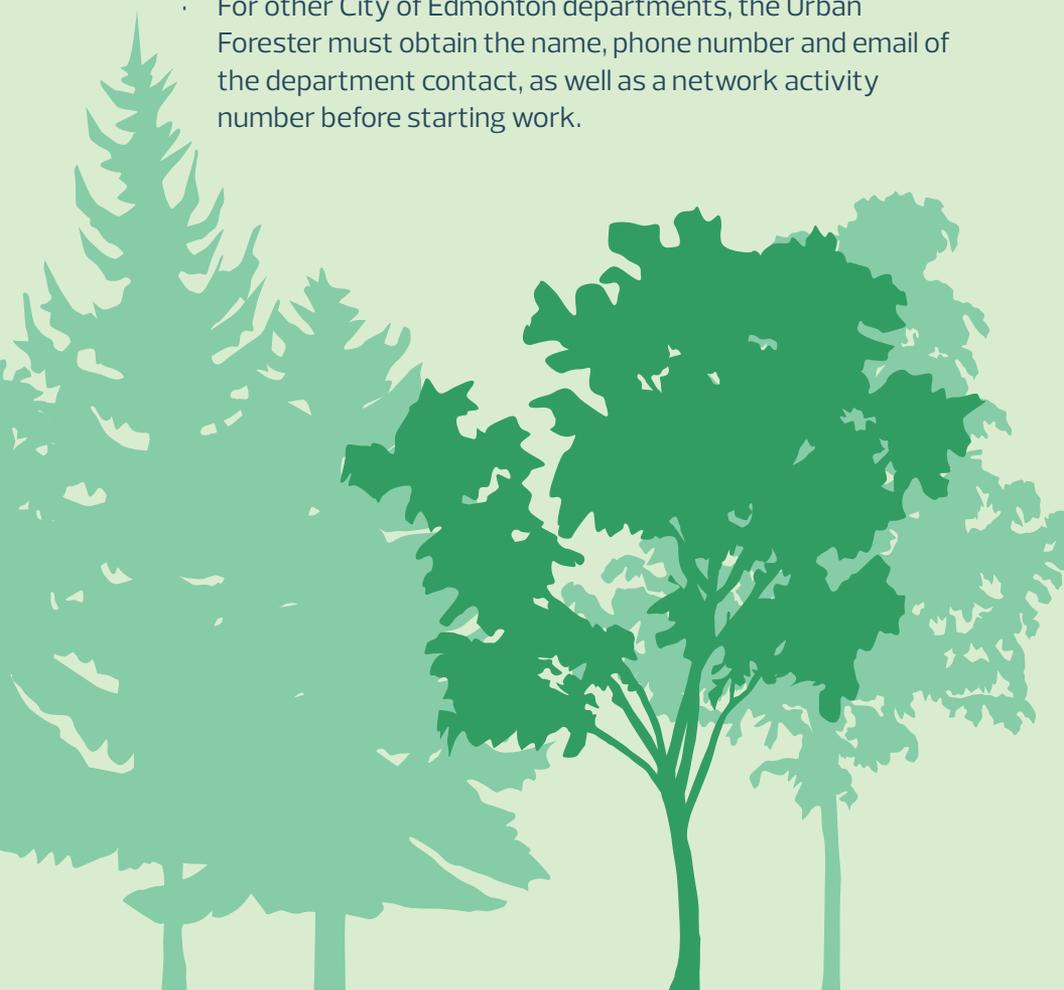
For all other tree removals, the requester agrees to a work plan supplied by an Urban Forester and agrees in writing to cover the estimated costs provided in the plan. The **requester is responsible for all tree work that results from a project** (e.g., transplanting, removal, post-construction tree care, coordination time to facilitate the project and any City overheads).

For trees that exist partially on public land and partially on private land, the City will only **waive the collection of value if more than 50% of the trunk falls on private land**. The requester is responsible for its share of all tree work expenses including cost of tree removal.



Developers and contractors must **fill out a project request form**, supplied by the Urban Forester, which will identify:

- Billing information and a purchase order or order number before the Forester initiates any work. Residents must sign a letter of agreement with the City in place of a purchase order.
- For other City of Edmonton departments, the Urban Forester must obtain the name, phone number and email of the department contact, as well as a network activity number before starting work.



**For more information,
or to request a live
tree removal, please
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Forester by
calling 311.**

edmonton.ca/trees

