

Tree Warden Notes

January 14, 2015 to March 10, 2015

2-6-15

Some time ago Hannah O'Connell, DPW, asked me to have a look at a tree that is threatening to fall on the covered bridge near Memorial Park. I had a look and found a sizable basswood tree growing on the north side of the Whetstone Brook that might hit the covered bridge if the tree fell. The tree's trunk is severely compromised about half way up from the ground to the top of the crown. Cankers have eaten away at the trunk there from all sides. The trunk there is very weak and could break off at any time. I emailed Hannah and told her:

The tree is seriously compromised about half way up its trunk. The cankers there have left the tree bole weakened to the point of failure (breaking). If the tree breaks off there and falls it will not hit the bridge in its entirety, but will most likely brush the bridge with its branches. That could cause some minimal damage to the roof of the bridge.

The tree itself is well rooted and I don't see any danger of the tree uprooting. So one way to deal with the possibility of damage to the roof would be to cut the tree at the canker half up its bole and remove the top half. Another way is to just leave it and deal with some minimal damage to the roof if and when the tree does break off half way up and drops into the brook.

2-25-15

Got a call from Roz Blake, Brattleboro Tree Board. She is concerned about trees planted by Tree Board members across the street from the Sportmens Lounge on Canal Street. I took a look at the trees there. The tree planted at the corner of Canal and Clark has been pushed to a less than upright position by snow piled there from road clearing in the area. I told Roz that the tree will most likely return to its upright position when the snow melts. And if it is still less than upright after the snow melts the tree can be staked to pull it back into position.

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