

Tree Warden Notes

March 10, 2015 to April 14, 2015

3-16-15 Bob Everingham, Tree Advisory Board member, asked if I had a mission statement that may have been used by the Trees Please organization in the past. I searched my archives and found these two excerpts from the early 1990's and forwarded them to Bob :

BRATTLEBORO --- Trees Please, a non-profit volunteer organization formed for the appreciation, maintenance, and planting of trees in Brattleboro.

Trees Please is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to the appreciation, maintenance, and planting of trees in Brattleboro. Trees Please volunteers devote their time year round toward reaching these goals. The organization was founded in 1990.

3-19-15 I reviewed all of the documentation that I have concerning the trees on the Crowell Lot and their current arboricultural needs. The documentation is extensive. I did this to prepare for a Tree Advisory Board meeting set for the next Tuesday to discuss all of the various places in town that are in need of tree work and possibly applying for a grant to get some of that done.

3-24-15 I met with the Tree Advisory Board to discuss all of the various places in town that are in need of tree work and possibly applying for a grant to get some of that done.

4-10-15 Got a call from Roz Blake, Brattleboro Tree Advisory Board member. Roz had noticed that trees were being pruned away from the power lines on Spruce Street. I had a look and found that some new telephone poles have been recently installed on Spruce Street and that tree limbs that may come in contact with the power lines have been pruned back. The pruning was done correctly and meets with my standards.

4-12-15 Got a call from Jaime Scanlon. Bob Everingham had suggested to her that she give me a call. She and her family own a home at 41 Baker Street. Jaime was concerned about some trees on a bank above her house, property owned by her neighbor. She wanted my opinion. I had a look and found 4 trees there on the bank that I deemed hazardous. Two of the trees are close to 2 feet in diameter and have extensive rot in their trunks. If they fell they would land in Jaime's backyard, where her kids play, and could possibly hit her house. I advised her to have them taken down as soon as possible.

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4-13-15

Got a call from Helene Henry, Tree Advisory Board Chairperson. Helene had heard that one of the trees planted by the Tree Advisory Board at Oak-Grove School is not doing so well. I had a look at all of the trees at Oak-Grove School accompanied by the Lead Custodian for the school, Greg Frost. We found one of the planted trees has been severely compromised by what looks like a lawnmower. More than 60% of its trunk has been damaged, or deadened, by past mechanical damage. Greg told me that he would speak with the people that do the mowing and ask them to be more considerate.

I told Greg someone had suggested that one of the trees planted by the Tree Advisory Board at Oak-Grove School is not doing so well. Greg knew exactly which one that would be. It is a tree that is outside of the school yard fence, planted along Pleasant Street. There are a number of trees that were planted by the Tree Advisory Board along the street side there. Greg has been fertilizing and watering the trees inside of the school yard fence but has not attended to those along Pleasant Street in the past. Greg told me that now he knows that the Tree Advisory Board planted those trees he will fertilize and water them in the future.

As an aside, it is my feeling that the soils and their moisture content in the area along Pleasant Street, each side of the entrance to Oak-Grove School's 'loading dock' are not conducive to tree growth. I see very little growth in the trees planted there. Without care and maintenance I don't believe that the two trees each side of the entrance will ever reach their potential.

Dan Adams
Consultant Forester
Brattleboro Town Tree Warden

cc Jan Anderson, Town Manager's Office
Steve Barrett, Hannah O'Connell, and Al Franklin - DPW