

Tree Warden Notes

June 10, 2015 to July 14, 2015

6-10-15 I met with Martin Webster at the covered bridge by Memorial Park to look at a tree planting site at the end of the bridge on the Memorial Park side. We dug around and had a look at the soil. Martin and I decided that a red maple would do best there.

Martin and I then went to another tree planting site at the corner of Church Street and Elliot Street, in front of what was Lawton's Dry Cleaners. We decided that a significant amount of work and additional soil will be needed there to plant and assure the future of a tree at that site. The new owner of the building's father was there as well. We again decided that a red maple would do best at that site. We will discuss a site prep and planting date for this site and the covered bridge site with the Brattleboro Tree Board.

Martin and I then went to Pliny Park to have a look at an ailing tree. We both agreed that the tree should be removed.

6-14-15 I met with Martin Webster at Pliny Park again to decide what would be needed to remove the ailing tree. We decided that the tree removal would best be done with a backhoe and that the hole left would need to be filled in very soon after the tree was removed to protect pedestrians from injury.

I then called Al Franklin, Public Works, to ask for his help. He graciously committed a backhoe for the job and a truck for the removal. I then called Dick DeGray, a local volunteer, to ask if he would fill the hole after removal. Dick graciously committed his time and expertise to getting that done.

6-23-15 Al Franklin, Public Works, and I took a ride to 309 Kipling Road to look at a potentially hazardous tree in the town's right of way there. The owner of the home, Al, and I could see that about 1/3 of the tree had recently split off at about 10 feet above the ground. The tree is a very large sugar maple. I noticed that there was a weak crotch on the other side of the tree bole just above where the first piece had split off. The crotch had 'included' bark on both sides which leaves a minimal connection between the pieces at the tree's bole. If the crotch failed another 1/3 of the tree would peel off at that spot. I recommended the removal of the tree.

6-24-15 Roz Blake, Town Tree Board member, forwarded an email to me that she had received from Elise Schadler, Community Outreach Professional with the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program. Elise is spear heading the proposed inventory later this summer of Brattleboro's trees. Elise has many questions, which were put forward in the email, regarding the project. I spoke with Robert Clements about the possibility of he and I responding to those questions. Robert and I both had trips out of town planned for the near future so we planned to get together when we were both back in town, sometime after the 21st of July.

6-25-15 Donna LaScaleia, a Green Mountain Power (GMP) representative, emailed me to alert me to GMP's need to remove a tree at 469 Williams Street to facilitate a power installation. I went there and had a look. The tree is a very healthy linden tree with a full crown. A beautiful tree, but in GMP's way and not in the town's right of way or on town property. I emailed Donna back and thanked her for her consideration in alerting me. I also explained that only trees in the town's right of way or on town property come under the purview of the Town Tree Warden.

7-02-15 I met with Martin Webster, Al Franklin, and other Public Works employees at Pliny Park again to remove the ailing tree, which we did without incident. A Water Department crew was working nearby and they gave us a red cone to place over the hole until Dick DeGray could fill the hole in. It was also noted that a water line had been implanted in the hole to water the tree. A timer controls water flow to the area. Martin Webster volunteered to contact Paul Ethier, Parks & Recreation, to alert him to the need to remove this watering site from the timer control.

Dan Adams
Consultant Forester
Brattleboro Town Tree Warden

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