EVANSTON

Tree Preservation Ordinance

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CURRENT TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

• Provides protection for:
  - All Public trees unless dead, diseased or dangerous
  - Private trees on parcels 2 acres or larger planned for a subdivision
  - Private trees within any planned development
PROPOSED TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

• **Additional protection for:**
  - All private qualifying trees on properties that propose new construction of a building or the addition of more than 600 sq. ft. of impermeable surface.

• **Qualifying Trees on Private Property:**
  - Any tree 25” or larger in diameter, within Species Groups A, B or C in the existing Ordinance
  - Any Oak or Hickory tree species 20” or larger in diameter
• 20”/25” thresholds were chosen based on:
  - Estimated number of additional permits generated
  - Ability of current staff to absorb additional enforcement and inspections
  - Other municipalities with similar thresholds

• Adding private trees to existing Ordinance helps to meet a CARP goal to “Adopt a tree preservation ordinance that requires obtaining a permit for tree removal on private property; include exceptions for diseased and nuisance trees; develop a fee structure that does not overburden income-constrained property owners.”
• **Other recommended Ordinance changes:**
  - Eliminate the tree replacement exemption for Landmark structures (7-8-8-7 B. 6.)
  - Increase the tree replacement rates by 25% for all tree species groups
  - Increase the tree replacement mitigation fee from $150.00 to $250.00 per caliper inch
  - Increase the distance to protect trees on adjacent properties from ten feet to twenty five feet of the proposed construction
  - Increase the fines for Ordinance violations from not less than $100 and no more than $1,500 to not less than $500 and no more than $10,000
  - Reclassification of five tree species into different species groups