

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Exhibit A Tree Conservation Area Guidelines

Intent

The intent of these Guidelines is to protect and enhance the diversity, health and vigor of the tree, shrub, herbaceous plant, forb and grass species within the designated Tree Conservation Areas in order to protect wildlife habitat as well as enhance the aesthetic qualities and value of the properties adjacent to them.

The conservation of existing plant material is to be achieved primarily through restricting access to and limiting activities within the Tree Conservation Areas. However, intervention to perform maintenance and corrective measures is appropriate, must be approved by the appropriate Homeowner's Association (HOA), and does not require approval from the City in the following circumstances:

1. The presence of invasive plant species including noxious weed or alien plant species that may threaten the health of indigenous plants in the Tree Conservation Areas.
2. The presence of damaged, diseased or dead trees which may constitute a hazard to persons or property.
3. Where the City has approved a plan to re-establish trees, shrubs, and other plants that are indigenous to the Tree Conservation Zone.
4. Emergency removal as described in 8.30.060.

Definitions

1. Alien: a plant native to one region but brought to another as a result of human activity.
2. Forb: a non-grassy herbaceous plant, primarily referring to broad-leaved plants of prairies and savannas.
3. Herbaceous: pertaining to or characteristic of a plant that has a fleshy stem, as distinguished from a woody plant.
4. Indigenous: occurring or living naturally in an area, not introduced; native.
5. Noxious weed: a weed specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.
6. Other plants: all vegetation, woody or otherwise, except lawn grass and flowers less than 24 inches in height.
7. Overstory trees: deciduous trees that generally grow to a height in excess of 30 feet.
8. Shrub: a woody perennial smaller than a tree, usually having permanent stems branching from or near the ground.
9. Savanna: a transitional zone between grasslands and forests, on which there are scattered individual trees and/or clumps of trees and shrubs.
10. Transitional Border: a strip of land within a Tree Conservation Area along its edge which has been disturbed and which may provide a visual and functional transition between the Tree Conservation Area and the remainder of the lot.

Guidelines

- A. Removal of vegetation: The following activities are permitted within the Tree Conservation Zone.
 1. No healthy woody vegetation shall be removed except for the restricted species listed in Chapter 12.20 of the City Code and with the specific approval of the City.
 2. Where permission has been granted to remove woody vegetation, it shall be sawed or cut

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

- down to existing grade. No removal or disturbance shall occur below grade.
3. If the City has approved a plan to re-establish the growth of indigenous plants, noxious weeds and alien herbaceous vegetation may be removed by: (a) applying a three (3) inch layer of organic hardwood mulch, or (b) herbicide application by a licensed professional.
 4. Dead or fallen trees and limbs shall remain, except where a standing dead tree is located so that it could fall upon a building or structure.
- B. Planting: The following plantings are permitted within the Tree Conservation Zone.. Appendix I lists some native, non-native and weedy plants as a reference. Additional lists and guides to native plants are found in references such as Swink and Wilhelm's *Plants of the Chicago Region*, and Dick Young's *Kane County Wild Plants and Natural Areas, 2nd Edition*.
1. Indigenous grasses, flowers and other herbaceous plants may be planted by hand installation of plugs or by seeding. Prairie forbs and grasses shall be restricted to those areas/lots with limited scattered trees. Commercial prairie mixes may contain non-native and non-hardy species, so consulting a native plant supplier or prairie restoration specialist is recommended.
 2. Planting common turf grass such as Kentucky bluegrass, ryegrass, and fescue is not permitted except in transitional borders with specific approval of the City. The soil preparation typically required damages the root system of trees, and the nutrient and pH requirements for mowed turf grasses are not optimally compatible with those of most woody plants.
 3. Non-native plant material is not permitted. Some non-native plants reseed aggressively and become invasive, crowding out indigenous species.
 4. Indigenous container perennials, woody shrubs, and trees are permitted if planted in compliance with the following guidelines:
 - a. All digging and planting shall be performed by hand. No vehicles, augurs or rototillers are permitted.
 - b. Only minimal digging shall be allowed within the tree's critical root zone, i.e., the area equivalent to one foot of radius per inch of the tree's trunk caliper, measured out from the center of the tree. Plant type and size should be limited within this area to minimize damage to tree roots.
 - c. No overstory tree shall be planted directly under the drip-line of an existing tree.
 - d. Areas disturbed by planting must be thoroughly watered immediately after planting and periodically for one month following planting to reduce stress to existing trees. Do not overwater.
 - e. A three (3) inch layer of organic hardwood mulch in a dish or saucer pattern may be used around the base of newly planted trees and shrubs during the first growing season to conserve moisture in the soil.
 - f. If proper installation methods are used, additional plant material can reduce or control access into Tree Conservation Areas and will provide wildlife food and habitat.
- C. Transitional Border:
1. A transitional border may be delineated at the common boundary of the Tree Conservation Area and the remainder of the lot. The transitional border may extend into the Tree Conservation Area a maximum of three (3) feet, or within one (1) foot of existing trees within the Tree Conservation Area, whichever dimension is less. (See Appendix II)
 2. Due to disturbances caused by utility installation, restoration of the transitional border may include turf grasses and non-indigenous plant materials. However, restoration with indigenous plant materials is strongly encouraged.
 3. Yard accessories are permitted in the transitional border area as described below in D-1.
 4. Organic hardwood mulch is permitted to minimize the encroachment of indigenous plants into an adjoining managed plant material area such as turf or perennials.
 5. In order to preserve the health and vigor of the Tree Conservation Area, invasive plants or vegetation that is difficult to control shall not be permitted in the transitional border. (Refer to Appendix I for a list of invasive and difficult to control plants.)

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

- D. Installation of Yard Accessories:
1. Small yard accessories such as benches, bird baths, bat houses, butterfly houses, and bird feeders are permitted within the transitional border, only. Yard accessories shall be limited to not more than one (1) per fifty (50) square feet of transitional border. No yard accessories are permitted in the balance of the Tree Conservation Area.
 2. Permanent or temporary structures, play equipment, paths, paving, structures attached to trees such as tree houses, and any items requiring footings are prohibited.
- E. Prohibited Activities: The following activities and uses are specifically prohibited within Tree Conservation Areas:
1. Composting or dumping of lawn waste, Christmas trees, potted plants, or similar organic waste.
 2. Stacking or firewood.
 3. Dumping of any materials.
 4. Mowing.
 5. Fire pits and barbecues.
 6. Tree swings.
 7. Dog waste.
 8. Vegetable or flower gardens.
 9. Lawn irrigation systems.
 10. Yard accessories.
 11. Fences.
 12. Any other similar uses determined by the City to be detrimental to the protection of the Tree Conservation Area.
- F. Miscellaneous: The following activities are not permitted unless approved by the City in conjunction with a plan to remove and/or restore plant material in accordance with these guidelines:
1. The use of motorized vehicles such as garden tractors and mowers.
 2. The use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides.
 3. Alteration of existing grade elevation.

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Appendix I Representative Species of Plant Material

Indigenous (native) plants:

Overstory Trees

<i>Acer nigrum</i>	Black maple
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar maple
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut hickory
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark hickory
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White ash
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black walnut
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak
<i>Quercus muhlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern red oak
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American linden

Understory Trees

<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Serviceberry; shadbush
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Allegheny shadblow serviceberry
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved dogwood
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Flowering dogwood
<i>Corylus americana</i>	Hazelnut
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	Leatherwood
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Witch hazel
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop hornbeam
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Chokecherry

Shrubs

<i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i>	Eastern wahoo
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>	Prickly wild gooseberry
<i>Ribes missouriense</i>	Wild gooseberry
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Elderberry
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Mapleleaf viburnum
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry viburnum
<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>	Blackhaw viburnum
<i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i>	Downy arrowwood viburnum

Ground Layer

Common Plants

<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	Wild leek
<i>Anemonella thalictroides</i>	Rue anemone
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-pulpit

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Carex plantaginea	Plaintain-leaved sedge
Carex rosea	Sedge Caulophyllum
thalictroides	Blue cohosh
Claytonia virginica	Spring beauty
Dentaria laciniata	Cut-leaved toothwort
Desmodium glutinosum	Tick trefoil
Dryopteris spinulosa	Spinulose wood fern
Erythronium albidum	White trout lily
Galium aparine	Shining bedstraw
Geranium maculatum	Wild geranium
Osmorhiza claytoni	Hairy sweet cicely
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper
Podophyllum peltatum	Mayapple
Prenanthes alba	Lion's foot
Sanicula gregaria	Clustered black snakeroot
Smilacina racemosa	False Solomon's seal
Uvularia grandiflora	Large-flowered bellwort
Viola eriocarpa	Smooth yellow violet
Others	
Actaea pachypoda	White baneberry
Adiantum pedatum	Maidenhair fern
Allium tricoccum	Wild leek
Anemone cylindrical	Thimbleweed
Anemone quinquefolia	Wood anemone
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane
Aralia racemosa	Spikenard
Arisaema draconitum	Green dragon
Asarum canadense	Wild ginger
Aster sagittifolius	Arrowleaf aster
Aster shortii	Short's aster
Athyrium filix-femina	Lady fern
Blephilia hirsute	Wood mint
Botrychium virginianum	Rattlesnake fern
Cardamine douglassii	Purple cress
Carex hirtifolia	Hairy sedge
Carex pensylvanica	Pennsylvania sedge
Celastrus scandens	Bittersweet
Dicentra cucullaria	Dutchman's breeches
Eupatorium rugosum	White snakeroot
Eupatorium purpureum	Purple Joe-Pye weed
Euphorbia corollata	Flowering spurge
Fragaria virginiana	Wild strawberry
Galium circaezans	Wild licorice
Geum canadense	Wood avens
Helianthus strumosus	Pale-leaved sunflower
Hepatica acutiloba	Hepatica
Hydrophyllum appendiculatum	Great waterleaf
Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia waterleaf
Hystrix patula	Bottlebrush grass

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

<i>Impatiens pallida</i>	Pale touch-me-not
<i>Isopyrum biternatum</i>	False rue anemone
<i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i>	Twinleaf
<i>Lactuca biennis</i>	Tall blue lettuce
<i>prolifera</i>	Lonicera
<i>Menispermum canadense</i>	Yellow honeysuckle
<i>Mitella diphylla</i>	Moonseed
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Bishop's cap
<i>Osmorhiza longistylis</i>	Bergamot
<i>Panicum latifolium</i>	Sweet cicely
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Broad-leaved panic grass
<i>Phryma leptostachya</i>	Woodland phlox
	Lopseed
<i>canaliculatum</i>	<i>Pilea pumila</i>
<i>Potentilla simplex</i>	Clearweed
<i>Prenanthes altissima</i>	<i>Polygonatum</i>
<i>spp.</i>	Large Solomon's seal
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Common cinquefoil
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	Tall white lettuce
<i>Smilax ecirrhata</i>	<i>Rosa</i>
<i>Smilax taminoides</i>	Rose
<i>flexicaulis</i>	Bloodroot
<i>Solidago ulmifolia</i>	Starry Solomon's plume
<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>	Upright carrion flower
<i>grandiflorum</i>	Bristly greenbrier
<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>	<i>Solidago</i>
<i>Trillium sessile</i>	Broad-leaved goldenrod
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Elm-leaved goldenrod
	Early meadow rue
	<i>Trillium</i>
	Large-flowered trillium
	Prairie trillium
	Toad trillium
	Culver's root

Aggressive non-native species that should be removed such as:

<i>Alliaria officinalis</i>	Garlic mustard
<i>vulgaris</i>	<i>Berberis</i>
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	European barberry
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Oriental bittersweet
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Olive bush
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Amur honeysuckle
<i>Morus alba</i>	Tatarian honeysuckle
<i>alba</i>	White mulberry
<i>cathartica</i>	<i>Populus</i>
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>	White poplar
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	<i>Rhamnus</i>
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Common buckthorn
	Glossy buckthorn
	Nightshade
	bittersweet
	European cranberrybush
	<i>viburnum</i>

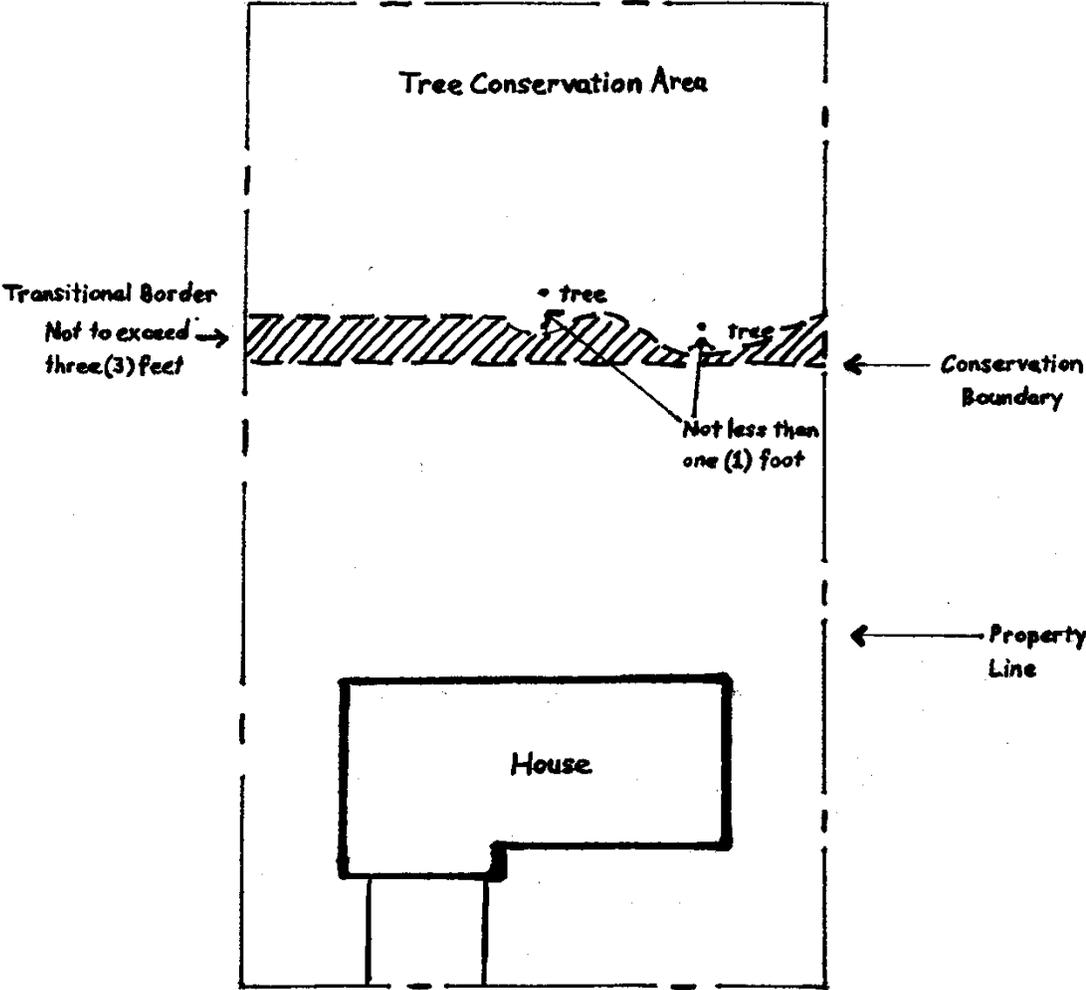
Native weedy species that should be controlled such as:

<i>Acer negundo</i>	Acer
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Boxelder
<i>Rhus radicans</i>	Virginia creeper
<i>pseudo-acacia</i>	Poison ivy
<i>occidentalis</i>	<i>Robinia</i>
<i>riparia</i>	Black locust
	<i>Rubus</i>
	Black raspberry
	<i>Vitis</i>
	Riverbank grape

TREE PRESERVATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Appendix I

LOCATION OF TRANSITIONAL BORDER



(Ord. 2014-M-27 § 1; Ord. 2001-M-73 § 1.)