

## **STREET TREE PRUNING PROGRAM**

The Village of Howard maintains approximately 7500 trees located on village right-of-ways and other village owned properties. The village is divided into 17 different tree management units to aid in proper and timely tree care. All street trees within these units are on a pruning cycle depending on size, age, and location within the village and are maintained on a unit by unit basis for efficiency and tracking purposes. Trees up to 15 years of age are pruned on a cycle every 2 to 3 years. Trees over 15 years old are pruned every 5 to 6 years. The pruning period typically takes place during winter months (Dec. – Apr.) when the trees are dormant. We will also perform request pruning during summer before leaves start to change.



### **TRAINING PRUNING**

Pruning requirements for street trees up to 15 years old ( $\leq 8''$  in diameter at breast height):

- ✿ Develop central leader
- ✿ Raise crown (remove lower branches)
- ✿ Establish good branch structure
- ✿ Eliminate poor branch angles
- ✿ Heading temporary branches
- ✿ Damaged, dead, or diseased branches

### **ROUTINE PRUNING**

Pruning requirements for street trees over 15 years old ( $> 8''$  in diameter at breast height):

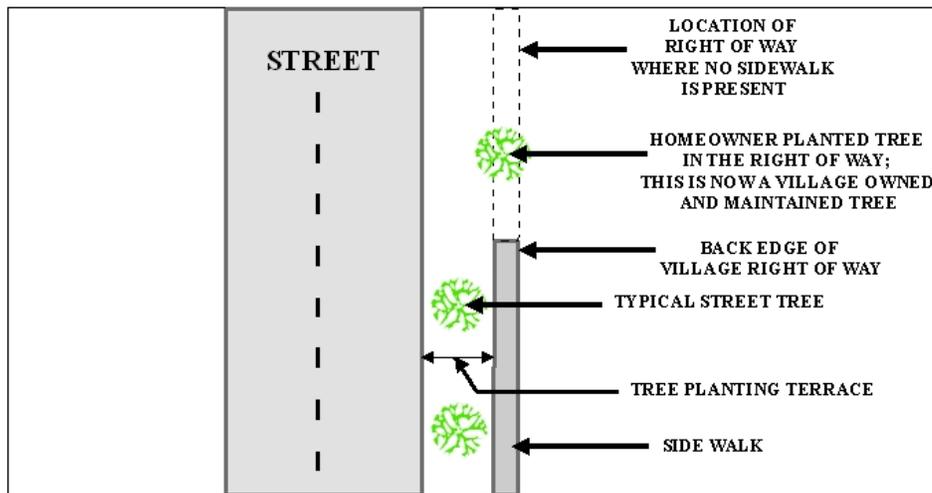
- ✿ Provide minimal clearances of: 14' over the street and driveways, 10' over sidewalks and lawns, and at least 6' over structures
- ✿ Damaged, deadwood and diseased branches greater than 2" in diameter
- ✿ Crossing and rubbing branches
- ✿ Street light and sign clearance





Street trees are defined as any tree located between the street curb and the house side of the sidewalk, or where the sidewalk would be. These are community trees maintained by the Village Forestry Division regardless of origin of planting or whether you contact us or not. Unauthorized pruning of street trees by property owners is not allowed under village ordinance 19.36(a)(1).

**Figure 1. Typical Street Tree Locations**



If you have any questions, request for pruning or other tree maintenance please call the Forestry Division at 434-4640.

**HOWARD PARKS, RECREATION and FORESTRY DEPARTMENT  
FORESTRY DIVISION**

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