

Rule #16: Trees

(a) Tree problems may be found by certified arborists or certified foresters, by MGCA Members, or by residents. All problems with trees should be reported ~~to The Campmeeting Association office~~ with a “Request” through the Member’s portal.

(b) Trees provide a unique beauty and add to the value of Campmeeting property. Prior to removing any tree, MGCA Members must submit a Tree Removal Permit Application. Live tree removals ~~which~~ must be approved by the Board of Managers, certified dead tree removals may be approved by the Tree Committee. Applications ~~can be obtained on the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting website~~ can be accessed through the Member’s portal. A current plot plan/survey must be attached to the application. Members will be responsible to have the tree stump ground and to plant a native tree at least five feet tall in accordance with the parameters on the tree removal permit application. Applications and emergency removals are subject to the approval of the Board of Managers. In emergency situations, contact the office.

(c) When the Board of Managers approves a tree removal permit, the property owner of the tree has the responsibility for expenses of the removal, stump grinding, and replanting. If the tree is directly on a property line shared with the Campmeeting, then the expense will be shared equally by the member and the MGCA.

1. Tree removal applications for trees showing signs of life.

Members must submit a tree evaluation as part of the tree removal permit application from a certified arborist or a

certified forester if the tree shows any signs of life; the evaluation must also state if there are any treatment options which could save the tree.

2. Tree removal applications for dead trees.

An evaluation by a certified arborist or certified forester will not be necessary for a dead tree as determined by the MGCA Tree Committee Chair or their designee.

3. Trimming.

Property lines go to the sky. Any branches growing over Members' properties are their responsibility. It is recommended, but not required, that Members consult with the office before conducting any tree trimming.

(d) Taking down or removing trees, dead or alive, from personal and/or Campmeeting property without an approved permit from the Board of Managers is a significant violation of the rules of The Campmeeting and warrants a fine.

Removal of a tree with a diameter of less than five inches and taller than three feet will incur a fine of \$5,000 per tree.

Removal of a tree with a diameter larger than five inches will incur a fine of \$10,000 per tree. In addition, any legal fees incurred to collect this fine will be the financial responsibility of the Member.

(e) Wood from downed trees must be removed within 10 working days. Exceptions for removal may be requested from the Tree Committee. If MGCA Members do not have the means to remove the wood from a downed tree, they may contract with the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association to have it removed on a rate per hour basis.

(f) Planting of trees.

Trees on MGCA Property may be planted only by the

MGCA. Trees on Private Property must be planted in cooperation with the Tree Committee to ensure it is an appropriate tree and is planted where it will not adversely interfere with power lines, sewer lines, or water lines.

(g) Maintaining trees.

The MGCA recommends that all Members remove ivy from trees on their property. The MGCA will remove ivy from all trees growing on MGCA property.