

(h) Who May Plant, Maintain, or Remove Trees.

- (1) **City Forester.** No person, except the City Forester and/or his/her agent, shall plant, transplant, move, spray, brace, trim, prune, cut above or below ground, disturb, alter or do surgery on a public tree or shrub in the City, or cause such act to be done by others.
- (2) **Exceptions.** Residents may be allowed to cultivate, fertilize, perform minor cutting or pruning or watering of public trees or shrubs, after obtaining permission from the City Forester to do so.

Section 6.4.7 Trimming.

- (a) Any person growing a tree, plant or shrub on any private property abutting on public streets or public places shall:
 - (1) Trim them so as not to be a hazard to persons using the streets or to interfere with the proper lighting of the streets.
 - (2) Treat or remove any tree, plant or shrub which the City Forester shall determine is diseased or insect-ridden or a hazard to persons using the streets.
 - (3) Remove and refrain from planting any tree, plant or shrub designated by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and published in its regulations to be a host or carrier of a dangerous plant disease or insect pest.
- (b) Trees and shrubs standing in or upon any terrace, public area or upon any private premises adjacent to any public right-of-way or public areas shall be kept trimmed so that the lowest branches projecting over the public street or alley provide a clearance of not less than fourteen (14) feet. The City Forester may waive the provisions of this Section for newly planted trees if he/she determines that they do not interfere with public travel, obstruct the light of any street light or endanger public safety.
- (c) The necessity of the pruning may be determined by the City Forester. Trimming activity, and the cost thereof, shall be the responsibility of the City within Public, Boulevard, or Terrace areas. Pruning or trimming costs associated with trees growing on private property shall be the responsibility of the property owner.
- (d) Clearance from sidewalk to lower branches shall not be less than eight (8) feet. All trees standing upon private property in the City, the branches of which extend over the line of the street, shall be trimmed so that no branch shall grow or hang over the line of the sidewalk lower than ten (10) feet above the level of the sidewalk. No tree shall be permitted to grow in such a manner as to obstruct the proper diffusion of light from any public lamp.

Section 6.4.8 Trees and Shrubbery Obstructing View at Intersection or View of Traffic Signs.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, no person shall maintain, plant or permit to remain on any private or public premises situated at the intersection of two (2) or more streets or alleys in the City any hedge, tree, shrub or other growth which may obstruct the view of the operator of any motor vehicle or pedestrian approaching such intersection.
- (b) It is unlawful for any person to plant, cause to grow, allow to grow or maintain any trees, bushes, shrubbery or vegetation of any kind which is an obstruction to the clear and complete vision of any traffic sign or driveway approach to a street in the City. It shall be the duty of every owner of such tree, bush, shrubbery or vegetation to remove such obstruction.
- (c) Any shrub, tree or other plant which obstructs the view at an intersection or the view of a traffic sign shall be deemed to be dangerous to public travel and the City Forester may order, by written notice, the owner or occupant of any private place or premises on which there stands a tree or shrub which unreasonably interferes with or encroaches upon the street or sidewalk, to take such steps as are necessary to remove such interference. If such owner or occupant fails, within ten (10) days of receipt of notice, to take such necessary steps, the City Forester shall order City employees to remove the interference. The cost of removing the interference shall be levied and collected as a special tax upon the property upon which such tree or shrub stands.
- (d) Any person who is an owner or occupant or firm or corporation failing to obey the written notice of the City Forester as specified in Subsection (c) above shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a forfeiture as established in Section 1.1.7 of this Code of Ordinances.

Cross-Reference: Section 13.1.81

Section 6.4.9 Removal of Trees and Stumps.

- (a) **Dangerous, Obstructive and Infected Trees.**
 - (1) Any tree or part thereof growing upon private premises, whether alive or dead, which the City Forester shall find to be infected, hazardous or a nuisance so as to endanger the general public or other trees or shrubs growing within the City, or to be injurious to sewers, sidewalks or other public improvements, shall be removed, trimmed or treated by the owner of the property upon which such tree or part thereof is located as directed by the City Forester. The City Forester shall give written notice to said owner to remedy the situation which shall be served personally or posted upon the affected tree. Such notice shall specifically state the period of time within which the action must be taken, which shall be within not less