

Woodmont Country Club Tree Policy

Purpose

The purpose of the tree policy is to provide guidelines for the Board of Directors to administer tree trimming and removal efforts in such a way that will benefit the Club as a whole. It is the duty of the Board to protect Club property at all times.

Reasons for Trimming

1. To save the tree from starvation.
2. To thin out overcrowded areas to promote a more natural growth pattern.
3. To balance the “leaners” to keep them from falling and destroying the banks and steep slopes.
4. To reasonably maintain or restore marine views for adjacent homes so long as it does not detract from the natural character of Club property.
5. Petitioner must pay all costs and remove debris. Standards for debris removal are listed below.

Reasons for Removal

1. Dead trees that represent a danger.
2. Tree is obviously diseased and is dangerous.
3. Tree is leaning dangerously.

Replacement

When a tree of any species is removed, a transplant of proper vigor, size, and variety must replace it – preferably at least 2 to 3 years old.

Procedures for Requesting Trimming or Removal of Trees

1. Any member requesting removal or trimming must write a letter of request to the Board. The Board will pass the request to the Tree Committee.
2. The Tree Committee, appointed by the Board president and consisting of at least three members, will investigate the proposed trimming request. The Committee and the petitioner will fill out the proper forms within 30 days specifying what action may be taken. Findings of the Tree Committee and action taken are to be noted in the minutes of the following Board meeting.
3. Trees may be trimmed or pruned only according to the guidelines of the National Arborist Association. Topping harms trees and is not allowed. The correct method of trimming is called Natural Target Pruning. Trees must be trimmed at the right time of the year for each tree. No spikes may be used in climbing, no wound dressing, or pruning paint should be used. Contact the Tree Committee if you or your arborist is not familiar with this terminology.
4. Some debris may be left for erosion control and to replace lost nutrients. When brush piles under trees become clearly visible in spite of spring “green up”, or visible piles of brush begin to be in close proximity to each other, then pruning operations should be suspended until the concentrated debris and brush can be removed. It is important to prevent the development of high fuel loads, which could lead to fires.

5. When permission is granted for tree trimming, there will be a time limit agreed upon by the petitioner and the Tree Committee. This time limit will be in writing on the above-mentioned form. If the work is not completed within this time limit for any reason, another request must be made.

Definition of Evergreen and Deciduous trees for the purpose of this policy

1. Evergreen:

Fir, Pine, Hemlock, Yew, Holly, Madrona, or other needle-bearing trees native to this area.

2. Deciduous:

Oak, Maple, Ash, Alder, Willow, Chestnut, or any other leaf-bearing tree native to this area.

3. Bushes:

Bushes and small growth along the paths may be trimmed in a neat fashion at any time during the year and considered a maintenance chore. Filberts and Laurels are included in this category.