

Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan Report

Subject Property:

1839 Four Mile Creek Road Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

Prepared For:

Harvest Heights
657 East West Line
Niagara-On-The-Lake, ON L0S 1J0

Prepared By:

Jackson Arboriculture Inc. 118 Pleasant Ridge Road Brantford, ON N3R 0B8

6 January 2024

Jackson Arboriculture Inc. Project No. 542



1.0 Introduction

Jackson Arboriculture Inc. was retained by Harvest Heights to complete a Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan report for a property situated at 1839 Four Mile Creek Road in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, hereby referred to as the subject property. It is understood that an application will be filed with the Town for the construction of a residential development.

This study has been completed in accordance with the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake private tree by-law No. 5139-19. The private tree by-law regulates the removal of trees 12.5 cm in diameter and larger.

2.0 Methodology

At the onset of the project the scope of work was coordinated with the client and the consulting team. Prior to conducting a site visit, the topographic survey and current aerial photography were overlaid utilizing geographic information software for use on site during the completion of the tree inventory. The tree locations and the site plan were then overlaid and a tree preservation analysis was completed to determine the impacts to the trees included in the inventory.

2.1 Tree Inventory

A site visit was conducted on the 23rd of December 2024 to complete the tree inventory. All trees 12.5 cm in diameter and larger situated on subject property, on neighbouring property within 6 m and within the road allowance were included in the inventory. A visual assessment was completed on each tree included in the inventory and the following information is provided in the tree inventory table (Table 1):

- **Tree #**: A number assigned to each tree corresponding to the tree inventory (Table 1) and the Tree Preservation Plan (Sheet 1).
- **Species**: Common and scientific (Latin) species names.
- **DBH**: The trunk diameter at breast height, measured in centimeters at 1.4 m from the ground.
- **Condition**: The health of the tree considering the trunk integrity, the crown structure and the crown vigour; each rated as good, fair or poor. The condition ratings are based on the signs, symptoms and defects exhibited by each tree, considering the surroundings in which it is growing.
- mTPZ: Minimum tree preservation zone distance as measured in meters from the base of the tree. This is the distance at which tree protection fence is to be installed (unless noted otherwise below).
- **Location**: The property where the tree is situated, based on the topographic survey and gps locations taken on site.
- **Comments**: Any additional notes relevant to the tree's health or growing conditions.
- **Recommendation**: The recommended removal or preservation of each tree based on the results of the impact assessment.

The trees included in the inventory were identified with numbers 1-24 and were located using the topographic survey provided and a tablet computer with a GPS receiver.

2.2 Impact Assessment

A tree preservation analysis was completed on each tree included in the tree inventory considering the impacts from the proposed development and many other factors including, but not limited to, tree condition, species, DBH and the existing site conditions. The impacts from the proposed development will occur where tree roots conflict with construction machinery during pregrading, construction, grading and servicing.

During the tree preservation analysis the minimum Tree Preservation Zone (mTPZ) distance was utilized to determine the potential impacts to each tree included in the inventory. Where encroachment is required within the mTPZ, tree removal may be required.

The mTPZ distance is the minimum distance at which development can safely occur without considerably impacting a tree's root system. The mTPZ distance is based on the diameter of the tree and measured in meters from the base of the stem. Refer to Table 2 for the mTPZ distances based on trunk diameter.

Table 2. Minimum tree preservation zone distances.

DBH (cm)	Min. Tree Preservation Zone Distance (m)* Radius				
< 10	1.8				
11 – 40	2.4				
41 – 50	3.0				
51 – 60	3.6				
61 – 70	4.2				
71 – 80	4.8				
81 – 90	5.4				
91 – 100	6.0				
101 – 110	6.6				

^{*}As measured from the outside of the tree trunk.

3.0 Existing Conditions

The subject property is currently occupied by manicured lawn and disturbed ground from recent home demolition. The property is bound by residential development to the north and south, a vineyard to the east and Four Mile Creek Road to the west.

4.0 Tree Inventory Results

The results of the tree inventory indicate that a total of 22 trees 12.5 cm in diameter or larger and 2 tree units reside on subject property, on neighbouring property within 6 m and within the road allowance The trees included in the inventory appear to be comprised of landscape plantings.

No rare, threatened or endangered tree species were documented in the tree inventory. Refer to Table 1 for the complete tree inventory and Sheet 1 for the tree locations.

5.0 Proposed Development

The proposed development includes the construction of a 3-storey residential building with a total of 29 units and below ground parking.

6.0 Discussion

The following sections discuss the tree removal requirements, tree preservation opportunities and tree preservation recommendations based on the results of the impact assessment.

6.1 Tree Removal

The results of the impact assessment indicate that the removal of Trees and Tree Units 1-11, 12, 17-21 and 24 will be required to accommodate the proposed development. Of the 18 trees and tree units identified for removal, 3 are weed species and are unregulated by the private tree bylaw.

It may be possible to preserve Tree 1, however, it is identified as a weed species and the tree also has two large pruning wounds. Considering the species type, the large pruning wounds and the impacts from development, Tree 1 should be removed and replaced with a tree species more suitable to urban conditions such as a shademaster honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis 'Shademaster'*) or little leaf linden (*Tilia cordata*).

Tree Unit 11 and Tree 12 appears to reside on the shared property boundary to the south. Permission from the neighbouring property owner will be required prior to removal, as per the Forestry Act, R.S.O. 1990.

6.2 Tree Preservation

The results of the impact assessment indicate that the preservation of Trees and Units 13-16, 22 and 23 will be possible with the use of appropriate tree protection measures.

The tree protection fence must be installed prior to the commencement of construction to ensure that the trees identified for preservation are not impacted by the proposed development. Tree

protection fence must be installed at the mTPZ distance as outlined this report and on Sheet 1 unless noted otherwise in this report.

Refer to Sheet 1 for the prescribed tree protection fence locations, additional tree protection plan notes and the tree protection fence detail.

6.3 Tree Preservation Recommendations

The following recommendations are made in attempts to reduce the impacts to trees identified for preservation:

- Tree protection fence must be installed prior to the commencement of construction to ensure that the trees identified for preservation are not damaged during construction.
- Tree protection fence must be installed at the mTPZ distance as outlined in this report and on Sheet 1.
- Once tree protection fence has been installed it must not be moved, relocated or altered in any way (unless repairing fallen fence etc.) for the duration of the construction period.
- No intrusion into an area identified on Sheet 1 as a tree preservation zone (TPZ) is allowed at anytime during construction unless noted otherwise in this report and on Sheet 1.
- No storage of machinery, construction debris, materials, waste or any other items is allowed within a TPZ.
- Any tree branches and roots that conflict with the proposed development must be pruned by a Certified Arborist in accordance with good arboricultural practice.
- Tree protection fencing should be inspected by a Certified Arborist prior to and during construction to ensure that the fencing remains intact and in good repair throughout the stages of development.

7.0 Summary

Jackson Arboriculture Inc. was retained by Harvest Heights to complete a Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan report for a property situated at 1839 Four Mile Creek Road in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. A tree inventory was conducted and an impact assessment was completed in the context of the proposed development plan.

The tree inventory documented a total of 22 trees and 2 units situated on subject property, in the road allowance and on neighbouring property within 6 m. The results of the impact assessment indicate that the removal of 17 trees and 1 tree unit will be required to accommodate the proposed development. Of the trees and tree units identified for removal, 3 are defined as weed species and are unregulated by the private tree by-law.

Respectfully submitted, **Jackson Arboriculture Inc.**

Jeremy Jackson

Jeremy Jackson, H.B.Sc., ISA Certified Arborist #ON-1089A GIS Analyst

8.0 Limitations of Assessment

It is our policy to attach the following limitations of assessment to ensure that the client, municipalities and agencies are fully aware of what is technically and professionally realistic when visually assessing and retaining trees.

The assessment of the trees presented in this report has been made using accepted arboricultural techniques. These include a visual examination of the above ground parts of each tree for structural defects, scars, external indications of decay such as fungal fruiting bodies, evidence of attack by insects, discoloured foliage, the condition of any visible root structures, the degree and direction of any lean, the general condition of the trees and the surrounding site, and the proximity of property and people.

Notwithstanding the recommendations and conclusions made in this report, it must be realized that trees are living organisms and their health and vigour constantly change. They are not immune to changes in site conditions, or seasonal variations in the weather conditions, including severe storms with high-speed winds.

While reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the trees recommended for retention are healthy no guarantees are offered, or implied, that these trees, or any parts of them, will remain standing. It is both professionally and practically impossible to predict with absolute certainty the behaviour of any single tree of group of trees or their component parts in al circumstances. Inevitably a standing tree will always pose some risk. Most trees have the potential for failure under adverse weather conditions, and the risk can only be eliminated if the tree is removed.

Although every effort has been made to ensure that this assessment is reasonably accurate, trees should be re-assessed periodically. The assessment presented in this report is valid at the time of the inspection.

Table 1. Tree Inventory

Location: 1839 Four Mile Creek Rd, NOTL Date: 23 Dec. 2024 Surveyors: JJJ

Tree #	Common Name	Scientific Name	DBH	TI	cs	CV	DL	mTPZ	Location	Comments	Action
1	Manitoba Maple	Acer negundo	69	F	FG	FG	6	4.2	Subject Property	Spiral grain, heavy pruning wounds	Remove
2	Norway Spruce	Picea abies	48	G	G	G	6	3.0	Subject Property	-	Remove
3	Honey Locust cultivar	Gleditsia triacanthos var. 'inermis'	53	G	G	G	7	3.6	Subject Property	Union at 2 m	Remove
4	Honey Locust cultivar	Gleditsia triacanthos var. 'inermis'	63	G	G	G	9	4.2	Subject Property		Remove
5	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	71	F	F	FG	8	4.8	Subject Property	Stem wound, pruning wound, seam	Remove
6	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	48	G	FG	G	3.5	3.0	Subject Property	Vertical scaffold limb	Remove
7	Little-leaf Linden	Tilia cordata	51	F	FG	FG	5	3.6	Subject Property	Coppice growth, epicormic branching	Remove
8	Northern Catalpa	Catalpa speciosa	41	PF	F	F	6	3.0	Subject Property	Cavity at flare with heart rot, stem wound, seam, understorey	Remove
9	Northern Catalpa	Catalpa speciosa	88	FG	G	G	6	5.4	Subject Property	Union at 2 m	Remove
10	Scots Pine	Pinus sylvestris	35, 29, 38	F	FG	FG	5	3.0	Subject Property	Union at 0.4 m with included bark	Remove
Unit 11	Eastern White Cedar	Thuja occidentalis	12.5-17	G	G	G	1.5	2.4	Boundary	14 white cedar <u>≥</u> 12.5 cm	Remove
12	Eastern Cottonwood	Populus deltoides	66	G	G	G	8	4.2	Boundary		Remove
Unit 13	Eastern White Cedar	Thuja occidentalis	12.5-17	FG	G	G	1.5	2.4	Neighbouring	Union at ground, 6 white cedar > 12.5 cm	Preserve
14	Cherry species	Prunus spp.	~45, 35	FG	G	G	4.5	3.6	Neighbouring	Union at 1 m	Preserve
15	Norway Maple	Acer platanoides	~45	F	FG	G	5	3.0	Neighbouring	Sun scald/frost crack	Preserve
16	Sweet Cherry	Prunus avium	~25, 30	F	PF	PF	5	2.4	Neighbouring	Union at 0.5 m, heavy pruning wounds, epicormic branching, understorey	Preserve
17	Emerald Cedar	Thuja occidentalis 'Smaragd'	24, 22, 20	FG	G	G	1.5	2.4	Subject Property	Union at 0.5 m	Remove
18	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	35	G	G	G	2	2.4	Subject Property		Remove
19	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	20, 30	F	FG	G	2	2.4	Subject Property	Union at ground	Remove
20	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	28, 25	F	FG	G	2.5	2.4	Subject Property	Union at 0.4 m	Remove
21	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	33	G	G	G	3	2.4	Subject Property		Remove
22	White Spruce	Picea glauca	~31	G	G	G	3	2.4	Neighbouring		Preserve
23	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	~45	G	G	G	3.5	3.0	Neighbouring		Preserve
24	Blue Spruce	Picea pungens	51	G	G	G	4	3.6	Subject Property	Asphalt driveway 0.5 m from base of tree	Remove

Legend						
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height	(cm)				
TI	Trunk Integrity	(G, F, P)				
CS	Crown Structure	(G, F, P)				
CV	Crown Vigor	(G, F, P)				
DL	Dripline	(m)				
mTPZ	Minimum Tree Preservation Zone	(m)				
G	Good					
F	Fair					
Р	Poor					
~	Estimate					

