CITY OF ST. PAUL PARK

POLICY

For

Boulevard Tree Maintenance and Removal

Adopted by the St. Paul Park City Council

February 16, 2016
City of St. Paul Park  
Boulevard Tree Maintenance and Removal Policy

The City of St. Paul Park believes that having a uniform boulevard tree maintenance and removal policy serves to protect the City’s investment in its roads, to maintain roadways for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, to maintain general tree health and, where feasible, preserve natural aesthetics.

**Reasons for tree maintenance:**

Branches are pruned throughout the tree to remove unhealthy, broken, or rubbing limbs to improve the overall health and symmetry of the tree. This annual trimming program is also necessary to provide safe sight lines and allow sufficient overhead clearance for delivery trucks, city vehicles, and maintenance equipment. Ultimately, the results of pruning are to keep the trees healthy and less susceptible to wind damage and disease.

**Where maintenance takes place:**

Pruning will take place on trees that are located on the City’s Right-of-Way (boulevard). City Right-of-Ways range from 12 feet to 22 feet. To determine the ROW/boulevard area of your property contact City Hall or Public Works as these vary throughout the city.

**When maintenance takes place:**

Routine pruning typically takes place from October 1st through March 31st. This is the most appropriate time of the year to trim trees to prevent infection through pruning wounds. During the remainder of the year trimming is limited to the removal of nuisance, broken or dead limbs and hazardous trees for public safety.

**Maintenance requests:**

Requests may be made to the Public Works Department for tree pruning. Public Works staff will verify the request and if applicable add the request to a working list of tree maintenance. Trees will not be trimmed to improve views or from around utility lines. If there is a conflict with utility lines please contact the utility company directly.
Tree removal:

The City will remove boulevard trees that are dead or dying, have a disease or infestation, pose a threat to public safety due to structural hazards or for work to install, expand or repair streets or utilities. Once a tree is removed from the boulevard the city will contract for removal of the stump and the re-seeding of any turf disturbed in the process. Removal and re-seeding is done at no charge to the property owner.

Removal requests:

Requests may be made to the Public Works Department for tree removal. Public Works staff will verify the request and if applicable add the request to a working list of trees to be removed. Trees will not be removed because of clogged sewer lines, to improve view, or eliminate the need to clean up leaves and/or seeds that may fall from the tree.