



## Proposed Changes to Tree Policies and Regulations

	CURRENT REGULATION	PROPOSED REGULATION
<b>Minimum tree size to require a tree cutting permit</b>	DBH of the tree is larger than 20 cm. <i>(DBH: Diameter at breast height, a standard method of expressing tree trunk size.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DBH of the tree is larger than 15 cm</li> <li>• Height of the trees exceeds 5 m</li> <li>• Any replacement tree</li> <li>• A tree on City-owned property <i>(if proposed to be cut by anyone other than the City)</i></li> </ul>
<b>Definition of what constitutes a “significant” tree</b>	<p>A significant tree must be one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a large native species</li> <li>• a wildlife tree (used for bird nest)</li> <li>• a registered heritage tree</li> <li>• an unusual specimen tree</li> </ul>	<p>A significant tree must be one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a rare native species with a diameter &gt; 10cm. (Pacific Dogwood; Arbutus; Western Yew; Western White Pine; Gary Oak; Oregon Ash)</li> <li>• a dead, standing snag used as wildlife habitat</li> <li>• a tree designated and registered by size, age or cultural significance on a list of heritage trees</li> <li>• a very large tree with a diameter &gt; 60 cm (about 2 ft).</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement to replant a cut tree that is not a significant tree</b>	Not required	One replacement tree must be planted for each tree that is removed.
<b>Requirement to replant a cut tree that is a significant tree</b>	Negotiated for replacement at time of permit issuance.	Two replacement trees must be planted for each significant tree that is removed.
<b>Payment of cash-in-lieu of replanting</b>	Not in bylaw, but often negotiated.	A payment of \$500 per tree may be provided in lieu of on-site planting.

	CURRENT REGULATION	PROPOSED REGULATION
<b>Removal of a tree deemed hazardous</b>	Exempted from permit requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed without a permit if an owner considers a tree to be at immediate risk of failure, but the owner must apply for a permit within two days. Before the City issues a permit, a qualified tree assessor will determine if the tree was a hazard.</li> <li>No charge for a permit to cut a tree deemed a hazard.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement to install protective fencing around trees that are to be retained</b>	Required as a condition of development approval or, in some situations, through negotiation at time of tree cutting permit issuance for sites where some trees are to be cut.	Ensure protective fencing is installed prior to issuance of a permit for demolition, soil removal or soil deposit, in addition to a condition of development approval or tree cutting permit.
<b>Fees to cut a tree</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No permit fee to cut one tree per year on a property.</li> <li>\$50 plus \$20 per tree for an owner of a single-family lot to cut more than one tree per year.</li> <li>\$75 plus \$25 per tree for an owner of a lot other than single-family to cut more than one tree per year.</li> </ul>	Permit fee of \$100 for each tree approved to be cut.
<b>Penalties for contravention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range from \$100 to \$500.</li> <li>One replacement tree is required to be planted for each unauthorized tree removed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range from \$200 (e.g., failure to display permit) to \$4,000 (removing a significant tree without a permit).</li> <li>Three replacement trees required for each unauthorized tree removed.</li> </ul>

More information: [www.portcoquitlam.ca/talktrees](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/talktrees)