

VILLAGE OF DRUMMOND CONSTRUCTION TREE PROTECTION PLAN

The Village trees are an important common asset. In order to preserve the health of the trees and maintain a consistent “site-line”, the Village maintains, prunes, removes and replaces trees that lie between the sidewalk and the street and within five feet in from the sidewalk.

Renovation and construction pose significant risks to the health of trees and, importantly, their root systems. Approximately 90 percent of a tree’s root system is in the top three feet of soil, and more than half is in the top one foot. Tree roots need loose soil to grow, obtain oxygen, and absorb water and nutrients. Soil compaction can be as harmful as severing roots. Stockpiled building materials, heavy machinery, and excessive foot traffic all damage soil structure. Thus, “construction fences” must be built around Village trees that are in close proximity to construction pathways. (Construction fences are *recommended* for other trees on the homeowner’s lot.)

Fences may be made of wire, wood or plastic, provided that workers respect the fence boundaries. The fences should be placed as far out from the trunks of the trees as is possible. To the extent feasible, allow one foot of space from the trunk for each inch of diameter. Construction plans should identify existing Village trees and the borders of the construction fences, which are required for issuance of a Village construction permit.

Although the Village ordinarily maintains the sidewalks and driveway aprons, homeowners are responsible for repair or replacement of sidewalks and aprons damaged by construction. New sidewalks and aprons must be concrete, and new aprons should be no wider than the existing apron or 12 feet, whichever is wider.

Questions concerning compliance with the fencing requirement or the permit process should be directed to the Mayor.

The Village of Drummond Citizens Committee

(April 1, 2010)