



Friends of the Scarsdale Parks, Inc.
P.O. BOX 53
SCARSDALE, NEW YORK 10583

June 21, 2021

Scarsdale Village Board
1001 Post Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583
Via Email

Dear Village Board:

FOSP has supported restoration efforts at Boniface Circle for many years. You may recall recommendations made by FOSP to install perennial plants and native shrubs on the Spencer Place side of the Boniface Memorial stone wall. FOSP reached out to a local landscape design professional for suggestions. For a variety of reasons, including the tradition of the Department of Public Works (DPW) to plant flowering annuals in that space to enhance the WWII Monument prior to Memorial Day observations, the concept was rejected by the Village. It should be noted that the cost of these annual flowers is not insignificant, not including the staff time needed to plant, water, and weed.

You may also recall that in 2017, FOSP nominated the blue spruce for “Heritage Tree” protective (but revocable) status under provisions of Village Code §281.7, and submitted the application to the Building Department and the Board of Architectural Review. A copy of the April 6, 2017 application is attached. The application was rejected by the BAR when a representative of the Scarsdale Forum’s Downtown Revitalization Committee objected at the hearing to the Heritage designation on the grounds that the committee was reimagining the park as a European-style plaza and the tree blocked the view of Chase Park from where people would be seated. No other party objected to the nomination.

Regarding the health of the tree, a FOSP Board member, Cynthia Roberts, is certified by the New York Botanical Garden in Arboriculture, Sustainable Landscape Management and as an Urban Naturalist, and is Chair of the Trees Committee of “Planting Westchester,” a Westchester County wide initiative to utilize plants to increase the climate resilience of our county. She sought a professional consultation on the health of the tree in preparation for our nomination of the tree for Heritage Tree status. She arranged for Michael Marks, an ISA arborist for then employed by Almstead Tree, Shrub and Lawn Care, to inspect the blue spruce at Boniface Circle in December 2017. His conclusion was that the tree was healthy but hosts pitch mass borers (a moth) that will not kill the tree but does make it look messy. He explained that the moths can be dug out by hand to improve the appearance of the trunk, but that there is no permanent treatment to prevent their return. His proposal included removing the pitch mass borers from the spruce by hand, performing a root collar excavation to expose the root flare, pruning back the arborvitae shrubs that surround the blue spruce, and injecting compost tea to the soil 3 times during the year to improve the ecology of the soil surrounding the tree roots. Based on the potential Heritage Tree status, Almstead offered to provide these services valued at \$1,100 at no charge. A copy of the January 31, 2017 Almstead Proposal is attached.

In October 2019, FOSP Board member Betsy Bush was attending a week-long Sustainability Intensive Workshop at the New York Botanical Garden. One lecture included a presentation on Integrated Pest Management by Kent Pierce, whose 32 year-old firm, Green Cross, Inc., services estates on Long Island's East End. Among his list of the ten most pest prone plant species is Colorado blue spruce, which he advises clients not to plant. During a break, Betsy showed him pictures of the Boniface Circle spruce, and he identified the needle die back and branch skeletonization as evidence of *Cytospora* canker, a fungal disease common to blue spruce.¹ When asked if it could be treated, Mr. Pierce said it possibly could be slowed but not stopped.

The Boniface green space has received renewed attention more recently in large part due to merchant and Scarsdale Business Alliance (SBA) efforts to attract commercial activity in the downtown area and fill empty storefronts. After years of neglect of the area, the Village too has responded to both the business community and a series of reports and recommendations relevant to the Village center broadly and the pocket park specifically, that have been made by a working group comprised of representatives of the SBA, representatives of FOSP, and members of the Scarsdale Forum's Downtown Revitalization Committee.

As many of you may be aware, the blue spruce was planted around 1970 as a specimen for the purpose of beautifying the Village Center. The tree served to enhance the pocket park where the WWII Memorial was built, and brought admiration and holiday cheer with its seasonal lighting in the downtown.

The blue spruce garnered recent support last winter as evidenced by numerous letters to the editor in the Scarsdale Inquirer in response to suggestions that the tree be removed. Note that these comments were made prior to severe pruning and topping of the tree by the Village in March 2021:

“With its sparkling holiday lights, it is the center of our holiday festivities. During other seasons it stands gracefully in front of the Harwood building, a living symbol of strength, continuity and dignity.” (letter to the Editor from Ronee Bank, 11/27/2020)

“I agree...that the Boniface Circle blue spruce be saved, not removed. Any problems it has can be corrected. It's a perfect tree for the location.” (letter to the Editor from Andrew C. Hartzell, Jr., 12/4/2020)

“Take down our beautiful blue spruce tree in Boniface Circle for a few café tables—give me a break?” (letter to the Editor from Gerry Ryan, 12/11/2020)

“...the soaring spruce creates a perfect centerpiece for our beautiful village of trees...If the DRC (Downtown Revitalization Committee) and SBA (Scarsdale Business Alliance) wish to attract more Scarsdale residents to the village center, I would strongly advise providing rent relief to those merchants impacted by the pandemic and lowering rents to enable a more practicable

¹ “Cytospora canker is caused by the fungus *Leucostoma kunzei*. This fungus is often present in healthy branches. Disease begins when the tree becomes stressed by insect feeding, snow or ice damage, drought or other factors. . . .A sunken canker forms on branches and is often coated in a thick layer of resin. It may take several years for the canker to girdle the branch. . . .Once girdled, the branch dies and the needles turn brown and fall off. The fungus quickly grows throughout the dead branch, but rarely grows into the tree trunk. The tree trunk can be infected through wounds. . . .Dark, raised, pimple-like, spore-producing structures form on infected branches. These structures release yellow tendrils of spores in wet weather. Spores are spread to new branches by wind or rain. . . .Cytospora canker rarely kills spruce trees, but it can severely deform them.” Retrieved from <https://extension.umn.edu/plant-diseases/cytospora-canker>.

assortment of downtown retail establishments. But in the meantime, please leave our beloved tree alone!” (letter to the editor from Rona Shamoon, 12/4/2020)

There have, however, been other opinions expressed about the tree. When Betsy was conducting a small survey of visitors to the Farmers Market at Boniface Circle in connection with her Columbia Independent Study in late September 2019, only 45% said they were “satisfied” with the blue spruce. During a recent Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting, all nine participants favored removal of the tree. The attendees included a long-time real estate broker who grew up in Scarsdale and has a very traditional outlook. Her comments, which appeared to speak for many, was that the tree is “no longer an asset.”

Three primary issues have been considered by the FOSP Board. First is the effect of extreme pruning done by the Village in March, resulting in the severe topping of the crown of the blue spruce. Second are planned improvements to make Boniface a more useable public space. Third is the suggestion by Village Trustee Justin Arest, made at a meeting of the working group on May 11, 2021, that the Village would appreciate the input of FOSP if the Village were to determine the need to remove the blue spruce in the context of Boniface restoration efforts.

Regarding any planned improvements to downtown streets and green space, FOSP is not aware of any current, comprehensive “renovation plan,” much less a master plan, that would cover the entire downtown, not just the Boniface pocket park. Instead, a modest concept was put together by a small sub-group of residents participating in the working group (who are also members of the Scarsdale Forum’s Downtown Revitalization Committee). The concept includes Adirondack chairs and café table and chair sets to bring more people into the pocket park and freshen its appearance to make the space more welcoming. A copy of the working group’s concept submitted to the Village, dated February 25, 2021, is attached. Note there is no mention of removing the blue spruce.

The Village has made it clear that its approach to pocket park restoration will be incremental. For example, the village modified some of the recommended purchases. The recommendation for shrubs and perennials along the Spencer place side of the Memorial wall was put on hold. Our understanding is that there may be water seepage all the way down to the stone floor of the inside of the Memorial, and that Village staff is currently unable to work on finding the cause and fix the problem until fall. There is also the issue of upgrading the electrical utility next to the blue spruce, with its dilapidated enclosure. We have been informed that this would be an expensive fix.

What should be FOSP’s position regarding the removal of the tree? FOSP has been asked if it would be supportive of Village efforts, should it be determined that the tree should be removed. We note that FOSP has not been asked to recommend removal. Last fall, Trustee Lena Crandall suggested the Village Board should hold a public work session to discuss the fate of the tree. She noted that, “the removal of a tree is a permanent change, and that has to be done carefully and thoughtfully.” (Scarsdale Inquirer, p.3, November 27, 2020) These comments were made prior to the topping of the tree in March.

The community has not yet been given any opportunity to provide input on what should be done to update the Boniface pocket park. Perhaps there could be a public work session for the community to identify objectives that would include an update on the condition of the tree. Scarsdale residents should be apprised of the topping of the tree and the necessity, if any, for doing so. There should be a clear public explanation of why the tree may no longer be likely to do well in this location due to its recent topping and higher expected temperatures, combined with any comprehensive plans for the future of the pocket park.

As you can see from the attached photos taken by Betsy this spring, the blue spruce has thinned out considerably when compared with its appearance just a few years ago, with branch die back leaving many branches bare or nearly bare. Recent breakage of blue spruce branches in high wind conditions raises concern for public safety. As discussed in more detail below, the pruning and topping of the crown of the tree has altered its appearance considerably and may have weakened it in the process. The Village has been made aware of the stresses to the tree from a number of arborist opinions, including its own consulting arborist, Craig Stevens.

Arborist Evaluations of the Blue Spruce

We've reviewed the April 27, 2017 report of Village arborist Stevens about the blue spruce (copy attached), and Madelaine Eppenstein recently consulted about the status of the tree's health on a pro bono basis with Mike McGowan, the certified arborist with Bartlett Tree Experts. McGowan's report was given to Madelaine verbally several months ago. Stevens's and McGowan's conclusions were similar, that the tree is in decline. Stevens noted evidence of girdling with a wire that was visible on his inspection (and has since been removed), and suggested this could impact "weakening the canopy."

Cynthia spoke at our March 4, 2020 FOSP Board meeting and suggested that since the tree is not a hazard and that it is of significant historical and cultural importance to Scarsdale's residents, two independent arborists should evaluate the tree as discussions move forward. In addition, she suggested that the tree be maintained while there is community discussion about the future plans for the park, and that maturity of a tree should not signal its death knell in the absence of other problems. More importantly, she educated the FOSP Board about the urban heat island effect. This effect is created when buildings, parking lots, roads, and sidewalks absorb sunlight and then release it at night, increasing temperatures and eliminating the cooling that otherwise would occur at night. As our climate gets hotter, the Harwood Building, parking spaces around Boniface Circle and the surrounding paved streets and sidewalks will increase the temperatures in our Village Center. In order to create an appealing and shaded oasis for our residents, shoppers, and shop employees, she recommended that all proposals for Boniface Circle should maximize planted areas and tree shade and minimize paved areas.

In December 2020, Cynthia submitted a memorandum to the Boniface working group, in which she related the details of a new onsite meeting with Almstead Tree and Shrub certified arborist Nick Tripsas about the condition of the blue spruce. His findings were a guesstimate that "the likelihood of failure of the branches, crown, trunk, or roots of this tree are very low within the time frame of 1-2 years. Given the high traffic area that it is in, there are a few steps that we can take to mitigate that risk even further. I have included my observations and recommendations for your consideration." A copy of arborist Tripsas's report, dated December 8, 2020, is attached.

Based on Almstead's evaluation of the tree, Cynthia reported the following to the working group:

"The arborist said that the tree is not a safety hazard. There is, however, evidence of pitch mass borer moths, a common nuisance insect of evergreen trees. These insects cause the trees to emit sap and makes the trunk look a bit messy, but are not fatal. He recommends cleaning up the trunk by removing any pitch mass borer larvae and pruning any dead or weak branches. He recommends that a bark drench be applied to the trunk to suppress the moths. He did not find any evidence of any beetles.

Due to its location in a high traffic area, he recommended performing a root collar excavation with an air spade to ensure there are no root problems and to relieve soil compaction. He also recommended treatment with compost and/or compost tea (contains the beneficial organisms from compost).

He said that due to the increasingly hot and humid conditions in this region, he does not recommend planting this species of tree when installing new trees. But he reiterated that the tree was not currently a safety hazard.”

However, after the Village performed radical topping of the crown of the blue spruce in March, Jeff Coleman, Scarsdale’s Public Works Superintendent, gave further support for the topping of the tree, which we surmise may be based on either the 2017 Stevens report or a more recent opinion by him or another Village consulting arborist:

“This work was the result of the last report from the arborist. There was a wire that had girdled the top of the tree that had created a bulge. The arborist recommended that the portion of the tree be removed at that point as it was a weak point subject to being sheared off in a windstorm.”

Aside from the potential public safety risk that may have elicited Village action, topping might have done more than just disfigure the blue spruce. Just a sampling of sources mention the potential downside to the short term health of the tree: <https://www.americanarborists.net/tree-tips/2018/april/tree-topping-vs-crown-reduction-whats-the-best-w/>; <https://blog.davey.com/2016/10/what-is-tree-topping-and-why-topping-is-harmful-to-trees/>.

Boniface Going Forward

The following is a short list of items to consider:

- The Colorado blue spruce is a native tree planted outside of its native environment.
- This species is prone to fungal disease. Kent Pierce viewed photographs of the tree, in response to a request by Betsy, and identified the presence of Cytospora canker. Mr. Pierce is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, a NOFA Accredited Organic Land Care Professional, a former faculty member of NYBG, a graduate of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and holds tree and shrub care supervisory licenses in Connecticut and New York.
- The tree will come under continued heat stress from higher summer temperatures and other effects of climate change, and from heat that radiates from the surrounding pavement.
- The tree’s appearance will not improve as its condition continues to deteriorate.
- Other communities decorate their public spaces at holiday time in ways that are attractive. Scarsdale does not require a living tree in this particular space for this purpose, with many other options available to explore.
- The merchants in the downtown area, including those who will be moving into newly renovated space in the Harwood Building, have expressed their concern over the unattractive condition of the tree. At least one merchant, Pamela Robbins, is willing to host a fundraiser for Boniface Circle improvements, according to Downtown Revitalization Committee Chair Susan Douglass.

- The Village appears to have included in its 2021-22 budget funds in the amount of \$15,000 to make Boniface Circle a more attractive and usable public space, and together with the efforts of the Boniface working group and the SBA have created significant momentum to make visible improvements to this small but important space that will add to the vitality of downtown activity and commerce.

We appreciate that the blue spruce has played a role in the history of the Village center and in the memories many people have of the downtown during the holiday season, when the tree is lit with festive lighting. Acknowledging the tree in better times, but stressing the opportunity and desire of many stakeholders to move forward to a newer and better use of the Boniface Circle pocket park, is what is needed at this moment to support efforts to revitalize Scarsdale's downtown.

We sense that FOSP's support if the Village were to decide to remove the blue spruce will be an important factor for the Village to consider, among many others, in taking this difficult but necessary step. FOSP takes this opportunity to encourage the Village to reach out to the community to identify objectives for this greenspace and to educate the public about the current condition of the tree. The addition of new furnishings this spring will not be prevented by the tree's presence. While the tree will likely need to be removed at some point, promotion of its premature removal before educating our residents about its condition has the potential to create unnecessary ill will towards FOSP and the Village. Instead, we can take this opportunity to bring along our neighbors on this journey of understanding trees and parks better.

Submitted by the following members of the Friends of the Scarsdale Parks, Inc.

Betsy Bush
Kay Eisenman
Madelaine Eppenstein
Amy Laartz
Richard Reuter
Cynthia Roberts

CC via email:

Stephen Pappalardo, Village Manager
Robert Cole, Deputy Village Manager
Brian Gray, Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Jeff Coleman, Superintendent of Public Works
Christine Sciandra, Village Manager's Office
Donna Conkling, Village Clerk



Friends of the Scarsdale Parks, Inc.
P.O. BOX 53
SCARSDALE, NEW YORK 10583

April 6, 2017

By Hand

Frank Diodati, Village Building Inspector
Scarsdale Village Hall
1001 Post Road, Scarsdale NY 10583

RE: 2017 Heritage Tree Designation: Boniface Circle Colorado Blue Spruce

Dear Mr. Diodati,

The Friends of the Scarsdale Parks (FOSP), a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization operating in the Village of Scarsdale since 1957, is hereby requesting a Heritage Tree designation pursuant to Village Code, Section 281-6, for the magnificent Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) located in the Village Center at the Boniface Circle Veterans' Memorial Park. (See Location Map, page 6, and Images 1 & 2, pages 4 & 5)

FOSP is honored to partner with the Village to give protected status to this Colorado Blue Spruce, one of many growing throughout the Village, including Village parks such as De Lima Park and other open spaces. FOSP is acting with the approval and on behalf of the property owner, the Village of Scarsdale.

Picea pungens, a very large, cold hardy deciduous conifer in the pine family, is native to the Rocky Mountains and is the state tree of Colorado and Utah. Escapes have been found very far from its native range in northeast and mid-Atlantic states, enabled by escapes from blue spruce nurseries. The 2016 Heritage Tree designation is an acknowledgment of the Colorado Blue Spruce, with its stately pyramidal form, as the iconic tree in the Scarsdale Village Center that is decorated annually in celebration of December holidays and the winter season. (Image 3)

The Colorado Blue Spruce tree is slow growing. The blue-green needles are evergreen, on drooping branches. The bark is dark grey, thick and furrowed, often exhibiting sap. Besides giving wildlife cover, the light brown seed cones are a food source for birds and squirrels. Because the wood is brittle and usually full of knots the Colorado Blue Spruce is not typically used for lumber. (Images 4 & 5)



This will be the fifth Heritage Tree designation in the Village of Scarsdale. In 2013, the historic White Oak on the front lawn of the Scarsdale Woman's Club at 37 Drake Road was sponsored by FOSP as the first officially designated Heritage Tree in the Village of Scarsdale. FOSP sought the protective designation for the White Oak, which has survived since colonial times, in part because it is a symbolic elder statesman deserving recognition for its place in the long history of Scarsdale. (See Page 7 for all previous Heritage Trees)

In 2014, the three majestic Dawn Redwoods at the edge of the Library Pond at 54 Olmsted Road were officially designated as Scarsdale Heritage trees. The Dawn Redwoods at the Library are notable because they are a prehistoric species that were planted in one of the few wetland areas in our Village where Metasequoias have the space to grow and display their full stature.

In 2015, three Sugar Maple trees at the Fox Meadow School received designated Heritage status because the species is the state tree of New York, and Fox Meadow students and their teachers have been making maple syrup from the sap of the trees almost annually. Sugar Maples, such as those at Fox Meadow School, produce commercially valuable syrup.

In 2016, a stand of magnificent, towering Tulip Trees was honored in one of Scarsdale's most beautiful green spaces, Hyatt Field Park, which features newly restored baseball fields, a renovated basketball court, a modern children's playground, and an educational, native plant butterfly garden which was designed and built by Friends of the Scarsdale Parks in a collaboration with the Village.

This year the Village will be acknowledging the value of the iconic Colorado Blue Spruce in Scarsdale's Village Center pocket park adjacent to the Veterans' Memorial. The evergreen Blue Spruce is of significant ecological value to Scarsdale's tree canopy and our community, and thereby fulfills the criteria for heritage designation as outlined in the Village Code. FOSP would be pleased to answer any questions you may have about these trees and the Friends of the Scarsdale Parks Heritage Tree Project.

FOSP is planning a dedication ceremony for the Boniface Circle Colorado Blue Spruce on June 23, 2017, to be held at Boniface Circle in conjunction with the Parties in the Parks event at Chase Park sponsored by the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department. This event marks the continuation of FOSP's Heritage Tree Project to give protected status to exceptional trees throughout Scarsdale – our "Village in a Park."



We would appreciate any assistance you are able to provide in furthering this application by the deadline on Monday, April 10, 2017 the application deadline for the April 24th BAR meeting. Kindly accept this letter and the attached Application as the official request for the designation of the 2017 Heritage Tree.

Respectfully submitted,

Madelaine Eppenstein & Bart Hamlin
On behalf of Friends of the Scarsdale Parks, Inc.

Directors:

Dotty Bruni
Betsy Bush
Madelaine Eppenstein, Secretary
Kay Eisenman
Bart Hamlin
Michelle Kaplan
Dorothy Kroenlein, Vice President
Diane Morrison, President
Helen Oja
Rick Reuter
Cynthia Roberts
Loren Levine Schwartz
Tara Smith Tyberg
Todd Wolleman
Julia Zimbalist
Deborah Pekarek, Trustee Liaison
Allison Saltz, Student Liaison

References:

https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/pg_pipu.pdf
<https://shop.arborday.org/product.aspx?zpid=923>
<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/tree/picpun/all.html>
https://www.itreetools.org/resources/reports/Chicago_Region_rb_nrs84.pdf
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=c226>



Images



Image #1

The Blue Spruce at Boniface Circle – March 29, 2017



Images



Image #2

View from South – March 2017



Image #3

Holiday Lights – December, 2016



Image #4

Needles and Cone

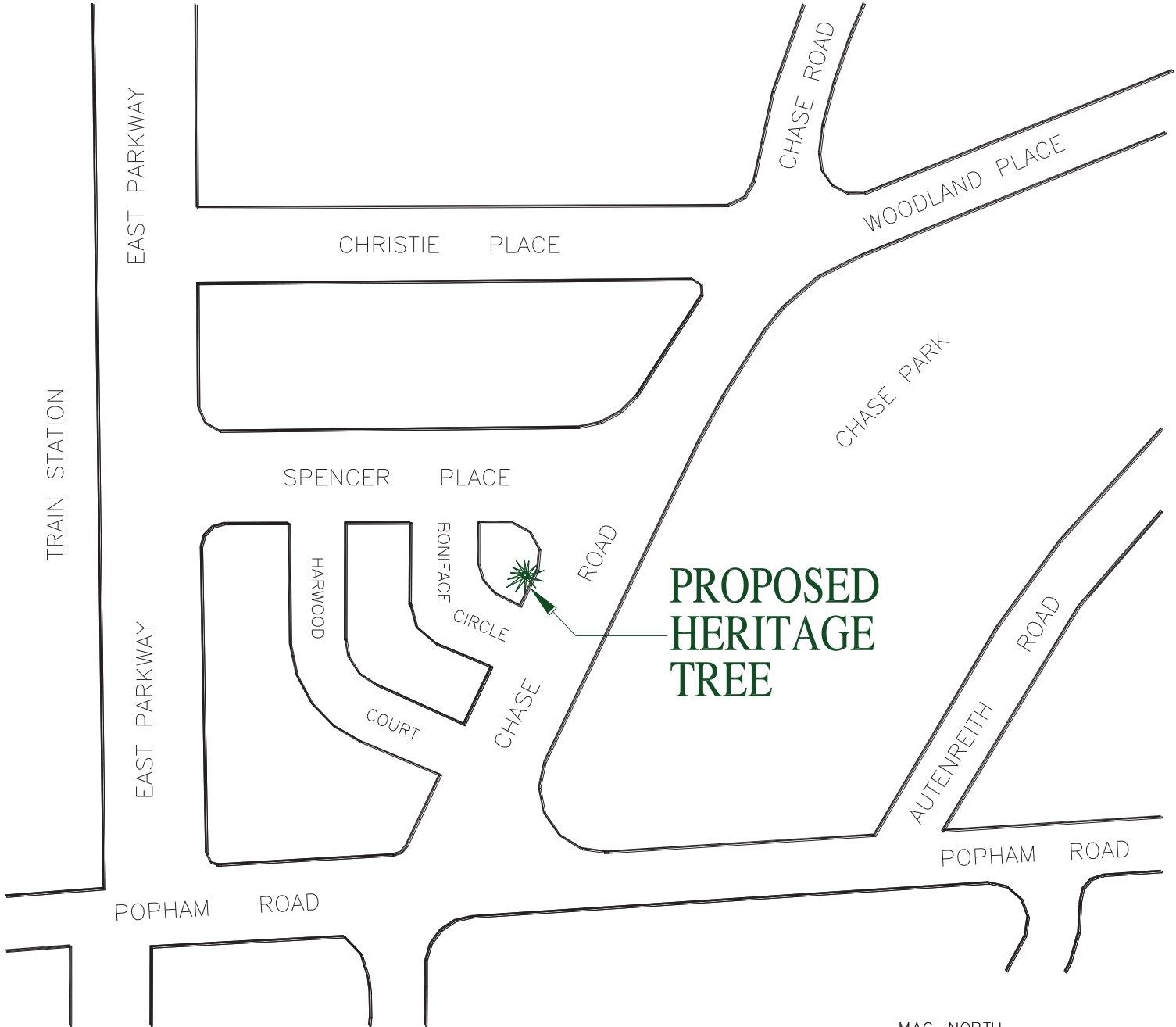


Image #5

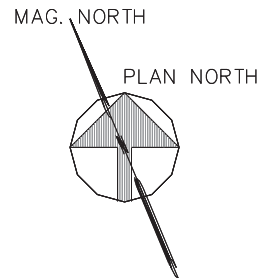
A sapling



Location Map



SCARSDALE VILLAGE CENTER





Previously Designated Heritage Trees



**Historic White Oak
at the Woman's Club - 2013**



**Dawn Redwood Trees
at the Library Pond - 2014**



**Sugar Maple Grove
at Fox Meadow School - 2015**



**Tulip Trees
at Hyatt Field Park - 2016**



ALMSTEAD

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arbor care plant health care lawn care organic consulting

January 31, 2017

Cynthia Roberts
15 Autenreith Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Re: Blue Spruce Tree in Village Green

Dear Cynthia,

It was a pleasure to meet with you. Based on our conversation, and my inspection of the Blue Spruce in Village Green in the Village of Scarsdale, I have included my observations and recommendations for your consideration.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me or my assistant, Dolores. My email is mmarks@almstead.com, and our phone number is 914-576-0193. You can also find detailed descriptions of our services online at almstead.com.

Sincerely,

Michael Marks
ISA Certified Arborist NY-0410A
Westchester County License: WC-16727-H05



Arbor Care Definitions

Pruning Standards: Experts in the field of arboriculture have established a committee to develop standards of tree maintenance. This committee, working with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), developed standards from pruning and other aspects of tree care. These standards provide for a higher, more uniform level of service and help ensure public safety.

Almstead adheres to the principals of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) and *The American National Standard for Tree Care Operations – Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance – Standard Practices (ANSI A300)*. All work shall be completed in compliance with A300 Standards.

Pruning Objectives:

Structural Pruning: Structural pruning shall consist of selective pruning to improve tree and branch architecture primarily on young- and medium-aged trees.

Restoration Pruning: Restoration shall consist of selective pruning to redevelop structure, form, and appearance of severely pruned, vandalized, or damaged trees.

Vista Pruning: Vista/view pruning shall consist of the use of one or more pruning methods (types) to enhance a specific line of sight.

Pruning Methods:

Prune to Clean: Cleaning shall consist of pruning to remove one or more of the following non-beneficial parts: dead, diseased, and/or broken branches.

Prune to Thin: Thinning shall consist of selective pruning to reduce density of live branches.

Prune to Raise: Raising shall consist of pruning to provide vertical clearance.

Prune to Reduce: Reducing shall consist of pruning to decrease height and/or spread.

Take Down: Removing a tree and cutting stump as flush to grade as possible.

Stump Grinding: Grinding the stump to recommended depth below grade and backfilling with the resulting debris/wood chips.

Cabling: Cables restrict the distance that branches can move in relation to each other. Installed across a weak junction, they will greatly reduce the risk of failure. Installed on overextended branches, they can be used to support the branch.

Bracing: Brace rods are used to reduce the risk of two or more stems spreading farther apart or moving sideways in relation to each other. They are also used to fasten together a junction or branch that is split apart.

Organic Care Recommendations

Organic Care: Root Collar Excavation

Soil is removed to expose the critical root zone of a tree with an Air Spade. Problems with the roots are diagnosed and then corrected where possible. For instance, circling and adventitious roots are often pruned, and the soil level may be lowered to expose the root flare.

1. Perform Root Collar Excavation on of Blue spruce in Village Green.

Cost of Root Collar Excavation.....~~\$375.00~~ No Charge Donation

Arbor Care: Pruning

1. Prune back Arborvitaes from Blue spruce.
2. Remove pitch mass borers from spruce.

Cost of Pruning.....~~\$200.00~~ No Charge Donation

Plant Health Care Recommendations

Organic Care: Compost Tea Description

These teas are concentrated extracts of the beneficial organisms contained in compost. They are freshly brewed over the course of 24-48 hours from local leaf and twig compost that has been run through soil biology tests. Adding value to any soil ecosystem, compost teas infuse soil with microorganisms that naturally promote plant health while often out-competing the harmful, disease-causing organisms that thrive in unhealthy soils.

Organic Care: Compost Tea Soil Injection

In this treatment, compost tea is injected beneath the soil directly into the root zones of plants.

1. Soil injection of compost tea for Blue Spruce in Village Green. I recommend performing this injection in Spring/Sumer/Fall/Multiple Seasons.

Cost of 3 Compost Tea Soil Injection @ \$175 per application...~~\$525.00~~ No Charge Donation

Authorization to Proceed

Check for Authorization

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Care: Root Collar Excavation | \$375.00 No Charge Donation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arbor Care: Pruning | \$200.00 No Charge Donation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Health Care: Compost Tea Soil Injection | \$525.00 No Charge Donation |

Amount of Deposit (1/2 or greater): \$ _____

Pay by Check

Please make checks payable to Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company.

Pay Online

Pay your deposit online easily and securely using any major credit card. Simply visit Almstead.com/payment/php and reference the following invoice number:

Pay by Credit Card

The credit card provided will be charged for the deposit of the work outlined above. Unless otherwise noted, this credit card will also be charged for the balance upon completion of the work.

Name on card: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover	<input type="checkbox"/> AmEx
Billing Address: _____	Card Number: _____			
City: _____	Expiration Date: _____		CVC: _____	
State: _____	Zip: _____			

Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company is authorized to proceed with the work outlined in this proposal. **I understand that the amounts listed above *does not include sales tax*, and that I am responsible for payment of same, or for providing a Tax Exempt Certificate to Almstead Tree, Shrub & Lawn Care.**

Authorization Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Customer:

Terms and Conditions

The following terms and conditions are a part of the confirmation of work to be performed by ALMSTEAD TREE & SHRUB CARE COMPANY, LLC (hereinafter "ALMSTEAD") and with the information on the front, constitute the entire agreement. This proposal is valid for 90 days.

Performance by Almstead Work crews will arrive at the job site unannounced unless otherwise noted herein. ALMSTEAD shall attempt to meet all performance dates, but shall not be liable for damages due to delays for inclement weather or other causes beyond its control. The client shall not be relieved of his responsibility because of delays. Our Plant Health Care and Lawn Care programs are designed to manage and not eradicate pest and disease infestations. Horticulturally tolerable levels of pests and disease may still be present after treatment. Any epidemic infestation may require additional visits at additional cost to the client, pending client approval. As grass and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by several factors beyond our control, no guarantee on turf, plant or general landscape safety, health or condition is expressed or implied in this contract unless specifically stated in writing. At each Plant Health Care or Lawn Care application, an evaluation will be left indicating the service(s) performed and, if necessary, any additional recommendations. Re-measurement of your lawn may also be performed if there is a discrepancy; should this occur, you will be notified of any resulting price adjustments.

Workmanship All work will be performed in a professional manner by experienced personnel outfitted with the appropriate tools and equipment to complete the job properly. Our work meets and exceeds the guidelines and standards set forth in section Z133.1 of ANSI A300 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and endorsed by the National Arborist Association. The client is responsible for advising ALMSTEAD regarding the location of underground utilities, including irrigation systems and invisible fencing, in the area where work is to be done. ALMSTEAD shall not be responsible for damage to such utilities unless the location has been indicated prior to the commencement of work. Unless otherwise indicated herein, ALMSTEAD will remove wood, brush and debris incidental to the work.

Insurance ALMSTEAD is insured for liability resulting from injury to persons or negligent damage to property, and all its employees are covered by Workers' Compensation Insurance. A certificate of insurance is available upon request.

Access to Work The client shall provide free access to work areas for ALMSTEAD employees and vehicles and agrees to keep driveways clear and available for movement and parking of required trucks and equipment during normal working hours. ALMSTEAD employees shall not be expected to keep gates closed for children or animals.

Ownership The client warrants that all plant material and property upon which work is to be performed are either owned by the signatory to this agreement or that permission for the work has been obtained from the owner by the signatory. It is further agreed that the property owner or representative shall be responsible for obtaining any and all permits which may be required by local authorities. ALMSTEAD is hereby held harmless from all claims for damages resulting from the client's failure to obtain such permits.

Product Information Certain states require that specific product application information be submitted to the client. We will send you our DataBook, which provides approximate dates of application and ingredient information when required. Please note that *the property owner or owner's agent may request the specific date or dates of the application(s) to be provided and, if so requested, the pesticide applicator or business must inform of the specific dates and include that date or dates in the contract.* Your written authorization on the reverse of this form waives any pre-notification unless otherwise noted.

Plant Health Care and Lawn Care Applications ALMSTEAD will be responsible for the proper application of any formulation that is commonly used in the industry to control specific problems affecting trees, shrubs, or lawns. However, ALMSTEAD shall not be responsible for any unforeseen, unusual, or abnormal reaction in persons, pets, or other animals resulting from the use of such materials. The parties agree that in no instance may the client seek damages in excess of the contract price.

Removal ALMSTEAD will render complete removal of the tree within 6" of ground level and cleanup of all debris, unless otherwise noted. Additional charges may be levied for unseen concrete or metal in tree upon notification of owner. Some lawn damage is expected when removing trees.

Cabling/Bracing Cabling and bracing of trees is intended to reduce hazard potential only. It does not permanently remedy structural weakness, is not a guarantee against failure and requires periodic inspection.

Terms of Payment All accounts are net payable upon receipt of invoice. A service charge of 1.5% per month, which is an annual percentage rate of 18%, will be added to accounts thirty days after invoice date. If outside assistance is used to collect the account, the client is responsible for all costs associated with the collection including, but not limited to, attorney fees and court costs. ALMSTEAD reserves the right to make reasonable changes in price on an annual basis to automatically renewing contracts based upon market conditions.

Concealed Contingencies The client agrees to pay ALMSTEAD on a time and materials basis for any additional work required to complete the job occasioned by concrete, or other foreign matter, or stinging insect nests in the tree(s) or branches, rock, pipe or electrical lines encountered in excavations and not described on the face of this agreement, or any other condition not apparent in estimating the work specified.

Guarantee At Almstead Tree & Shrub Care, we want to exceed your expectations of us. If you are not happy with us for any reason, please call. We will take all reasonable steps to correct the situation. If our treatments have failed to reduce or eliminate the problem we originally treated, we will re-treat the problem or provide appropriate care at no charge. We strive to guarantee your satisfaction.

Ken Almstead, CEO 

WC16727HO5 / NY1331916

February 25, 2021

Dear Trustee Arest, Downtown Reopening Taskforce, and Village Administrators:

Thank you for the good news that the Village has allocated \$15,000 for the Boniface Circle Park beautification project. The Downtown Revitalization Committee of the Scarsdale Forum has given some thought to how the funds might best be spent to restore the Park for the benefit of residents, merchants and visitors.

In making these suggestions, we have considered the existing body of work on placemaking and the creation of community in public spaces. This research supports our plans for an attractive, welcoming and safe space, with flexible seating (movable chairs and tables), open sightlines, areas with both sun and shade, and adequate lighting for visibility and security.

For this project to achieve these goals, some of our recommendations are made to promote safety, both from the perspective of the people using the space (for example, walkway trip hazards and stairs that need repointing), as well as security during the dusk and evening hours (for example, inadequate lighting and overgrown shrubs obscuring the interior of the park). Similarly, the conditions on display in the photos to follow should be corrected now as part of this restoration and beautification project, and to be consistent with improvements to adjacent public gathering spaces, including the seasonal Dine the 'Dale tent and Chase Park.

To maximize the budget allocation for the purchase of tables and chairs, landscaping materials, and plants, we may request assistance from the DPW and PRC to the extent that their support is feasible.

A brief discussion regarding each recommendation follows. Links to specific items, along with pricing, are set forth in the Appendix to this letter; further research is needed for some items.

1) Grassy area defined by the brick path and the Chase Road sidewalk

- Place six Adirondack chairs on the grass, along with two child-sized chairs.



- Remove and relocate the large electrical box (see recommendations at the end of this letter).
- Remove the arborvitae near the blue spruce tree.



2) Perimeter border under the shade of the heritage crabapple at the northeast corner along Spencer Place

- Replace the current wood mulch with pea gravel in the planting beds, contained by a Belgian block edging or other barrier. This will create a permeable surface to allow for drainage, and create safe footing for tables and chairs.



- Place three sets of café tables and chairs in the space.



3) Spencer Place side of the WWII Memorial

- Plant perennial native flowers and shrubs. This will deter people from approaching the wall, improve the appearance, and save funds and labor spent on annual bedding plants and weeding.



- Address drainage as needed to prevent further seepage damage into the Memorial.



4) Entrance to the WWII Memorial

- Remove the overgrown taxus shrubs from both sides of the entrance, and replace immediately with new, smaller shrubs.

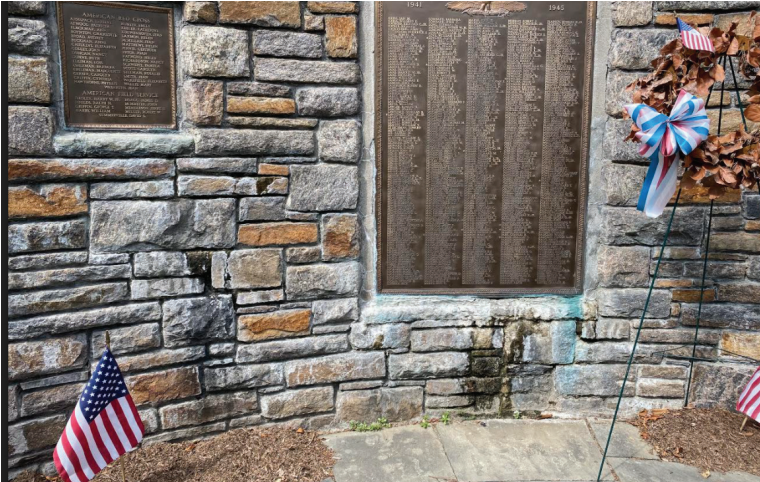


- Remove the juniper tree on the west side of the Memorial near the parking meters, and replace it with smaller shrubs matching existing shrubs.



5) Inside the WWII Memorial

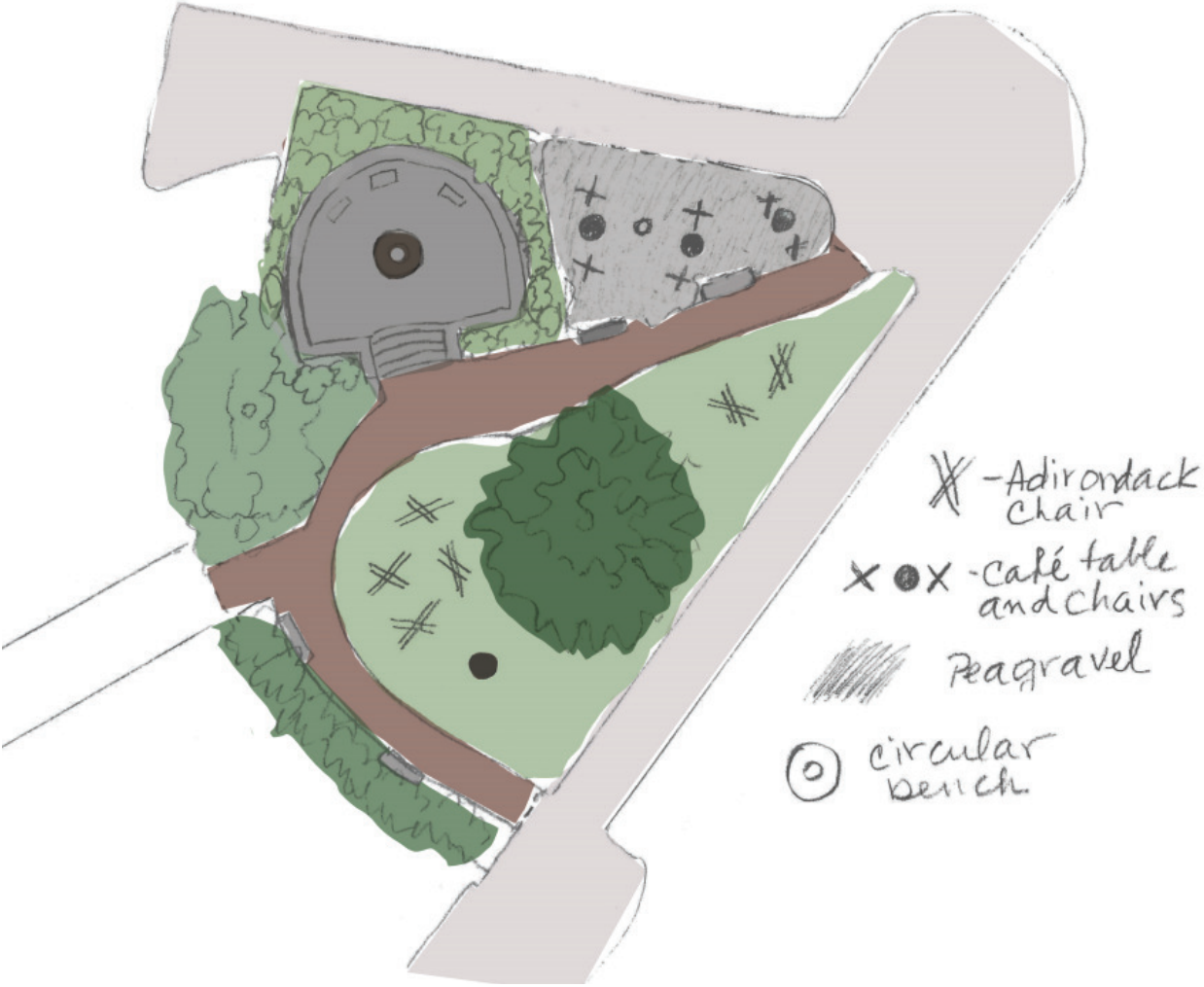
- Place gravel over the dirt planting areas, and put large planters in those spaces, filled with low-maintenance succulent plants.



- Place a circular bench in the center of the space; remove the plastic flower container.



Set forth below is a rough sketch showing the proposed improvements.



6) Additional recommendations (not included in the \$15,000 funding)

- **Electric:** Electric service needs a professional review to determine how to meet Village needs on power in Boniface Circle Park for holiday decorations and events. The wiring should ideally be located on the perimeter.
- **Lighting:** The park is dark and unsafe at night. The two nearby single-lamp Town & Country fixtures (SE corner of Boniface Circle and Chase Road, and NW corner of Boniface Circle and Spencer Place) should be replaced with three-lamp fixtures to match the lighting at the corner of Chase Road and Spencer Place.
- **Bicycle Rack:** Installation of a rack near Boniface Circle will encourage more people to cycle to town.
- **New Shrubbery:** Fresh plantings along the Boniface Circle perimeter near the parking meters will enhance the appearance of the park.
- **Brick Pathway:** Widen the brick pathway. Although the bricks are charming, the bluestone pavers (in inventory) will create a more secure surface.

We are happy to provide any additional information or examples of products. Thank you for your consideration of these plans.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Douglass, Chair

Betsy Bush

Scott Douglass

Madelaine Eppenstein

Beth Lambert

Appendix – Suggestions of Items for Purchase

Café tables and chairs



Patio, Lawn & Garden • Patio Furniture & Accessories • Patio Seating • Chairs • Patio Dining Chairs



Mobel Designhaus French Café Bistro Folding Side Chair, Jet Black Frame, European Chestnut Wood Slats with Walnut Stain (Pack of 2)
 Brand: Mobel Designhaus
 ★★★★★ 3 ratings

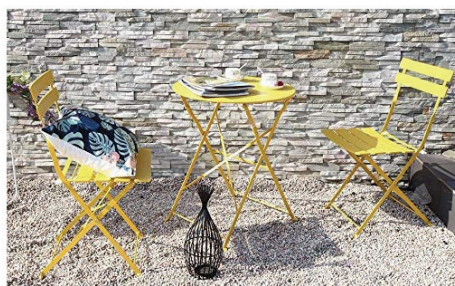
Price: **\$494.15** Prime FREE Delivery & FREE Returns or 5 monthly payments of **\$98.85**

Get 20% off when you use American Express Membership Rewards points. Maximum discount \$30. See terms.

May be available at a lower price from other sellers, potentially without free Prime shipping.





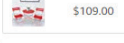
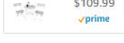
Color: Black;Brown
 Material: Wood
 Item Dimensions: 15 x 16 x 33 inches LxWxH
 Brand: Mobel Designhaus

[Amazon.com: INOVIX Grand Patio Bistro Set Outdoor Metal Patio Bistro Set Foldable Patio Table and Chairs 6 Colors \(Blue\): Home & Kitchen](#)



INOVIX Grand Patio Bistro Set Outdoor Metal Patio Bistro Set Foldable Patio Table and Chairs 6 Colors (Yellow)
 Brand: INOVIX
 ★★★★★ 119 ratings

Color: **Yellow**


 \$109.99 ✓prime	 \$109.99 ✓prime	 \$109.99 ✓prime
 \$109.99	 \$109.00	 \$109.99 ✓prime

3 options from \$161.44

- [Outdoor/Indoor table and chairs Size] : 23.6"(DIA) X 28"(H). Chair Size : 19.7"(D) X 16.5"(W) X 32"(H).Heavy-duty construction yet light weight chairs can hold up to 300 lbs respectively.
- [Wrought iron patio furniture] : It also able to as bistro table set,and also perfect for outdoors, even coastal living. Powder coated steel frame structure, rust-resistant.

Click image to open expanded view

[Alcott Hill® Chestnut Street 3 Piece Bistro Set & Reviews | Wayfair](#)



Chestnut Street 3 Piece Bistro Set
 See More by [Alcott Hill®](#)
 ★★★★★ 4.6 1063 Reviews

\$324.99

\$40 OFF your qualifying first order of \$250+¹ [with a Wayfair credit c](#)

Free Shipping
 Get it by Tue, Mar 2
 Ship To: [10583 - Scarsdale](#) ✓

What's Included

- Chairs Qty: 2
- Table

1 Add to

Adirondack chairs

[Classic Adirondack Collection | POLYWOOD® Official Store](#)

As an added bonus, this brand of Adirondack chair is made in the U.S. of 100% recycled plastic (except for the metal fittings).

POLYWOOD CATEGORIES COLLECTIONS SPACES NEW & FEATURED

Home / Collections / Classic Adirondack / Classic Adirondack Chair

CLASSIC ADIRONDACK SKU#: AD4030

Classic Adirondack Chair

★★★★★ 142 Reviews 19 Questions / 19 Answers 50 Comments

With its timeless style, the Classic Adirondack Chair is the perfect addition to any porch, patio, or backyard. Sink back and relax into a comfortably contoured seat and rest assured that unlike real wood you'll have none of the maintenance!

\$199.00+

Select POLYWOOD Color

QUICKSHIP COLORS - Ships within 3 Business Days

\$199.00

\$229.00

Select a color to see estimated lead time [Shipping Policy](#)

[KidKraft Kids Outdoor Adirondack Chair & Reviews | Wayfair](#)

Kids Outdoor Adirondack Chair

See More by KidKraft

★★★★☆ 4.5 110 Reviews

\$75.99
On Sale

\$40 OFF your qualifying first order of \$250+ [with a Wayfair.crs](#)

Free Shipping
Get it by Fri, Mar 5
Ship To: 10583 - Scarsdale

Select Finish: Espresso

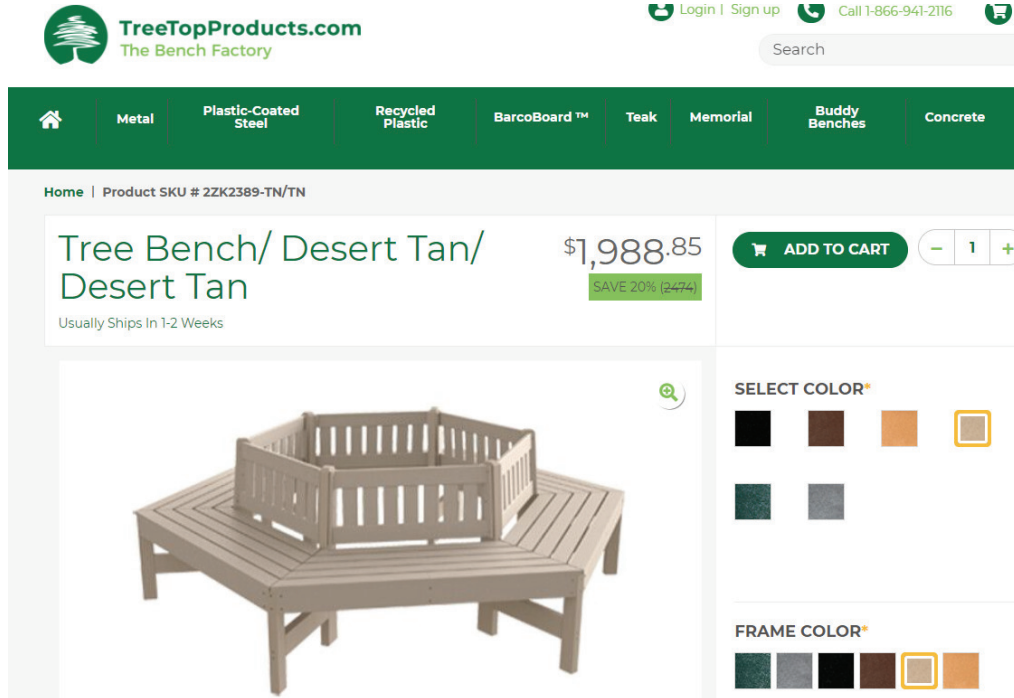
Espresso Honey White

1 Add

The same kids chair is available in a broader range of colors on the official Polywood site for \$189.00: [POLYWOOD® Kids Casual Chair - SBD12 | POLYWOOD® Official Store](#).

Circular benches

https://www.thebenchfactory.com/tree-benches?sku=2ZK2389-GN/TN&msslid=68594e45deb61396c7712e71d5c3f2cb&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=TBF%20Shopping&utm_term=1100908970156&utm_content=TBF%20Shopping



The screenshot shows the TreeTopProducts.com website. The header includes the logo, navigation links for 'Login | Sign up' and 'Call 1-866-941-2116', and a search bar. A green navigation bar lists categories: Metal, Plastic-Coated Steel, Recycled Plastic, BarcoBoard™, Teak, Memorial, Buddy Benches, and Concrete. The main product area features a 'Tree Bench/ Desert Tan/ Desert Tan' with a price of \$1,988.85 (SAVE 20% (2474)) and an 'ADD TO CART' button. Below the product name is a note: 'Usually Ships In 1-2 Weeks'. A large image of the bench is shown, along with color selection options for 'SELECT COLOR*' and 'FRAME COLOR*'. The 'SELECT COLOR*' options include black, dark brown, orange, light tan, dark green, and grey. The 'FRAME COLOR*' options include dark green, grey, black, dark brown, light tan, and orange.

[Fleur De Lis Living Bremen Iron Tree Bench | Wayfair](#)



Bremen Iron Tree Bench

By Fleur De Lis Living

★★★★☆ 34

\$339.99 ~~\$566.72~~ 40% Off

Only 4 Left in Stock. Buy Soon!

Free Shipping Get it by Fri, Mar 5 ⓘ

Planters

[New Orleans Window Box Medium Outdoor Planter | Kinsey Garden Decor \(kinseyfamilyfarm.com\)](#)

KINSEY GARDEN DECOR

designer home and garden decorating accents

SHOP FOUNTAINS PLANTERS PATIO FURNITURE GARDEN ACCENTS CONTACT, FAQ KFF MAIN SITE **SEARCH**

Home / Planters, Pots and Containers / Cast Stone Concrete Planters / Orleans Window Box Medium Panel Rectangle Planter



ORLEANS WINDOW BOX MEDIUM PANEL
RECTANGLE PLANTER

\$904.99

Shipping: Free!
LTL Freight - Curbside

Patina - select before add to cart



Fountains, Water Features


- Bird Bath Fountains
- Ceramic Water Fountains
- Extra Large Commercial Features
- Free Standing Floor Fountains
- Ground Basin Fountains
- Low Profile Outdoor Fountains
- Modern Outdoor Fountains
- Pedestal Deep Basin Fountains
- Tiered Outdoor Water Fountains
- Wall Outdoor Water Fountains
- GFRC Lightweight Concrete
- Outdoor Fountain Planter Patio Sets
- Water Fountain Covers, Accessories

Planters, Pots and Containers

- Cast Stone - Planters
- Cast Stone - Urns
- Cast Stone - Urn on Pedestal
- Ceramic - Plant, Flower Pots
- Ceramic - Extra Tall, Jar, Vase

[Devon Rectangular Planter | Grandin Road](#)

grandinroad.

Search - Keyword or Item #  

Indoor Furniture | Indoor Decor | Outdoor | Bed & Bath | Area Rugs & Door Mats | Wall Decor | Seasonal | Halloween Haven | Sale



ROLLOVER IMAGE TO ZOOM



DEVON RECTANGULAR PLANTER

Item: #43079

★★★★★ 4.8 (46) Write a review Ask a question

\$199.00

SELECT COLOR:



Qty: Total: \$0.00

ADD TO CART

[Add To Registry / Wish List](#)

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

- Indoor/outdoor planter
- Durable polyethylene resin
- Resist chips, cracks & peeling
- UV-inhibitors resist fading
- Built-in water minding system

Budget - estimated

Furniture

3 table and chair sets: \$1500

6 Adirondack chairs: \$1200

2 child-sized Adirondack chairs: \$200

Circular bench: \$2000

5 planters: \$1000

Total: \$5,900

Plants and planting material

Pea gravel

Shrubs for WWII Memorial entrance

Perennials for the Spencer Place wall

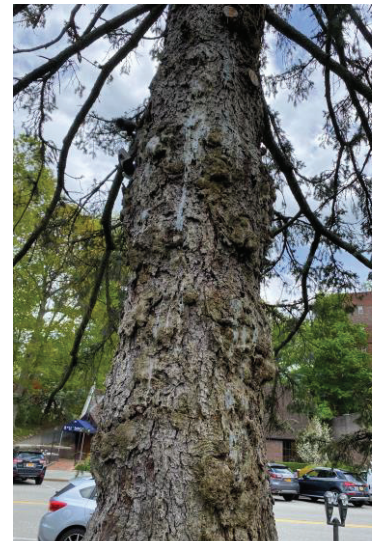


The spruce tree, spring 2021. Quite a bit has been taken off the top, as well as thinned out. The tree used to be much taller than the flag pole.



The tree in 2018 from the other side of the circle.

Photos: Betsy Bush



The four photos taken on May 11. Surprised to see that there appears to be deterioration since the photo above left, which was taken just in March.

Betsy

Craig Company
Consulting
Craig H. Stevens
1110 Milton Avenue
Peekskill, New York 10566-5804
(914) 736-3858 home
(914) 879-2360 cell
ISA Certified Arborist # NY-5533A

To: Mr. Tyler Seifert
Village of Scarsdale
Village Hall
1001 Post Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583

April 27, 2017

Re: Blue Spruce at Boniface Circle

Dear Tyler:

On April 25th I checked the Blue Spruce at Boniface Circle.

It appears to be healthy but as with all living organisms, it is not perfect and shows signs of decline reflective of its age.

The foliage seems sparse, perhaps the internal dead wood has been pruned out to give it the thinned out appearance. There is an abundance of sap on the trunk which leads one to believe that there has been some bark boring activity. The tree may not yet realize just how much boring has taken place and has not yet shown signs of decline with respect to that.

There is a wire or cable attached to the trunk at about 25' up. There seems to be a bulge at that location which means the trunk may be getting girdled by the material. In time this can choke off the nutrient flow to the top of the tree; the top will die out. I did not climb up to check this out.

There is a slight lean to the tree. As the tree grows (if it remains healthy) the weight load will increase and in time can be vulnerable to tipping over due to a wet snow load or strong winds combined with saturated soils. I'm not sure Scarsdale would put in a supporting guy wire to prevent this?

In the upper part of the tree, several limbs have snapped out, taking away from its symmetry. This may be storm damage or the

tree showing signs of decline. There may be girdling taking place at the 25' height that is weakening the upper canopy.

There is an irrigation system in place. Hopefully it continue to work. This is a good thing since this cool weather species will continue to need water for its location. Boniface Circle is surrounded by pavement; with recent **record high temperatures**, this tree has recently been subjected to brutally high summer ambient air temperatures. Many feel the temperature situation will not get better.

That's about it for now. You may want to send someone up to check on the "wire" attached at about 25'.

Call me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Craig H. Stevens

December 8, 2020

Cynthia Roberts
15 Autenreith Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583

Dear Mrs. Roberts,

It was a pleasure to meet with you. Based on our conversation, I think the likelihood of failure of the branches, crown, trunk, or roots of this tree are very low within the time frame of 1-2 years. Given the high traffic area that it is in, there are a few steps that we can take to mitigate that risk even further. I have included my observations and recommendations for your consideration.

If you would like to proceed with the proposed work, we ask that you complete the Authorization page and return it to our office.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me my email is ntripsas@almstead.com, and our phone number is 914-576-0193. You can also find detailed descriptions of our services online at almstead.com.

Sincerely,



Nick Tripsas
ISA Certified Arborist #NY-6025



Arbor Care Definitions

Pruning Standards: Experts in the field of arboriculture have established a committee to develop standards of tree maintenance. This committee, working with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), developed standards from pruning and other aspects of tree care. These standards provide for a higher, more uniform level of service and help ensure public safety.

Almstead adheres to the principals of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) and *The American National Standard for Tree Care Operations – Tree, Shrub and other Woody Plant Maintenance – Standard Practices (ANSI A300)*. All work shall be completed in compliance with A300 Standards.

Pruning Objectives:

Structural Pruning: Structural pruning shall consist of selective pruning to improve tree and branch architecture primarily on young- and medium-aged trees.

Restoration Pruning: Restoration shall consist of selective pruning to redevelop structure, form, and appearance of severely pruned, vandalized, or damaged trees.

Vista Pruning: Vista/view pruning shall consist of the use of one or more pruning methods (types) to enhance a specific line of sight.

Pruning Methods:

Prune to Clean: Cleaning shall consist of pruning to remove one or more of the following non-beneficial parts: dead, diseased, and/or broken branches.

Prune to Thin: Thinning shall consist of selective pruning to reduce density of live branches.

Prune to Raise: Raising shall consist of pruning to provide vertical clearance.

Prune to Reduce: Reducing shall consist of pruning to decrease height and/or spread.

Take Down: Removing a tree and cutting stump as flush to grade as possible.

Stump Grinding: Grinding the stump to recommended depth below grade and backfilling with the resulting debris/wood chips.

Cabling: Cables restrict the distance that branches can move in relation to each other. Installed across a weak junction, they will greatly reduce the risk of failure. Installed on overextended branches, they can be used to support the branch.

Bracing: Brace rods are used to reduce the risk of two or more stems spreading farther apart or moving sideways in relation to each other. They are also used to fasten together a junction or branch that is split apart.



Arbor Care Recommendations

Arbor Care: Tree Pruning

1. 22” Colorado Blue spruce at the center of village green; prune to clean dead and weak branches 1” in diameter and greater.
2. 22” Colorado blue spruce at the center of village green, remove pitch mass borer larvae from the stem where possible.

Cost of Tree Pruning \$325

Organic Care: Root Collar Excavation

Soil is removed to expose the critical root zone of a tree with an Air Spade. Problems with the roots are diagnosed and then corrected where possible. For instance, circling and adventitious roots are often pruned, and the soil level may be lowered to expose the root flare.

1. Perform Root Collar Excavation on of Blue spruce in Village Green.

Cost of Root Collar Excavation \$375

Plant Health Care Recommendations

Organic Care: Compost Tea Description

These teas are concentrated extracts of the beneficial organisms contained in compost. They are freshly brewed over the course of 24-48 hours from local leaf and twig compost that has been run through soil biology tests. Adding value to any soil ecosystem, compost teas infuse soil with microorganisms that naturally promote plant health while often out-competing the harmful, disease-causing organisms that thrive in unhealthy soils.

Organic Care: Compost Tea Soil Injection

In this treatment, compost tea is injected beneath the soil directly into the root zones of plants.

1. Soil injection of compost tea for Blue Spruce in Village Green. I recommend performing this injection in Spring/Summer/Fall/Multiple Seasons.

Cost of 3 Compost Tea Soil Injection @ \$175 per application..... \$525

Plant Health Care: Borer Treatment

1. Bark drench applied to stem of Blue Spruce to suppress boring insects. (May 15th – June 12th)

Cost of Borer Treatment..... \$205



Authorization to Proceed

Check for Authorization

- | | |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arbor Care: Tree Pruning | \$325 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Care: Root Collar Excavation | \$375 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Care: Compost Tea Soil Injection | \$525 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Health Care: Borer Treatment | \$205 |

Pay by Check

Please make checks payable to Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company.

Pay Online

Pay your deposit online easily and securely using any major credit card. Simply visit almstead.com/payment/ and reference the following invoice/customer number:

Pay by Credit Card

The credit card provided will be charged for the deposit of the work outlined above. Unless otherwise noted, this credit card will also be charged for the balance upon completion of the work.

Name on card: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx
Billing Address: _____	Card Number: _____
City: _____	Expiration Date: _____ CVC: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____	

Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company is authorized to proceed with the work outlined in this proposal. I understand that the amounts listed above do not include sales tax, and that I am responsible for payment of same, or for providing a Tax Exempt Certificate to Almstead Tree, Shrub & Lawn Care.

Authorization Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Customer:



Terms and Conditions

The following terms and conditions are a part of the confirmation of work to be performed by ALMSTEAD TREE & SHRUB CARE COMPANY, LLC (hereinafter "ALMSTEAD") and with the information on the front, constitute the entire agreement. This proposal is valid for 90 days.

Performance by Almstead Work crews will arrive at the job site unannounced unless otherwise noted herein. ALMSTEAD shall attempt to meet all performance dates, but shall not be liable for damages due to delays for inclement weather or other causes beyond its control. The client shall not be relieved of his responsibility because of delays. Our Plant Health Care and Lawn Care programs are designed to manage and not eradicate pest and disease infestations. Horticulturally tolerable levels of pests and disease may still be present after treatment. Any epidemic infestation may require additional visits at additional cost to the client, pending client approval. As grass and other plant life are living, changing organisms affected by several factors beyond our control, no guarantee on turf, plant or general landscape safety, health or condition is expressed or implied in this contract unless specifically stated in writing. At each Plant Health Care or Lawn Care application, an evaluation will be left indicating the service(s) performed and, if necessary, any additional recommendations. Re-measurement of your lawn may also be performed if there is a discrepancy; should this occur, you will be notified of any resulting price adjustments.

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Product Information Certain states require that specific product application information be submitted to the client. We will send you our DataBook, which provides approximate dates of application and ingredient information when required. Please note that *the property owner or owner's agent may request the specific date or dates of the application(s) to be provided and, if so requested, the pesticide applicator or business must inform of the specific dates and include that date or dates in the contract.* Your written authorization on the reverse of this form waives any pre-notification unless otherwise noted.

Plant Health Care and Lawn Care Applications ALMSTEAD will be responsible for the proper application of any formulation that is commonly used in the industry to control specific problems affecting trees, shrubs, or lawns. However, ALMSTEAD shall not be responsible for any unforeseen, unusual, or abnormal reaction in persons, pets, or other animals resulting from the use of such materials. The parties agree that in no instance may the client seek damages in excess of the contract price.

Removal ALMSTEAD will render complete removal of the tree within 6" of ground level and cleanup of all debris, unless otherwise noted. Additional charges may be levied for unseen concrete or metal in tree upon notification of owner. Some lawn damage is expected when removing trees.

Cabling/Bracing Cabling and bracing of trees is intended to reduce hazard potential only. It does not permanently remedy structural weakness, is not a guarantee against failure and requires periodic inspection.

Terms of Payment All accounts are net payable upon receipt of invoice. A service charge of 1.5% per month, which is an annual percentage rate of 18%, will be added to accounts thirty days after invoice date. If outside assistance is used to collect the account, the client is responsible for all costs associated with the collection including, but not limited to, attorney fees and court costs. ALMSTEAD reserves the right to make reasonable changes in price on an annual basis to automatically renewing contracts based upon market conditions.

Concealed Contingencies The client agrees to pay ALMSTEAD on a time and materials basis for any additional work required to complete the job occasioned by concrete, or other foreign matter, or stinging insect nests in the tree(s) or branches, rock, pipe or electrical lines encountered in excavations and not described on the face of this agreement, or any other condition not apparent in estimating the work specified.

Guarantee At Almstead Tree & Shrub Care, we want to exceed your expectations of us. If you are not happy with us for any reason, please call. We will take all reasonable steps to correct the situation. If our treatments have failed to reduce or eliminate the problem we originally treated, we will re-treat the problem or provide appropriate care at no charge. We strive to guarantee your satisfaction.

Ken Almstead, CEO

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