

Donna Conkling

From: Martie <ScarsdaleNYhomes@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 5:55 PM
To: Clerk's Department
Subject: TREE Amendment Laws --see photos below

In light of the recent snow storms, I am hoping the town will focus its attention on the impact the current regulations have on property owners who potentially are impacted during storms due to neighbors' trees.

I live in Edgewood, and since most properties are considered postage sized properties - 5000 - 7500 sq ft. , I believe regulations should differ from the larger more majestic properties.

My neighbors hemlocks , never trimmed, or used as the privacy hedge he intended on his side of the property line which extends 10 feet from his home and mine--have soared to over 30 feet height and a width consuming the my entire side yard. When he temporarily planted them as a cost of \$5 each, he didn't take into account growth or placement, and I did not as they were supposed to be temporary in nature until I had the funds and ability to plant arborvitae. I did attempt to plant as I promised him I would, and as I did my entire back and other side lines—arborvitae, but his hemlocks killed all 20 bushes on this side line, caused mold to grow on the north side of my home which was never before an issue, and most recently impacted my electrical lines during the last 5 storms --Con Ed came and chopped in half only one resting on the electrical lines to my house(his lines are not impacted as his lines are on the opposite side of his home) . Two other trees did make contact with the electrical lines and were on my house and my son's car in my driveway , but lifted as the snow melted to a degree before Con ED arrived 4 days later so they did not cut them also. Each and every time it snowed during the escapade of 5 storms in 5 weeks those same trees were on my home touching the power lines, and he has done absolutely nothing to maintain any of the line between our homes with regards to these hemlocks or any or the thorn bushes, and overgrown bushes between our homes. My side line instead of the 10 feet owned is reduced to 7.5 feet to 0 depending on location, and yet if I cut back on these trees and cause them to die I am to blame? The town does not have a regulation permitting a neighbor to requiring removing such trees. He does not stand the same hazard for the electric issue and associated costs as I do, his would not be the family without power during such an event , nor would he pay for my roof damage, and he does not pay my property tax to allow this infringement on my side of the property line.

I feel the town should take the stance , especially in small lot sized locations; any coniferous trees planted on a side border not exceed a 6 foot height and be planted with future growth potential in mind so the entire tree can be both maintained by the person planting, and infringe only on their respective side yard. Coniferous trees have short roots and therefore are prone to toppling during snow storms and heavy winds. Edgewood was devastated by the impact and loss of electricity a few years ago, due to the abundance of coniferous trees felled by the storm. This would also protect the neighbors power lines as the lines are set higher than 6 feet. The pictures contained herein depict the neighbors trees extending into my property by 20 feet , approximately 1/3 of my yard.

The pictures show the trees during the different occurrences, and one picture is from my front door which is a minimum 20 feet from the property line - clearly not my expectation of this town looking out for my safety or protecting my property rights.

My neighbor, to the other side, does have a massive deciduous tree sitting in their front yard, and they make every attempt to maintain it. The trunk of the tree would serve to supply the wood for many dining room or kitchen tables (to understand the massive circumference of the tree) , and I know my home and anyone in it would not survive if it did fall. I can't get sun panels or dish television due to

the tree, I am blessed with shade on sunny days, debris every spring, leaves every fall, branches to clean up every storm or wind event, and thousands of acorns , and these obviously were not thoughts or considerations when I purchased my home. The tree is however, maintained which is the only expectation I would and do have.

Martie M. Hambas

143 Clarence Road - neighbor's home creating the hazard is 145

These are multiple storm photos— showing the side property line and the impact on my home and property.

