

## City of Highland Park Steep Slope Tree and Shrub Removal Guidelines

Pruning and removing trees and shrubs is often an essential first step toward properly managing vegetation on ravine and bluff slopes. Removal of trees and shrubs from Highland Park ravine or bluff slopes requires a permit. Prior to removal work, please familiarize yourself with the most recently updated zoning ordinance, and contact the City Forester at 847-926-1604 for permitting requirements and additional information.

Pruning and thinning to achieve canopy coverage between 40-60%, allows for adequate sunlight levels to support herbaceous vegetation at the ground plane while maintaining a landscape dominated by mature trees. Increased light levels at the ground plane support robust growth of native grasses and wildflowers that prevent soil erosion, stabilize slopes, and provide wildlife habitat.

The following tables list tree and shrub species which are commonly found on ravine and bluff slopes. Please note that this list is not intended to be exclusive or comprehensive, but should be used as a guideline for developing a tree removal plan. Each species has been classified into one of three categories:

- **Invasive** – Species classified as “Invasive” may be completely removed. Although a permit is required, removal is encouraged to decrease competition and promote native plant species.
- **Protected** – Species classified as “Protected” may be considered for removal under certain conditions. These include some species such as Maples and Sumac which may be aggressive and trees prone to diseases such as Emerald Ash Borer or Dutch Elm Disease. The City Forester may recommend selective thinning of specific specimens and/or size classes. Replacement with appropriate plant material may be required and permitting fees may apply.
- **Key** – Species classified as “Key” should be preserved on all sites. While the City Forester may recommend removal of these species on a case by case basis, removal is generally not permitted.

Tall Shade Trees				
Common Name	Latin Name	Invasive	Protected	Key
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>			✓
American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>		✓	
Amur Maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	✓		
Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>		✓	
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>		✓	
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>		✓	
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>			✓
Black Willow	<i>Salix nigra</i>		✓	
Box Elder	<i>Acer negundo</i>		✓	
Eastern Cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>		✓	
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>		✓	
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>		✓	
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>			✓
Hickory Species	<i>Carya spp.</i>			✓
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>		✓	
Oak Species	<i>Quercus spp.</i>			✓
Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>		✓	
Siberian Elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	✓		
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>		✓	
Tree-of-Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	✓		
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>		✓	
White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	✓		

Intermediate Trees				
Common Name	Latin Name	Invasive	Protected	Key
Blue Beech	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>			✓
Buckthorn species	<i>Rhamnus spp.</i>	✓		
Hawthorn species	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>		✓	
Hop Hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>			✓
Pagoda Dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>			✓
Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>			✓
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>			✓
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>			✓
Smooth Sumac	<i>Rhus glabra</i> Smooth sumac		✓	
Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i> Staghorn		✓	
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>			✓

Shrubs and Vines				
Common Name	Latin Name	Invasive	Protected	Key
American Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>			✓
Asian Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	✓		
Blackhaw Viburnum	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>			✓
Boston Ivy	<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	✓		
Buffalo Berry	<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>			✓
Burning Bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	✓		
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>		✓	
Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>			✓
Downy Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i>			✓
Dwarf Honeysuckle	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>			✓
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>			✓
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	✓		
European Highbush Cranberry	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	✓		
Gray Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>		✓	
Honeysuckle Species	<i>Lonicera x bella</i>	✓		
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	✓		
Maple-leaved Viburnum	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>			✓
Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	✓		
Pachysandra	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	✓		
Peach-leaved Willow	<i>Salix amygdaloides</i>		✓	
Privet Species	<i>Ligustrum spp.</i>	✓		
Raspberry Species	<i>Rubus spp.</i>		✓	
Red Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera dioica</i>			✓
Red-twig Dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>			✓
Riverbank Grape	<i>Vitis riparia</i>	✓		
Round-leaved Dogwood	<i>Cornus rugosa</i>			✓
Sandbar Willow	<i>Salix interior</i>		✓	
Summer Grape	<i>Vitis aestivalis</i>			✓
Yellow Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera prolifera</i>			✓

Evergreens				
Common Name	Latin Name	Invasive	Protected	Key
Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>		✓	
Blue Spruce	<i>Picea pungens glauca</i>		✓	
Canadian Hemlock	<i>Tsuga Canadensis</i>		✓	
Colorado Spruce	<i>Picea pungens</i>		✓	
Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>			✓
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>		✓	
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>		✓	
False Cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis sp.</i>		✓	
Northern White Cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>		✓	
Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>		✓	
Serbian Spruce	<i>Picea omorika</i>		✓	
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>			✓