



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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Are You Buying or Selling a Home?

Did you inspect Trees?

When marketing a home most sellers will either disclose any known issues up front or take care of repairs around the house to get the most value out of their home. One area that is often overlooked with a home inspection is the landscaping on the property, in particular, the trees on the property.

The health and proximity of the trees to the house is an important feature not to be overlooked. Any remedial maintenance efforts, after the sale of home, could be costly and potentially dangerous if there are diseased or dead trees on the property.

A good example of this would be standing dead or dying trees that have either Emerald Ash Borer or Dutch Elm Disease. Removal of these trees may involve a significant investment to keep the property safe. Also at certain times of the year, identifying these trees may be very difficult to see and identified by an untrained eye. Both Emerald Ash Borer and Dutch Elm Disease are well established in Lake County and are likely present in most neighborhoods being considered.

A careful inspection of the landscaping on a property can help you sell your home or help avert any unexpected future costs. The City recommends contacting a licensed landscape professional to assess the trees and identify any potential concerns on the property.

Resources available on the City's website:

- [Licensed Landscape Professionals in Highland Park](#)
- [City of Highland Park Tree Preservation Ordinance](#)
- [Tree Removal Permit Application](#) [permit needed for trees 8 inches or more in diameter at breast-height; permit is free of charge for all dead, dying, diseased or hazardous trees as identified by your landscape professional]
- [Ravine and Bluff Best Management Practices Brochure](#)

For additional information, please contact Public Works at (847) 432-0807.