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# Tree Health Assessment



Tree Health Evaluation Form must be completed by a certified arborist. One evaluation form per tree.

**SITE/ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MAP/LOCATION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ARBORIST NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ARBORIST CERTIFICATION #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE OF LAST INSPECTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

## I. TREE CHARACTERISTICS

**TREE #** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPECIES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DBH:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# OF TRUNKS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **HEIGHT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPREAD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM:**  Generally Symmetric  Minor Asymmetry  Major Asymmetry  Stump Sprout  Stag-headed

**CROWN CLASS:**  Dominant  Co-Dominant  Intermediate  Suppressed

**LIVE CROWN RATIO:** \_\_\_\_\_% **AGE CLASS:**  Young  Semi-Mature  Mature  Over-Mature/Senescent

**PRUNING HISTORY:**  Crown cleaned  Excessively Thinned  Topped  Crown Raised  
 Crown Reduced  Flush Cuts  Pollarded  None  
 Cabled/braced  Multiple Pruning Events **Approximate Dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL VALUE**  Specimen  Heritage/Historic  Wildlife  Unusual  Street Tree  Screen  
 Shade  Indigenous  Protected by Government Agency

## II. TREE HEALTH

**FOLIAGE COLOR:**  Normal  Chlorotic  Necrotic

**FOLIAGE DENSITY:**  Normal  Sparse **EPICORMICS?** Y N

**LEAF SIZE:**  Normal  Small **TWIG DIEBACK?** Y N

**ANNUAL SHOOT GROWTH:**  Excellent  Average  Poor

**WOUNDWOOD DEVELOPMENT:**  Excellent  Average  Poor  None

**VIGOR CLASS:**  Excellent  Average  Fair  Poor

**GROWTH OBSTRUCTIONS:**  Stakes  Wires/ties  Signs  Cables  
 Guard  Curb/Pavement  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAJOR PESTS/DISEASES:** \_\_\_\_\_

## III. SITE CONDITIONS

**SITE CHARACTER:**  Residence  Commercial  Industrial  Park  
 Natural  Woodland/Forest  Open Space

**LANDSCAPE TYPE:**  Parkway  Raised Bed  Container  Mound  
 Lawn  Shrub Border  Windbreak

**IRRIGATION:**  None  Inadequate  Adequate  Trunk wetted  Excessive

**RECENT SITE DISTURBANCE?** Y N  
 Construction  Soil Disturbance  Grade Change  Line clearing  Site Clearing

**% DRIPLINE PAVED:** 0% 10-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76-100% **PAVEMENT LIFTED?** Y N

**% DRIPLINE WITH FILL SOIL:** 0% 10-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76-100%

**% DRIPLINE GRADE LOWERED:** 0% 10-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76-100%

### III. SITE CONDITIONS, CONTINUED

- SOIL PROBLEMS:**  Drainage  Shallow  Compacted  Droughty  Saline  
 Alkaline  Acidic  Small Volume  Disease Center  History of Fail  
 Clay  Expansive  Slope \_\_\_\_\_  Aspect \_\_\_\_\_
- OBSTRUCTIONS:**  Lights  Signage  Underground Utilities  Line-of-Sight  
 View  Traffic  Overland Lines  Adjacent Vegetation  \_\_\_\_\_
- EXPOSURE TO WIND:**  Single Tree  Below Canopy  Above Canopy  Recently Exposed  
 Windward, Canopy Edge  Area prone to windthrow
- PREVAILING WIND DIRECTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OCCURRENCE OF SNOW/ICE STORMS:**  Never  Seldom  Regularly

### IV. TREE STRUCTURE

- ROOTS:**  
**SUSPECTED ROOT ROT:** Y N **MUSHROOM/CONK/BACKET PRESENT:** Y N **ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**EXPOSED ROOTS:**  Severe  Moderate  Low **UNDERMINED:**  Severe  Moderate  Low  
**ROOT PRUNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ Distance from trunk **ROOT AREA AFFECTED:** \_\_\_\_\_%  
**BUTTRESS WOUNDED:** Y N **WHEN:** \_\_\_\_\_ **RESTRICTED ROOT AREA:**  Severe  Moderate  Low
- LEAN:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees from vertical  Natural  Unnatural  Self-corrected  
**DECAY IN PLANE OF LEAN:** Y N **ROOTS BROKEN:** Y N **SOIL CRACKING:** Y N **SOIL HEAVING:** Y N  
**COMPOUNDING FACTORS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **LEAN SEVERITY:**  Severe  Moderate  Low

**CROWN:**

Indicate presence of individual defect's location (root crown, trunk, scaffolds, branches) & rate their severity (S=severe, H=high, M= moderate, L= low)

Defect	Defect Area	Defect Severity	Defect	Defect Area	Defect Severity
Poor Taper			Decay		
Bow, Sweep			Cavity		
Co-Dominants, Forks			Conks/Mushroom/Bracket		
Multiple Attachments			Bleeding/Sap Flow		
Included Bark			Loose/Cracked Bark		
Excessive End Weight			Nesting Hole/Bee Hive		
Cracks/Splits			Deadwood/Stubs		
Hangers			Borers/termite/ants		
Girdling			Cankers/Galls/Burl		
Wounds/Seam			Previous Failure		

### V. RISK RATING

**SIZE OF DEFECTIVE PART**  1 POINT  2 POINTS  3 POINTS

1 Point	Parts less than <b>4 inches</b> in diameter
2 Points	Parts from <b>4 to 20 inches</b> in diameter
3 Points	Parts <b>greater than 20 inches</b> in diameter

DESCRIPTION & COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER RISK FACTORS**  0 POINTS  1 POINT  2 POINTS

This category can be used if professional judgment suggests the need to increase the risk rating. It can also be used if the tree is likely to fail before the next scheduled risk inspection.

## V. RISK RATING, CONTINUED

DESCRIPTION & SEVERITY: \_\_\_\_\_

TREE PART MOST LIKELY TO FAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

INSPECTION PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_ annual \_\_\_\_\_ biannual \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

PROBABILITY OF FAILURE  1 POINT  2 POINTS  3 POINTS  4 POINTS

Point	Risk	Description	Part Description
1	Low	Some minor defects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor branch/crown dieback</li> <li>Minor defects or wounds</li> </ul>
2	Moderate	Several moderate defects present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicators of advanced decay are found on 25-40% of circumference of any stem, branch, or root collar.</li> <li>Shell thickness is &gt;1 and &lt;2 inches of sound wood for each 6 inches of stem diameter and stem has opening &lt; 30% of stem circumference.</li> <li>Stem has a single crack and decay</li> <li>Roots within the area defined by the Critical Root Radius are less than or equal to 40% damaged, decayed, severed, or dead.</li> <li>Branch union has included bark.</li> <li>Canker or canker plus decay affect 25-40% of tree's circumference</li> <li>Branch has a sharp bend or twist.</li> <li>Large horizontal branch with several vertical branches on it.</li> </ul>
3	High	Multiple or significant defects present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicators of advanced decay are found on more than 40% of the circumference of any stem, branch or root collar.</li> <li>Stem has advanced decay and the shell thickness is either less than 1 inch of sound wood for each 6 inches of stem diameter, or stem has opening greater than 30% of the stem circumference and shell thickness is less than 2 inches of sound wood for each 6 inches of stem diameter.</li> <li>Stem is split in two by a crack or branch has a crack.</li> <li>Stem segment has multiple cracks and decay.</li> <li>Leaning tree with recent evidence of root lifting, soil movement or soil mounding.</li> <li>Roots within the area defined by the Critical Root Radius are more than 40% damaged, decayed, severed, or dead.</li> <li>Weak union is also cracked, cankered, or decayed.</li> <li>Large epicormic branch on decaying stem.</li> <li>Canker or canker plus decay affect more than 40% of tree's circumference.</li> <li>Tree with excessive lean (more than 40%).</li> <li>Leaning tree has a crack in stem or canker or decay on lower stem.</li> <li>Leaning tree has a horizontal crack on the upper side of the lean and/or buckling back and wood on lower side.</li> <li>Any lodged branch.</li> <li>Any dead tree, tree top, or branch.</li> </ul>
4	Severe	Multiple <b>AND</b> significant defects present listed under "High" risk; visual obstruction of traffic signs/ lights or intersections	

DESCRIPTION & COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL RISK RATING (SIZE OF PART + OTHER RISK FACTORS + FAILURE POTENTIAL): \_\_\_\_\_

RISK RATING :  Low (0-1 points)  Moderate (2-3 Points)  High (4-6 points)  Severe (7-9 points)

## VI. RISK ABATEMENT

PRUNE:  Remove Defective part  Reduce end weight  Crown clean  Thin  Raise canopy  
 Crown reduce  Restructure  Shape

CABLE/BRACE: \_\_\_\_\_ INSPECT FURTHER:  Root crown  Decay  Aerial  Monitor

REMOVE TREE? Y N REPLACE? Y N OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECT ON ADJACENT TREES: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_