

Tree Removal/Maintenance Permit Information

(Information required for every Application for Tree Removal)

It is necessary to obtain a Tree Removal Permit for activities such as:

- Tree removal for a proposed development
- Tree removal for the subdivision of a parcel of land
- Tree removal on parcels of land where more than four non-significant trees that are 6 cm (2-3/8") or larger in diameter at breast height (dbh – measured at 1.4 m or 4'7" above the ground) are to be removed
- The logging of commercial timber
- The cutting or pruning of a significant tree
- Tree removal in a watercourse setback or other Development Permit Area

Note: This is not a comprehensive list; refer to "TREE PROTECTION BYLAW 2013 NO. 7126" for more information.

Diagram 1 – Measuring Diameter

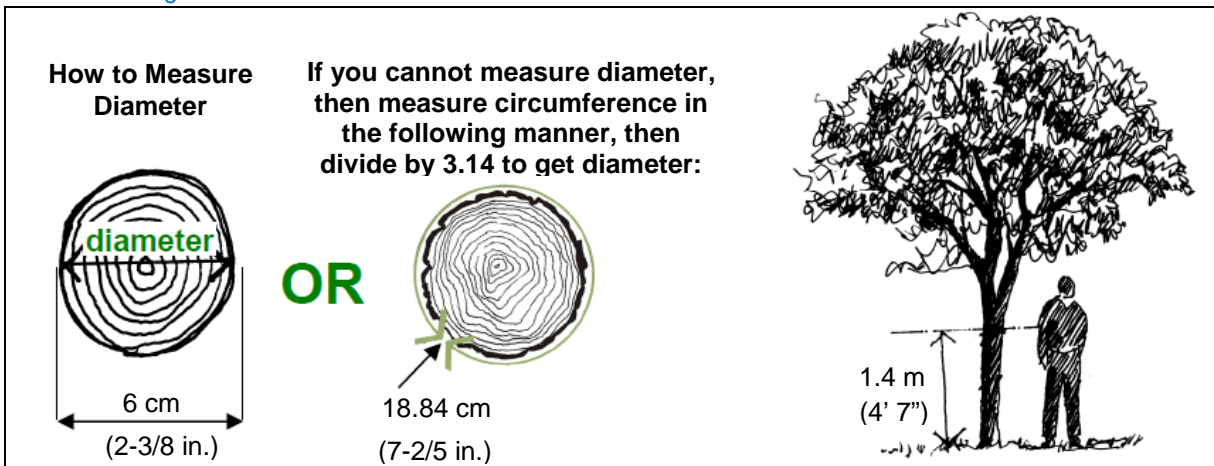
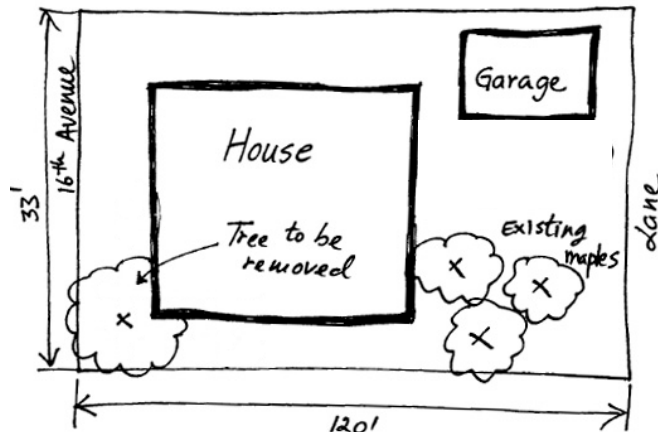


Diagram 2 – Site Sketch



The term “Significant Tree” is defined in the Bylaw. There are three categories:

1. **Heritage Trees** – specific trees of heritage/historic value are listed in “TREE PROTECTION BYLAW 2013 NO. 7126” by species and location within the city.
2. **Wildlife Trees** – trees that provide habitat for an egg or next of species such as bald eagle, heron, and other species protected under the *Wildlife Act*.
3. **Landmark Trees** – trees of certain species and size important to the community for landmark value, as follows:

Species	Minimum Tree Diameter To Be Considered A Significant Tree
Rocky Mountain Juniper, Garry Oak, Pacific Crabapple, Black Hawthorn, Western Dogwood	10 cm
Western Yew, Pacific Willow, Hooker’s Willow, Sitka Willow, Bitter Cherry, Cascara	15 cm
Western White Pine, Shore Pine, Trembling Aspen	20 cm
Douglas Maple	40 cm
Western Hemlock, Arbutus	50 cm
Sitka Spruce, Douglas Fir, Grand Fir, Western Red Cedar, Black Cottonwood, Bigleaf Maple	80 cm

Please be aware that, although the City of Nanaimo does not regulate or enforce the *Wildlife Act*, you may be in contravention of the Provincial *Wildlife Act* if you are removing trees during the spring nesting season. It is, therefore, in your best interest to retain a Registered Professional Biologist to confirm nesting or the lack thereof on your site prior to removals.

The *Wildlife Act* (RSBC 1996) CHAPTER 488, Part 1 – General Provisions – Section 34 – Birds, nests and eggs, states:

- “ **34 A person commits an offence if the person, except as provided by regulation, possesses, takes, injures, molests or destroys**
- (a) A bird or its egg,
 - (b) the nest of an eagle, peregrine falcon, gyrfalcon, osprey, heron or burrowing owl, or
 - (c) the nest of a bird not referred to in paragraph (b) when the nest is occupied by a bird or its egg.”

For further information, please contact the British Columbia Ministry of Environment.