



111 Sandiford Drive, Stouffville, ON L4A 0Z8

Customer Service Centre: 905-640-1900
Toll Free: 1-855-642-TOWN (8696)
Automated: 905-640-1910
Toll Free: 1-855-642-TOWS (8697)
Fax: 905-640-7957
www.townofws.ca

RE: TREES AND ENCROACHMENT ON TOWN PROPERTY
Encroachments onto Town property without approval is in contravention of the
Town's Encroachment Bylaw 2019-083-RE and
Public Tree Preservation Bylaw 2020-086-RE

OWNER/RESIDENT

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has planted a new tree on the boulevard. We want to remind residents that trees are an important Town asset and shall be protected from damage or harm that may affect the health of these assets.

Trees help to filter pollution and dust from the air. They provide shade, cooling our streets and parks. They provide clean oxygen to our communities. Trees provide storm water management in the slowing of rainfall and filtering pollution of runoff before runoff gets to our rivers, lakes and wetland areas. Trees prevent flooding and costly damage to public and private property. Trees beautify our communities and provide wildlife habitat.

Any boulevard tree planted or assumed by the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville that has been aesthetically landscaped with concrete, plastic, wood or artificially coloured mulches, stone, gravel or other unnatural materials, will have these materials removed at the expense of the offender.

If the habitat of the tree has been removed or altered in any way then materials reducing the habitat of the tree will be removed and the habitat will be restored at the expense of the offender. Our trees need open unaltered areas to survive. You may maintain the grass or natural mulch and soil ring for aesthetic values. Please do not raise the ring more than the natural grade of the surrounding grasses. Raised rings will prevent water and oxygen from getting to the roots. This will cause the tree to become stressed and possibly kill the tree.

If lights, decorations, with the example of Christmas Lights, or any other unnatural materials are left in a boulevard tree for more than 3 months, those materials will be removed at the expense of the offender.

Be aware, that hitting the base of the trunk of a tree with a string trimmer will often harm a young tree. This will damage the bark and the living cells just beneath the bark and will slow the growth and even kill a tree. Please be careful when cutting grass around our newly planted trees.

In ground sprinkler systems are not allowed to be installed within the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville's portion of the boulevard. Often roots of trees will be cut when installation procedures are occurring. Cutting of tree roots will harm or cause a tree to die. It can be a long undetectable suffering of the tree, often not seen for many years. Plan installation of sprinklers carefully.

Please join the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in helping us to grow these beautiful natural wonders on our town streets and in our parks.

Thank you and kindest regards,
Public Works Department, Urban Forestry
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville