



January 2006

To: All Residents
From: Board of Directors
Re: Tree Pruning & Removal

As part of our regular property inspections and maintenance committee reviews we have determined that there are a number of trees located throughout the property that are large and exceptionally close to our buildings causing damage. Tree roots damage building foundations, branches overhanging roofs cause damage to shingles and clog up the leaders and gutters and as a result cause additional water damage to bricks, mortar and building interiors. Cleaning out gutters and leaders is a costly and time consuming process. After much discussion the board has decided to start up a program that will finally resolve this problem.

Before we explain how the program will work let me preface this by saying the current board of directors DOES NOT LIKE TO REMOVE TREES and will do everything possible to avoid this result. However, in order to maintain our infrastructure it is sometimes necessary to do just that. Once a tree is removed a replacement one may be planted nearby that is more appropriate for the setting. These replacement trees can be ornamental trees or trees that are limited in size. Replacement tree requests should be made by those living nearby removed trees and called into the office like any other maintenance service. These requests will be considered and be placed on our tree and shrubbery planting list.

How the Tree Pruning & Removal Program will work

In order to be certain that only a minimum number of trees are removed we have established the following procedures:

1. This letter announcing the program and alerting all residents.
2. Drew Englot who is the manger of the Landscape division of our maintenance crew will walk the property block by block and do a thorough inspection of all trees that are in close proximity to the buildings. This process will be done over a period of a few months.
3. Trees that are dangerously close to buildings will be marked with red paint near the base indicating that they need to be removed. Trees that simply need pruning will be marked with green tape.
4. A sub-committee of the board will then walk the same blocks and confirm that the tree removal list is appropriate and proper.
5. A letter will be delivered to the nearby residents alerting them that the tree(s) will be removed and providing them an opportunity to protest the decision. All comments or protests should be sent to the office or emailed to govonyc@aol.com
6. No less than 1 week after the letter has been delivered and after all concerned resident's letters have been reviewed, a final decision will be made.

The board of directors loves our wooded property and clearly understands the sensitivity of tree removals. As a result we have instituted this procedure to assure everyone that the process will be carefully monitored and limited to the fewest number of trees possible.

Thank you.