



**Tree Health Assessment Report  
Deanna Cremin Park and Playground**

Somerville Parks Tree Health Program

IFB #22-11

Prepared by Alden Johnson, MCA, ISA

Daniel Solimini MCA, ISA, TRAQ

February 3, 2022

## **Overview:**

Cremin Playground is an active playground entirely covered primarily by rubber safety surface and paved walking paths. The trees in the park are limited to smaller asymmetrical mulched tree beds. It is home to (2) Sugar Maple Trees in smaller beds, which are completely surrounded by rubber playground surface and concrete, and one Honey Locust tree in the center of the park in a larger planting bed. The Honeylocust is a species more suited to urban soils and stress and shows good health and vigor. This a potentially more challenging site for the Sugar Maples, which are less tolerant of reflected heat, restricted rot area and urban soils. Not surprisingly the Sugar Maples in the park show diminished growth and vigor.

### Soil health

The soil throughout the park area is limited to tree well areas, which are heavily mulched. As a result the top 6-8" of soil are layers of decomposing mulch that has been added on top of urban soil. No odor, average moisture. Soil test showed a PH of 5.7, which is favorable for most species in the park, with high organic matter organic matter (due probably to mulching). Select macronutrient levels were in good ranges for deciduous hardwoods.

### Pruning and removal

Trees should be pruned to remove deadwood and maintain clearance from surrounding walkways and playground surface.

### Removal

No trees in the park present an above average risk, and none need to be removed.

### Pest treatment

No pests or disease observed.

### Other correction of adverse conditions

Due to their restricted growing area, and intolerance of heat and urban soil, I believe the Sugar Maple trees are showing signs of environmental/root related stress. Long term management plan should consider regular monitoring, watering in drought conditions, and bio-stimulant applications to relieve stress.

## **2022 Priorities:**

- Canopy cleaning, raising, of deciduous trees
- Biostimulant injections of Sugar Maples

## **10-Year Priorities:**

- Monitoring of Sugar Maples for environmental stress
- Biostimulant injections of Sugar Maples
- Continued Pruning of Maples and Locust on 3-4 year cycle



**Accredited Tree Care by Certified Arborists**

City of Somerville  
93 Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02143

Home:  
Mobile:  
Office: 617-625-6600  
e-mail: [vboukili@somervillema.gov](mailto:vboukili@somervillema.gov)  
Alt e-mail:

February 4, 2022  
Proposal #: 57563

Job Site: 11  
Cremin Playground  
IFB 22-11 Parks Health Program  
59 Otis St  
Somerville, MA 02145

Phone:  
Email:  
Alt Phone:

**Tree and Shrub Care Recommendations on 2/3/2022**

Description of Services

**- Work Plan for Cremin Playground: March 3-4, 2022**

**- (2) Sugar Maples and (1) Honeylocust in Park:**

**Canopy Cleaning/Raising/Reduction** - Selective pruning to remove declining, dead and broken branches greater than 2" in diameter, and provide clearances, weight reduction as specified per tree in the attached spreadsheet.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**- Bio-stimulant Application** - Early season. Treat soils within the critical root zone (typically within the dripline) of the (2) Sugar Maples and Honeylocust in the park with an organic liquid blend of humic acids, kelp extract and natural compounds to enhance soil structure, microbial activity and nutrient availability.

[Redacted]

**- Park Closure:** Note the above work will require the park to be closed for approximately 1 day March 3rd or 4th, 2022 from 7AM until 3PM during the project.

[Redacted]



This proposal is valid for 45 days, assuming there are no changes to the site (driveway, plantings, buildings etc. remain unchanged). All work performed in accordance with ANSI A300 Standards.

Payment due upon completion of work. 1 1/2% per month, 18% per year on unpaid balances.





**Cremin Playground**

**42168**

**42163**

**42178**



Site ID	Species	DBH	Primary Maintenance Need	Work units
			<b>Cremin Playground</b>	
42163	Sugar Maple	10.9	Prune to remove dead, diseased, broken branches greater than 1.5" in diameter	2
42168	Sugar Maple	12.4	Prune to remove dead, diseased, broken branches greater than 1.5" in diameter	2
42178	Honey Locust	17.7	Prune to remove dead, diseased, broken branches greater than 1.5" in diameter	5



