

Use the tree ID numbers and the map to see which trees are being pruned, removed, etc.



**Tree Health Assessment Report  
Osgood Park and Community Garden**

Somerville Parks Tree Health Program

IFB #20-19

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December 11, 2019

**Overview:**

Osgood Park is an Active Park with a playground and Community Gardens that is home to 24 deciduous and evergreen shade and ornamental trees. It is divided into a concrete playground area with trees in partitioned garden beds and a fenced-in Community Garden bordered by large volunteer shade trees.

General tree health

The trees within the playground area show moderately good vigor, with some structural issues and deferred pruning and pest control needs. The volunteer Sycamore Maple trees are heavily cankered.

Soil Health

The soil throughout the playground area is only lightly compacted. A 1-2" layer of dark organic soil over a light-colored sandy/gravelly 6" layer of urban soil, down to 8 inches below grade. No odor, average moisture. Soil test showed macronutrients at good levels. PH of the soil sample was low (5.3) below optimal for deciduous trees such as the Redbud and pear, but OK for the Hemlocks which prefer acidic soil. Measures to raise PH should be applied to areas around the Pear and Redbud, with exception of the Hemlocks.

Pest treatment

Hemlock trees on the western border of the park have moderate-heavy populations of elongate hemlock scale *Fiorinia externa*, as well as some Hemlock woolly adelgid and mite populations. Left untreated this triad of pests will precipitate a steady and prompt decline in the health of these trees. Bi-annual treatment with a systemic insecticide/miticide is recommended until populations are under control. We recommend a soil application of Acephate in close proximity to the trunk to target all three pests.

Other correction of adverse conditions

Volunteer groupings of Sycamore Maples around the community garden have numerous target cankers on large branches and trunks, in some cases already resulting in stem death. This is typical of the species, and monitoring and regular pruning and select removal of the most severely affected is recommended. Various stumps around the playground planting beds should be ground down below grade to make room for new plantings.

Removal needs

(3) Stumps to be ground in playground area. Two dead sycamore Maple stems in the Community garden should be removed, as well as a volunteer Mulberry tree growing in the middle of the garden. Gardeners should be vigilant to identify and remove invasive *Ailanthus altissima* saplings growing in the garden areas and remove them before they establish.

Pruning needs

Hemlock trees should be pruned to provide 3-5' of clearance off the neighbor's building and canopy cleaned to remove dead and broken branches 1" and larger. Memorial Redbud tree and large Callery pear on the left side should be pruned to limit weight and leverage on weak unions, as well as remove deadwood and improve structure. The Sycamore Maple trees around the community garden area should be pruned to remove deadwood 2" in diameter and larger. This includes removing several whole dead and severely cankered stems.

**2020 Priorities:**

- Treat Hemlocks for Scale, Mites and Adelgid
- Remove dead/severely cankered Sycamore Maple trees
- Prune to remove dead and cankered sections of remaining Sycamore Maples
- Canopy cleaning, thinning, structural pruning of Redbud, Pears Hemlocks

**10-Year Priorities:**

- Gradual removal of all cankered Sycamore Maples make room for healthy trees
- Control and Monitoring of Hemlock pest
- Replacement replanting of trees in playground area



### Accredited Tree Care by Certified Arborists

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December 18, 2019  
Proposal #: 37469

Job Site:  
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IFB#20-19  
Various Locations  
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### Tree and Shrub Care Recommendations on 12/5/2019

#### Description of Services

#### - Osgood Park Work Plan

- **Map:** See attached

**Schedule and sequence:** We plan to complete the pruning and removal work proposed during the hours of 7AM-3PM over the course 3 consecutive business days to be named in February-March 2020.

#### **Crew and Equipment:**

*Pruning work :* 2 person crew, including a certified arborist, wood chipper and truck-mounted aerial lift for pruning work

*Removal work:* 3 person crew with a certified arborist, chipper and truck-mounted aerial lift for removal work.

*Pesticide/Soil amendment work:* 1 licensed applicator with a light duty tank-truck, hand granular spreader and subsurface injection needle.

**Park Closures:** Playground area and community garden will need to be closed for three (3) business days to complete the pruning, stump grinding and removal operations.

**Traffic and Pedestrian Management plan:** Allow for vehicular traffic and pedestrians to safely pass the work site. Use proper signage, cones and caution tape to clearly identify the work site as outlined below, and utilize a police detail to ensure safety.

Written plan to be submitted to city traffic engineer for approval prior to work.

**Equipment access and matting:** We will not be accessing non-paved surfaces with trucks or heavy equipment. Truck access to concrete surface through double-gate.



- **21" diameter Callery Pear (#41024) front left corner**

**Structural Pruning** - Selective pruning to improve branch architecture; select, develop and maintain strong, properly spaced scaffold branches by reducing or removing interfering, overextended, defective and poorly attached limbs.

**Canopy Cleaning** - Selective pruning to remove declining, dead and broken branches greater than 1" in diameter.

**Canopy Reduction** - Selective pruning to decrease height and/or canopy spread and limit leverage on branch unions through a series of (10-15) 1-2" diameter reduction cuts

- **(3) Hemlocks (#41014, 41003, 40985) along the western border**

**Canopy Cleaning** - Selective pruning to remove declining, dead and broken branches greater than 1" in diameter.

**Canopy Raising** - Selective pruning to provide a 3-5 foot envelope of clearance of the left neighbors building.

- **11" diameter Eastern Redbud (Memorial Tree) (#40964)**

**Structural Pruning** - Selective pruning to improve branch architecture; select, develop and maintain strong, properly spaced scaffold branches by reducing or removing interfering, overextended, defective and poorly attached limbs.

**Canopy Cleaning** - Selective pruning to remove declining, dead and broken branches greater than 1" in diameter. Fix storm damage.

**Canopy Reduction** - Selective pruning to decrease height and/or canopy spread through a series of .5" to 1" diameter cuts to reduce leverage.

**Canopy Thinning** - Selective pruning to reduce density of live interior limbs by 5-10%.

- **(1) Pear Stump and (2) Hemlock stumps in the playground area:**

**Stump Grinding** - Grind stump and exposed flare 4-6" below grade; backfill and remove excess grinding debris. Machine will grind up to 4-6" from adjacent immobile objects.

- **6" Sycamore Maple (#41487) behind the Mulberry in the Garden area, 6" diameter declining Sycamore Maple (#41384) uphill of the garden area, eastern fenceline, and 4" Sycamore Maple (unmarked) in the back right fenceline with large canker,**

**Tree Removal** - Take down and cut stump low to grade as equipment allows, dispose of brush, logs and chipped debris generated from removal operations.

- **Multistem Mulberry tree behind the locker, in front of tree # 41487**

**Weed Tree Removal** - Take down and cut stump low to grade as equipment allows, dispose of brush, logs and chipped debris generated from removal operations.



- **Row of Sycamore Maples along the eastern edge and hillside along the community garden (Trees # 41373, 41378, 41424, 41406, 41390, 41414, 41397, 41324, 41436)**  
**Canopy Cleaning** - Selective pruning to remove declining, dead and broken branches and leader greater than 2" in diameter. **Note: This includes removing whole significant cankered or dead leaders from trees #41373, 41378, 41424, 41406. Also removing high dead stumps and sprouts from the hillside**
  
- **Norway Maple (#41478), American Elm (#41457) and Black Walnut (#41468) on the north edge of the community garden.**  
**Canopy Cleaning** - Selective pruning to remove storm damage and declining, dead and broken branches greater than 2" in diameter.
  
- **Lime Application** - Spring Apply granular calcitic lime within the critical root zone to help adjust soil pH within desired growing range of the Flowering Pear and Redbud on the western side of the playground.
  
- **Lime Application** - Fall Apply granular calcitic lime within the critical root zone to help adjust soil pH within desired growing range of the Flowering Pear and Redbud on the western side of the playground.
  
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- **Debris Disposal:** Costs include removal and disposal of brush, logs and chipped debris generated from tree care operations.





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**Plant Health Care Recommendations on 12/5/2019**

Description of Services

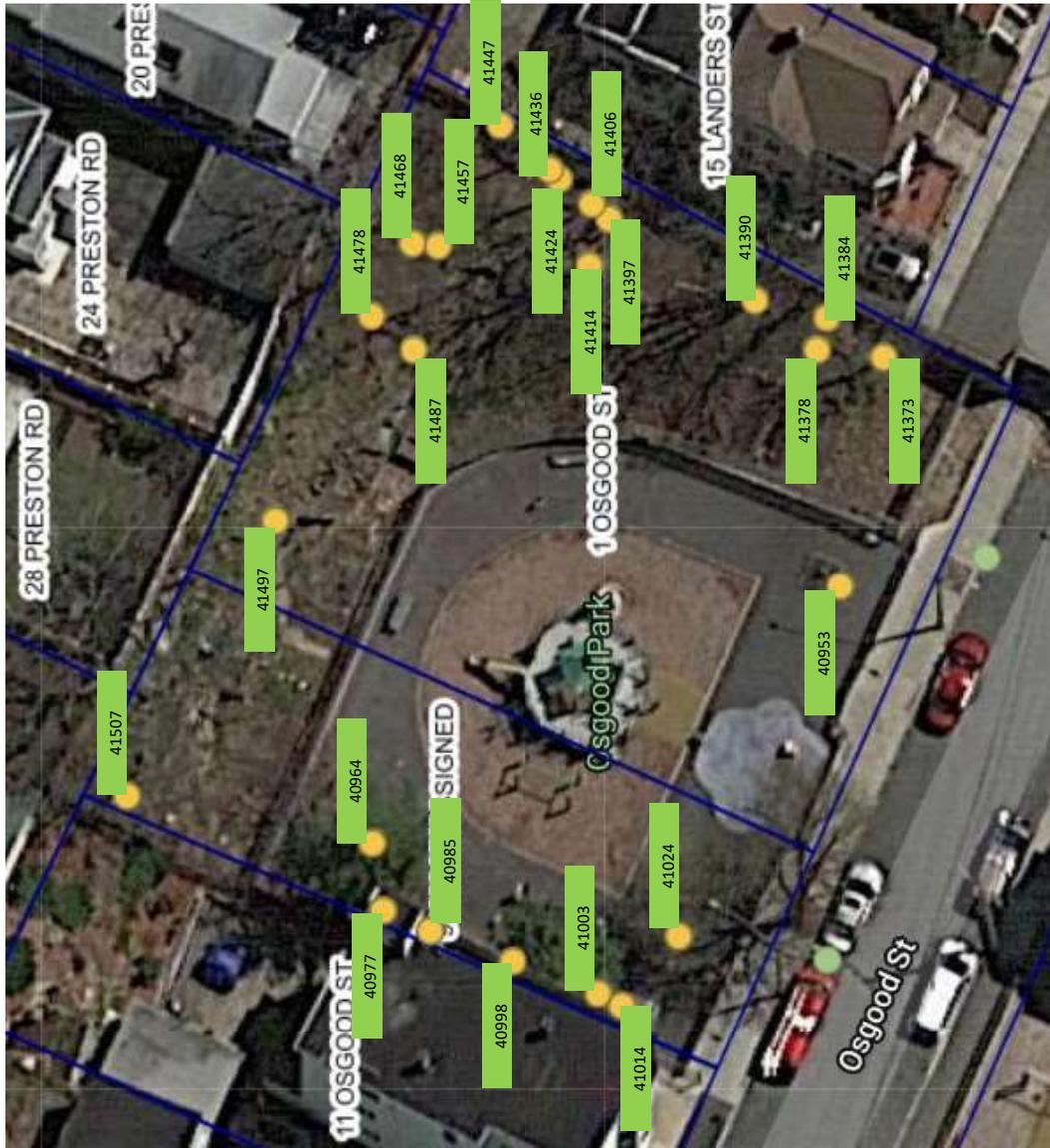
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**- Elongate Scale, Mite, and Adelgid control on the Eastern Hemlock Trees in Osgood Park:**

**- Hemlock Elongate Scale/Mite Control - Early Season.** Apply a systemic insecticide to the soil around the trunk to help control scale and mite damage on **(3) Hemlocks (# 41014, 41003, 40985) along the western border of Osgood Park.**

**- Hemlock Elongate Scale/Mite Control - Late Season.** Apply a systemic insecticide to the soil around the trunk to help control scale and mite damage on **(3) Hemlocks (# 41014, 41003, 40985) along the western border of Osgood Park.**





# Osgood Park

Site ID	Species	DBH	Work Recommended	Condition	(Risk Ra
<b>Osgood Park. Starting Northwest corner of the park, moving clockwise</b>					
41507	maple: striped (Acer pensylvanicum)	7	(different species from inventory?) Not included in scope	Fair	Low
41497	tree-of-heaven (Ailanthus altissima)	1	Not included in scope- gardener responsibility	Fair	Low
41478	maple: Norway (Acer platanoides)	15.8	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41487	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	5.8	Tree Removal	Fair	Low
41468	walnut: black (Juglans nigra)	12.6	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41457	elm: American (Ulmus americana)	12.6	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41447	maple: Norway (Acer platanoides)	11	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41436	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6.4	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41424	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	7	Canopy Cleaning, Remove leader	Poor	Low
41406	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	9.9	Canopy Cleaning, Remove leader	Poor	Low
41397	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	12.5	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41414	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	12.4	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41390	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	13.5	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Mode rate
41384	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6	Tree Removal	Poor	Low
41378	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	9.2	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
41373	maple: sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	10.9	Canopy Cleaning	Fair	Low
40953	stump (Stump)	13	Stump Grinding	N/A	N/A
41024	pear: callery (Pyrus calleryana)	20	Structural Prune, Canopy Clean & Reduce	Poor	Low
41014	hemlock: eastern (Tsuga candensis)	10.2	Canopy Clean & Raise	Fair	Low
41003	hemlock: eastern (Tsuga candensis)	10.3	Canopy Clean & Raise	Fair	Low
40998	stump (Stump)	14	Stump Grinding	N/A	N/A
40985	hemlock: eastern (Tsuga candensis)	10.3	Canopy Clean & Raise	Fair	Low

40977 stump (Stump)	10 Stump Grinding	N/A	N/A
redbud: eastern (Cercis 40964 canadensis)	Structural Prune, Canopy Clean, Thin & 10.5 Reduction	Poor	Low