

COMPARISON OF TREE BY LAWS BY TOWN

Prepared by Larry Englisner for Arlington Tree Committee
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TOPIC	ARLINGTON	LEXINGTON	WINCHESTER	SOMERVILLE	CAMBRIDGE	BELMONT	BROOKLINE	NEWTON	WESTON	WELLESLEY	NORTH ANDOVER
TREE BYLAW OR REGULATION	NO	YES	YES. (Article 4)	YES. (Article VI Sect. 12.)	YES (Chapter 8.66 Tree Protection of the Cambridge Municipal Code)	YES	YES For Large Special Projects on Private Land (through Design Review).	YES	YES	YES	Part of Wetland Protection Bylaw
DATE ADOPTED		2001	2013	2009	2004 (amended)	~ 2005	Ordinance for private land was considered in 2005 or 2006. Decided not to have a separate bylaw but some protection was incorporated in Zoning ByLaw for Special Projects Only.	Updated 2014	Voted in May 2015	2011	
PROTECTS PRIVATE LOT TREES	NO	YES (only within setbacks) Applies to trees removed 12 months prior.	NO (was discussed but too much opposition)	NO. Draft Sample Ordinance for Tree Preservation Recommended was in Urban Forest Management Plan; But Mayor was not supportive, and never pursued. NEVERTHELESS: 1) Site Design Review Che	YES (requires tree study, including tree survey, tree protection plan, mitigation plan including replacement trees or funding) BUT It may be limited to projects requiring special permits	NO. 2011 Proposal by SUSTAINABLE BELMONT was dropped.	YES. (Have tree protection in Zoning Bylaws in Section 5.09 Design Review for Large Special Projects. Zoning ByLaw states "Preservation of Trees and Landscape Trees and other landscape features shall be preserved in a natural state, insofar as practicable)	YES (Removal requires tree permit and tree plan)	YES Article limits clear cutting of lots, ALSO has a demolition delay by law. AND Existing Design/Siting/Planning Guidelines for Homes Built Under RGFA (Large Houses) and Scenic Road Provisions of the Zoning By-Law required	YES, in setback tree yards, if construction on either vacant lot, requires demolition of a 250+ sq. ft. structure, involves constructing a retaining wall of 4+ feet height or increases existing structure footprint by 50%+.	NO except in wetland/stream areas
GENERAL OR ZONING	N/A	General			General		Zoning	General	General	Zoning	
HAS PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION	NO	Requires replacement trees at half caliper or funds into Selectmen's Tree Gift Account	YES up to \$500	Recommended in Draft Ordinances	YES (Replacement or at least \$5000 into fund)	YES But only \$20. (may be related to state statutes; mass tree wardens assn trying to update state statutes)		YES (Replacement in kind or funds into Tree Fund)	YES	YES (case reported in 2014; fine of over \$5000)	
ENFORCEMENT BODY		Tree Warden (in DPW)	Tree Warden (DPW Director)	Tree Warden (City Arborist)	Tree Warden (City Arborist and DPW Commissioner)	Tree Warden (City Arborist and DPW Commissioner)	Tree Warden (City Arborist and DPW Commissioner)	Tree Warden (Urban Forestry Division)		Building Dept.	Conservation Commission
CONTACT INFO		Christopher Filadoro, Public Grounds Supt., DPW 781-274-8300 cfiladoro@lexingtonma.gov	Brian Szekely (called), Town Planner, 781-721-7162; James Gill, Tree Warden and DPW Director 781-721-7100; both on Tree Committee	Rachel Kelly, Green Infrastructure Planner, 617-625-6600 x2516 (called); Brad Arndt (former) Urban Forest Initiative (617) 455-1127 barndt@somervillema.gov (called); George Proakis, Director of Planning,	David Lefcourt City Arborist dlefcourt@cambridgema.gov 617-349-6433 called; Owen O'Riordan, COMMISSIONER, 617-349-4800	Tom Walsh Tree Warden DPW Highway Dept 617-484-4114 (called)	Tom Brady Tree Warden, tbrady@brooklinema.gov (sent email, called) 617-879-5650 DPW 617-201-5514 cell; Hugh Mattison Tree Planting Committee hmattison@aol.com 617-232-6083 (called);	Director of Urban Forestry Marc R. Welch, (617)796-1530, urbanforestry@newtonma.gov	Thomas Cullen, Jr. Tree Warden, DPW, 781-786-5105 No call made, cullen.t@westonmass.org	Michael T. Quinn Assistant Superintendent Parks and Highways/ Deputy Tree Warden 781-235-7600 x3320; Michael Zehner AICP, Planning Director, 781-431-1019 X2234	Jennifer Hughes, Conservation Administrator, North Andover 978-688-9530
HAVE COPY OF BYLAW	NA	YES (and Tree Manual)	YES	YES (Current ByLaw; Draft Plan and Draft Ordinances)	YES	YES	YES (Zoning ByLaws Sec. 5.09)	YES (and Tree Manual)	YES	YES (Zoning Bylaw Sec.XVIE)	Have Tree Removal Procedure