



TOWN OF ARLINGTON  
MASSACHUSETTS  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

November 1, 2019

Mr. Dave Kopans  
2 Princeton Road  
Arlington MA, 02474

**RE: 2 Princeton Road, Arlington - Emergency Tree Pruning Approval due to Imminent Risk to Public Health and Safety**

Dear Mr. Kopans,

Thank you for reaching out to the Conservation Commission regarding the two hazardous willow trees on your property. The hazardous trees are located along the bank of Spy Pond, meaning they are within the jurisdiction of the Arlington Conservation Commission.

On November 1, 2019 the Arlington Tree Warden and Conservation Agent inspected the two willow trees. During the inspection, the Tree Warden confirmed that the two trees are hazardous. In discussion with the Tree Warden, the Conservation Agent approved pruning of top deadwood and hazardous branches. The trees, pictured below, will not be removed, but pruned. The pruning of both trees is more than the allowable 20% pruning of a canopy, and therefore considered extensive under the local Arlington Regulations for Wetlands Protection. However, due to the imminent risk to public health and safety the Conservation Agent certified and approved the necessary pruning to mitigate the hazardous condition.

The Conservation Agent will present this emergency pruning approval during the Commission's November 7, 2019 meeting and request ratification. The Conservation Commission has the authority to require in-kind replacement to the extent practicable as determined by the Commission (Arlington Regulations for Wetlands Protection, Section 24 - Vegetation Removal and Replacement). The Conservation Agent will follow-up with you after the November 7, 2019 meeting to organize appropriate next steps as defined by the Commission.

Please find a summary of the approved pruning below, with pictures for guidance.

**Tree A**

Tree A is the westerly tree located along the bank of Spy Pond. Tree A is hollow with fruiting structures (fungi) growing along the trunk, an indication of decaying wood.

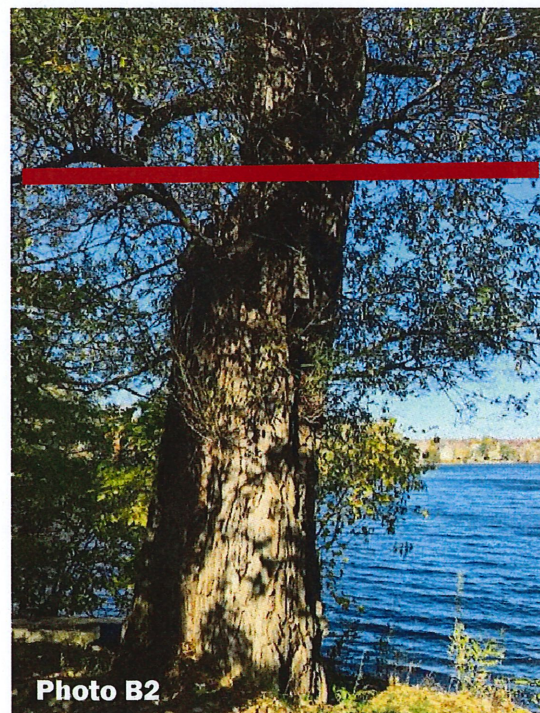
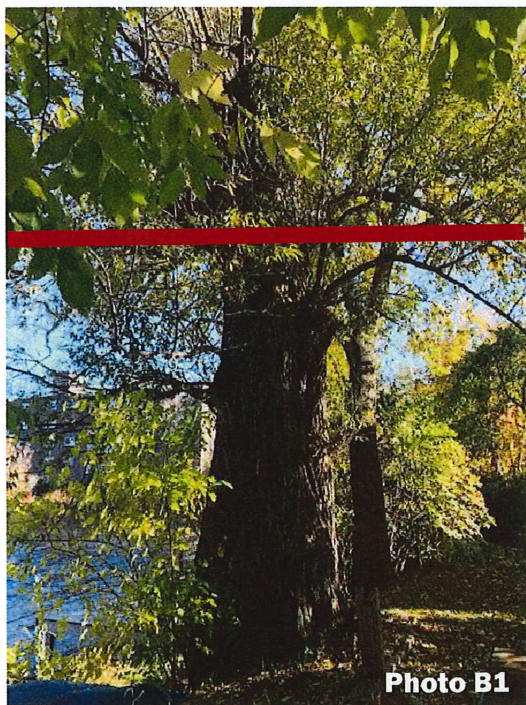




Approved pruning includes removing the top deadwood, but leaving lower branches untouched. Approximately 10-feet of trunk and accompanying branches shall remain. Please see the red line above noting the approximate amount of approved pruning. Please note that the pictures were taken from different angles, and therefore the line of pruning appears lowering in Photo A1 than Photo A2, but in reality the lines are at the same level. The pruning line shall be just under the last fruiting structure on the trunk.

#### **Tree B**

Tree B is the easterly tree located along the bank of Spy Pond. Tree B is hollow with no fruiting structures (fungi) growing along the trunk.





Approved pruning includes removing the top deadwood, but leaving lower branches untouched. Approximately 15-feet of trunk and accompanying branches shall remain. Please see the red line above noting the approximate amount of approved pruning. Please note that the pictures were taken from different angles, and therefore the line of pruning appears lowering in Photo B1 than Photo B2, but in reality the lines are at the same level. The pruning line shall be just above the wooden swing bracket adhered to the trunk.

Please let me know if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Emily Sullivan  
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