

Procedure

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| Procedure Name: | Calculating Requirements for Replacement of Lost Tree Cover |
| Parent Policy: | Official Plan Policy 3.2.3.22 |
| Procedure Owner: | Park & Natural Heritage Planning Section |
| Approved by: | Manager of Park & Natural Heritage Planning |
| Policy Approval Date: | June 15, 2016 |
| Date of Last Revision: | December 21, 2017 |
| Procedure Status: | Active |

PURPOSE:

To set out an appropriate methodology for determining requirements for replacing tree cover lost through the development process and/or Tree Preservation By-law permit applications.

SCOPE:

This procedure is to be followed when calculating the amount of tree planting required to replace tree cover lost through the development process and/or Tree Preservation By-law permit applications. It should be noted that this methodology is intended to be used in association with the removal of individually standing trees; it is not meant to be used to calculate compensation for lost forest/woodland cover. Additionally, this procedure is intended for use to calculate required tree cover replacement in situations where tree removal has followed the correct protocols (i.e., a Tree Preservation By-law permit application has been processed or tree removals have been permitted through the planning process). Illegal removal of trees can result in different (e.g., punitive) replacement requirements.

PROCEDURE:

Once the number, size, health, condition and species of trees to be removed has been confirmed the following requirements will be utilized to determine the number of trees that need to be replanted to replace lost tree cover:

- 1 replacement tree must be planted for each exotic/non-native species >20 cm DBH, in fair to good condition that is to be removed.
- Replacements for native trees are as follows:

| DBH of Tree to be Removed | # of Replacement Trees Required |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 0-20 cm | 0 |
| 20-30 cm | 1 |
| 31-40 cm | 2 |
| 41-50 cm | 3 |
| 51-100 cm | 4 |
| >100 cm | 5 |

3. No replacement is required for removal of any invasive tree species for which the Town encourages removal due to the potentially negative ecological impacts of the species to local ecosystems. This includes European Buckthorn in all circumstances and Manitoba Maple, Scots Pine and Norway Maple in cases where the tree being removed is in poor condition and/or is not providing a community benefit.

If the owner/applicant cannot, or does not want to, plant replacement trees on the subject property then the owner/applicant is required to pay an amount equivalent to the cost of the tree planting calculated using the 'Tree Replacements' fee identified in the Town's Tariff of Fees By-law (e.g. Tree Replacement Fee X number of required replacement trees not planted on site).

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The calculations undertaken pursuant to this procedure will be completed by staff of the Park & Natural Heritage Planning Section.

Cash-in-lieu of replacing tree cover lost through the development process will be collected by the Capital and Development Financing Section using the Finance schedules of site plan and subdivision agreements.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Town of Richmond Hill Official Plan (see page 3-56, Policy # 3.2.3.22)

Tariff of Fees By-law

Staff Report SRCFS.16.021