



SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION

TREE REMOVAL POLICY

Tree removal is a “last resort” means to resolve specific hazardous conflicts in relation to trees and public safety, public and private property, and the health and vitality of the City’s urban forest.

Prior to removal the Urban Forester or his/her designee shall conduct a comprehensive tree inspection. The inspection will ensure a deliberate and thorough evaluation is made of the tree’s stability, health, and contribution to the community.

The following conditions and/or site characteristics will take precedence for removal consideration:

- ✓ dead or dying
- ✓ structurally unsound
- ✓ beyond practical remedial care
- ✓ host to virulent insects or diseases
- ✓ evidence of prior branch, trunk, or root failure
- ✓ chronically invasive to public or private property
- ✓ irreconcilable positional conflict

Tree removal shall be warranted if in the judgment of the Urban Forester (or his/her designee) any one or a combination of the following applies:

1. Public safety is compromised beyond a reasonable level;
2. An irreconcilable conflict exists between the tree and the safe use of property;
3. The health and vitality of the City’s urban forest is at risk;
4. Economic and/or safety issues exceed the value of the tree.

Please call the Urban Forestry office at 972-7818 if you have any questions.

You may also contact the forestry office by FAX at 972-7847 or through the worldwide web at www.slcgov.com/publicservices/forestry to enter a request for service, ask a question, inquire about a tree species, evaluate services provided, and participate in an interactive survey.