

# THE VILLAGE OF WARFIELD

**POLICY TITLE:** TREE PRUNING POLICY

**POLICY #** 5420

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

It is the policy of Council to work with property owners to minimize obstructions to visibility on municipal roads.

**POLICY BACKGROUND:**

Many properties in Warfield feature mature trees and bushes that contribute to the aesthetic appeal of the community. On occasion mature trees or bushes planted on private property extend their branches onto the road allowance. Such branches can restrict the vision of drivers, obstruct traffic signs, or hidden driveways. On such occasions it is necessary to cut back branches in the interest of public safety.

**POLICY GOAL:**

It is the goal of this policy to make a reasonable effort to work with property owners and owners of obstructing trees or bushes to ensure that encroaching branches do not endanger public safety.

**POLICY OBJECTIVES:**

1. To issue a verbal notice to property owners to prune encroaching trees or bushes, and to record the date and time of such verbal request.
2. To issue a written notice to property owners to prune encroaching trees or bushes:
  - a) if an owner cannot be located for the purpose of a verbal notice, or
  - b) if an owner has failed to prune, or adequately prune, an encroaching tree or bush within seven days of being served a verbal notice.
3. To proceed and prune that portion of trees and/or bushes, that are not on private property, as may be required to eliminate a public safety hazard if an owner, having received a written notice, failed to comply with the request of the notice within ten days of the notice being mailed.
4. To notify the owner of a tree or bush pruned by the Village pursuant to policy objective #3 of the nature and reason for the work done within three days of having the work done.

Initially approved at meeting #36-03 on November 10, 2003.

Last reviewed and confirmed at meeting #10-08 on April 21, 2008

Next scheduled to be reviewed on April 6, 2009