

WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO TO PROTECT BROOKLINE'S MATURE TREES

A healthy urban forest nurtures a healthy community, providing shade, cooling, clean air, animal habitat, flood mitigation, and carbon sink. To protect the mature trees in our neighborhoods, Brookline implemented a new [Tree Preservation Bylaw](#) regarding tree removal and tree protection. This bylaw, administered through the **Department of Public Work's Sustainability Department**, is a huge step toward preserving Brookline's green tree-lined landscapes.

This bylaw requires a special **Tree Impact and Removal Permit** to remove any tree with a 6" or greater DBH (diameter measured 4.5 feet above the ground) and requires a certified arborist's tree assessment, and potentially mitigation through either tree replacement plantings or contribution to the Town's Tree Fund. The new bylaw also requires permit applicants to submit a **Tree Protection & Mitigation Plan** to protect trees 6" DBH or greater within 30' limit of work, which includes any construction-related activity, demolition, or changes to grade (excavation or fill). This pertains not only to the trees on the permit applicant's lot, but also to trees on adjacent properties within 30' of the permitted work area. This is a crucial step in protecting critical root structures.

For more information about the Tree Preservation Bylaw, including rules and regulations, an application checklist, FAQs, and permit application, go to the Town of Brookline's website at <https://www.brooklinema.gov/3709/Tree-Preservation-Bylaw>.

If you are concerned that a Protected tree 6" DBH or greater is potentially being removed without a permit, please reach out to Sustainability & Natural Resources, 617-730-2088, treepreservation@brooklinema.gov.

Planning tree removal or construction work on your property?

WAIT! You may need to apply for a Protected Tree Impact and Removal Permit
Brookline's Tree Preservation Bylaw protects trees 6" diameter at breast height or greater

If you REMOVE A TREE
you may have to mitigate

You must PROTECT A TREE
during construction

Questions?
617-730-2088
TreePreservation@BrooklineMA.gov

DPW@works
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BROOKLINE, MA

LEARN MORE
BrooklineMA.gov/TreePreservation

**TO CARE FOR THE EARTH IS TO CARE FOR OURSELVES.
LET'S PRESERVE BROOKLINE'S TREES!**