

Supplemental Information to Tree Conservation Nomination Form (not to be returned with form)

In November 2013, Charlottesville City Council adopted the Tree Conservation Ordinance regulating the preservation and removal of Heritage, Specimen, Memorial and Street Trees, (Chapter 18 (Parks and Recreation), Article II, Tree Conservation) in order to secure protection for a portion of the City's urban forest and the ecosystem services that this forest provides.

The ordinance can be used to protect individual trees on public land, or privately owned individual trees that property owners voluntarily agree to safeguard. Individual property owners and the Tree Commission may nominate trees.

TREE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS AND CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

Heritage Tree

Any tree that has notable historic or cultural interest.

Memorial Tree

Any tree that is designated for a special commemorating memorial, of a person, group, or life event.

Specimen Tree

Any tree that is notable by virtue of its outstanding size and quality for its particular species.

Street Tree

Any tree which grows in the street right-of-way or on private property as authorized by the owner and placed or planted there by local government.

PROCESS FOR DESIGNATION

Upon receiving a nomination, the Tree Commission will review. If the tree meets the appropriate category definition and is approved by the Commission, the City Forester shall provide a written report and recommendation to City Council. After a public hearing, City Council may designate the tree for conservation.

**Note: A property owner shall take reasonable efforts to preserve and protect the tree. Any person or entity that knowingly violates this ordinance may be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500. The City Manager or City Council may approve the removal of a designated tree if the tree is dead, irreversibly damaged, endangers the safety of the public, not removing the tree causes severe hardship to the property owner, or there are overriding needs for public improvements.*

**Trees that will not be considered – the City may consider any tree ineligible for designation for the following reasons (but not exclusive to these reasons): hazardous, invasive, inappropriate for their planting space, pest or disease problems, not recommended for protection by City staff.*