

907.08 PUBLIC NUISANCE.

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CHAPTER 907 Trees and Shrubs

907.02 PLANTING, CONTROL AND MAINTENANCE.

The Forester shall have charge and control of all trees and shrubs growing in any public area in the City and shall have the power to plant and maintain such trees and shrubs.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

907.03 PERMIT REQUIRED.

No person shall plant, move, spray, fertilize, brace, trim, do surgery work, cut above or below ground, disturb or alter any tree or shrub on any public area of the City, or cause such acts to be done by others without first obtaining a written permit from the Forester, who shall issue the permit if in his judgment the work is necessary and the proposed methods of workmanship are of a satisfactory nature. A permit shall not be required to cultivate and water. The person receiving the permit shall abide by the arboricultural specifications and standards of practice as prescribed by the National Shade Tree Conference. As a condition to any permit to remove any public tree or shrub the Forester may require that the permittee plant one or more trees or shrubs in place of the one removed. Whenever any such tree or shrub has been removed or destroyed pursuant to any such conditional permit, the permittee shall not fail, refuse or neglect to plant another tree or shrub or other trees or shrubs of the type, size and at the location specified in the permit, within the time specified by the Forester from the date of the issuance of the permit.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

907.04 PERMIT DATA; VOIDING OF PERMITS.

Every written permit issued by the Forester shall describe the work to be done, specify the species or variety, size, nursery grade and location of the tree or shrub in question and briefly specify the method of planting, support and trimming of all trees or shrubs concerned. In addition, the permit shall contain a definite expiration date. Any permit may be declared void if its terms are violated.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

907.05 FASTENING MATERIAL TO TREES.

No person shall fasten any sign, wire, rope or other material to, around or through any public tree or shrub in the City except by written permit of the Forester except in emergencies such as storms or accidents.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

907.06 MATERIALS INJURIOUS TO TREES AND SHRUBS.

No person shall deposit, place, store or maintain upon any public area of the City any stone, brick, sand, concrete or other materials which may impede the free passage of water, air and fertilizer to the roots of any tree or shrub growing therein, except by written permit of the Forester.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

907.07 PROTECTION.

No person shall break, injure, mutilate, kill or destroy any tree or shrub, or permit any fire to burn where such fire will injure any portion of any tree or shrub in any public area of the City. No person shall knowingly permit any leak to exist in any gas pipe within the root zone of any public tree or shrub. No person shall permit any toxic chemical to seep, drain or be emptied on or about any public tree or shrub. No person shall knowingly permit telephone or electric wires to come in contact with any public trees or shrubs unless protected by approved methods. No person shall attach any electrical installation to any public tree or excavate any ditches, tunnels or trenches, or lay any drive within a radius of ten feet from any public tree or shrub without first obtaining a written permit from the Forester. During building operations the builder, after obtaining a written permit from the Forester, shall erect suitable protective barriers around public trees or shrubs apt to be injured. Whenever the Forester determines it is necessary to move, protect or cut off the electricity from service wires so he can safely and properly do his work he shall serve written notice on the owners of such wires and such owners shall comply with such orders within twenty-four hours after the service of such notice. (Ord. 20-60. Passed 4-26-60.)

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The Forester shall have the authority to enter any private grounds in the City to spray, trim or remove any tree or shrub which is dead, dangerous to public health and safety, infected or infested by any parasite, insect, pest or disease when it is necessary in his opinion to do so in order to prevent the breeding or scattering of any parasite, insect, pest or disease and to prevent danger therefrom to trees or shrubs planted in the public streets, parks or any other public place. Whenever, in the opinion of the Forester, the trimming, spraying or removal of any such tree or shrub located on private grounds is deemed wise in the interest of public health or safety, the Forester shall have the power to trim, spray or remove such tree or shrub or cause or order the same to be trimmed, sprayed or removed. The cost of the removal, trimming or spraying of the tree or shrub by the Forester shall be a charge upon the real property on which such tree or shrub is removed, trimmed or sprayed. Such cost shall be certified by the Forester to the appropriate authority, who shall collect such cost and deposit it in the proper account. Notice to remove, trim or spray under this section shall be served personally or by registered mail on the owner or agent of the property at least fourteen days before such trimming, spraying or removal is necessary.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 2-26-60.)

907.09 MASTER STREET TREE PLAN.

(a) The Forester shall, from time to time, prepare plans which designate by a complete map of the City streets, a uniform method of street tree planting, zoning certain streets or sections of streets for a certain specimen of tree or trees and shrub or shrubs, showing the distance between such trees or shrubs and the place where each tree or shrub is to be planted. The same shall thereafter be submitted by the Forester to Council for modification or adoption by that body, after such plan has been submitted to and approved by the Municipal Planning Commission.

(b) A uniform plan known as the Master Street Tree Plan for the City, as prepared by the Ohio Edison Company, shall become the street planting plan for the streets of the City, and shall be strictly adhered to in all future street planting projects and in the removal and replacement of trees, shrubs and plants on streets in the City.

(c) The Forester shall have copies of the Master Street Tree Plan at the office of the Municipal Clerk, which may be obtained by the public.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 2-26-60.)

907.10 INTERFERENCE.

No person shall prevent, delay or interfere with the Forester or any of his assistants in the execution or enforcement of this chapter. However, nothing herein shall be construed as an attempt to prohibit a public hearing or any remedy, legal or equitable, in any court of competent jurisdiction for the protection of property rights by the owner of any property within the City.

(Ord. 20-60. Passed 2-26-60.)

907.11 EMERGENCY TREE REMOVAL.

(a) The City hereby authorizes the Service Director, through the Service Department, to undertake the removal and to cause the removal of trees within the City in the event that the City determines that a tree or trees must be removed due to an emergency situation. An emergency shall be deemed to exist when, in the opinion of the Mayor, the removal of a tree or trees within the City is necessary to avoid the imminent likelihood of damage to property located in the City and/or injury to persons within the City.

(b) The trees contemplated to be removed, pursuant to this section are trees that are located on property belonging to the City and/or in the rights of way of the City.

(Ord. 46-98. Passed 11-24-98.)

907.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. Each day's continued violation shall be deemed a separate offense.

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 - orders within twenty-four hours after the service of such notice
 - order to prevent the breeding or scattering of any parasite, insect, pest or disease and to prevent danger therefrom to trees or shrubs planted in the public streets, parks or any oth
 - order the same to be trimmed, sprayed or removed
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