Urban Forestry Report

What is the purpose of an urban forestry report?

Taking existing vegetation into account makes it possible to plan the location of a new construction project in such a way as to maintain and protect the best trees on the property. This collective effort to protect our urban canopy will support sustainable development and ensure a better environment for current and future generations.

Who can produce an urban forestry report?

A person who is qualified in this field, such as:

- A forestry engineer
- A certified arborist
- A landscape architect
- A biologist
- Any other professional with similar expertise (with the City's approval)

When is an urban forestry report required?

Before undertaking any of the following projects:

- Constructing a new building
- Extending an existing building
- Moving a building

How is an urban forestry report produced?

In order for the City's Planning Advisory Committee to better understand the project and determine its impact on the existing vegetation, specific elements must be included in the urban forestry report. The report should be presented in the format shown on the next page to ensure that the application is processed. Incomplete applications will be rejected. The report must consist of the following three elements:

1. **A layout plan of the requested project with existing trees**
2. **A tree inventory including recommendations**
3. **Photos**

1. Layout plan of the requested project with existing trees

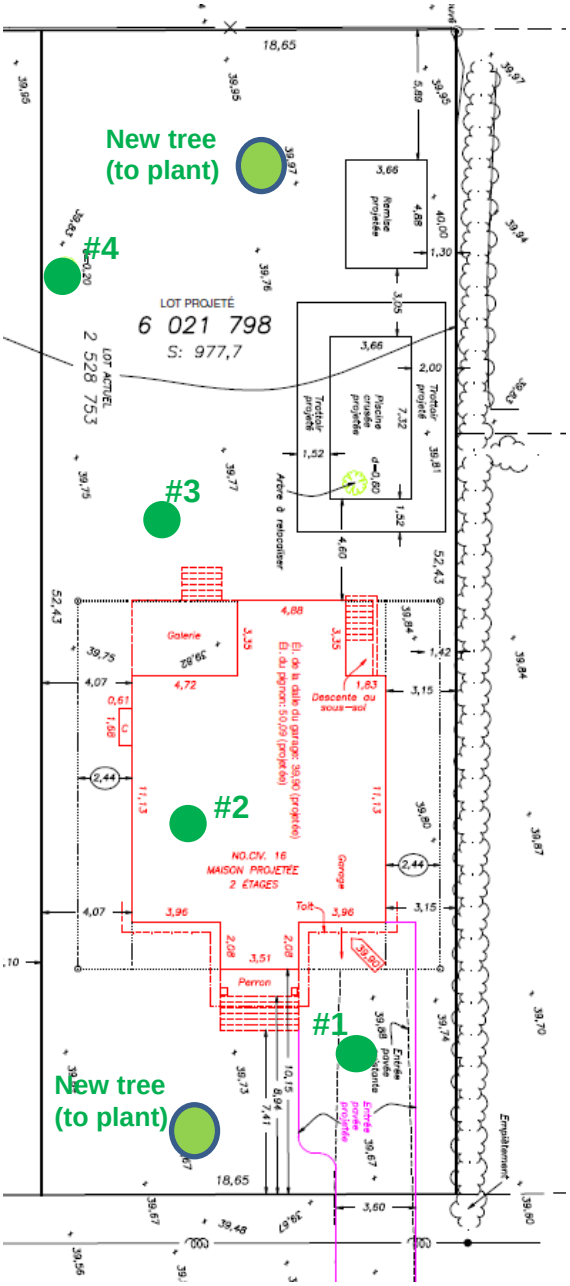
Required elements:

1.1. Insert the layout plan of the project (new home, extension, etc.) including all existing trees on the lot (also attach the original file with documents).

1.2. Identify the existing trees (numbered 1 through x) with an appropriate symbol to differentiate them properly.

1.3. Identify the approximate location of the trees that will replace the felled trees with a different symbol to differentiate them from existing trees.

Example of tree locations with the layout of the requested project



Example of an urban forestry report with required elements

2. Table 1: Tree inventory and recommendations

Required elements (depending on the table):

2.1. Write the number of each tree referred to in the plan.

2.2. Write the tree species and diameter measured at 1.4 m off the ground (dbh) in centimeters (for all trees 10 cm and taller).

2.3. Characterize the trees according to their general condition (structural and physiological) using the following terms: Excellent (exceptional subject), Good, Average, Weak, Dead.

2.4. Identify the impact of the project on the trees (distance from the foundation, driveway, etc.)

2.5. Write the recommendations: Tree to preserve or fell (including the reason) according to the requested project (in compliance with the by-law).

a) For trees to be preserved, determine the preferred method of protection depending on the case using the explanatory document titled *Protection of trees during construction work* (*as per chapter 9 of the Zoning By-law)*.

b) For trees to be felled, indicate whether the tree is to be replaced.

2.6. For replacement trees, indicate the tree species of the replacement, if known, and its approximate location (front yard, side yard, backyard)

Example of a tree inventory table

No.	Tree species and dbh[1]	Properties	General condition	Impact and recommendations
1	Silver maple, 40 cm	Private tree	Good condition	▪ **Impact of project**: Tree is located on the planned driveway ▪ **Recommendations**: Felling and replacement ▪ **Tree replacement:** Sugar maple in front yard
2	Spruce, 20 cm	Private tree	Weak condition	▪ **Impact of project**: Tree is on the planned location of the house. ▪ **Recommendations**: Felling and replacement ▪ **Tree replacement:** Linden tree in backyard
3	Spruce, 34 cm	Private tree	Good condition	▪ **Impact of project**: Tree is located 5 m from the foundation ▪ **Recommendations**: Preserve and protect tree ▪ **Protective measure, if required:** Install a protective fence 2 m from the trunk while work is in progress
4	Red oak, 40 cm	Private tree	Good condition	▪ **Impact of project**: No impact ▪ **Recommendations**: Preserve and protect tree ▪ **Protective measure, if required:** None required

[1] dbh: Diameter at breast height (1.4 m)

3. Photos

Required elements:

3.1 Write the tree number referred to the layout plan on each photo.

Photo 1: Tree #1