

# TREE TRIMMING

We want to be sure that they live as long as possible in the best condition possible. Not only that, we have to be sure that they are safe.

Our tree crews remove dead wood, crossed, split, hollow, and storm damaged limbs, shattered wood and sprout growth from the trees. This opens the crown of the tree and reduces the number of competing limbs.

Trimming provides clearance for buses, garbage trucks, moving vans, and other large vehicles that can damage the branches of trees.

Trimming opens up sidewalks for pedestrians, clears branches from rooftops, antennas, evergreens and traffic signs, and allows motorists a clear view of intersections.

Some types of trees cast a dense shadow. Trimming them allows sunlight to penetrate to lawns and shrubbery.

In some cases, removing lower branches increases night time security because street lights can cover a larger area.

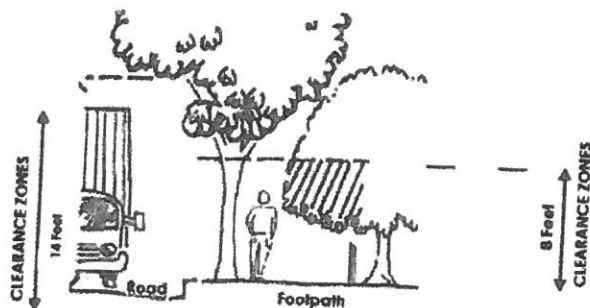
During large wind storms, well-trimmed trees are less likely to cause damage and, afterward, they sustain less damage. Proper pruning gives strength to the branches and allows wind to pass harmlessly through the thinned crown.

During the pruning operation, trees are also checked for structural problems. Many times, these structural problems are only evident from a close inspection by the trimmer once he is up in the tree. Once discovered it is eliminated or corrected. If too extensive, the tree is marked for removal.

Following pruning, the tree starts growing new, stronger limbs. This new growth begins to fill in the empty spaces almost immediately.

## Why do healthy lower limbs need to be removed?

Diagram showing tree clearance zone of 8ft for a Footpath and 14 feet for a Road



Low limbs do not rise higher as a tree gets older; instead they bend lower toward the ground as the tree matures. Branches may grow 16 to 28 inches a year depending on the weather and the type of tree. Our tree trimming may seem severe because:

Nationally accepted standards call for street trees to be "raised" 12 to 14 feet above the street for clearance purposes. (This is higher than trees in parks, golf courses, and private property.)

The pruning cycle prevents crews from returning to each neighborhood to conduct routine pruning for several years.

Low limbs that will become a problem because of their location and should be removed when trees are young. Remember that the appearance of a newly pruned tree is temporary and becomes less dramatic with each passing season and each subsequent trimming