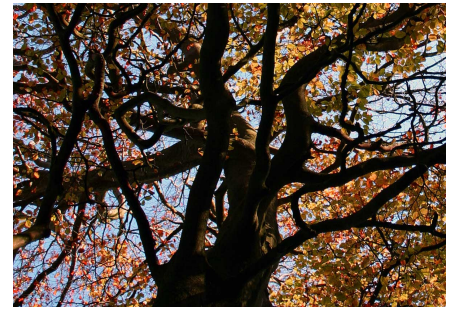




City of Gresham's Significant Tree Nomination and Consent Form 2013



Nominate a tree!

A Significant Tree is a tree or grove of trees that has special significance to Gresham because of its distinctive size, age, species or beauty. Trees that are associated with an historic person, place or event are also eligible. Any person, agency or group can nominate trees (with property owner consent) to be added to the City's Significant Tree List. To make a nomination, fill in the form below. **Submittal deadline is February 28, 2013.**

SIGNIFICANT TREE NOMINATION AND CONSENT

Tree Species and Site Address

Name of Person Nominating Tree

Mailing Address/Zip

Phone Number / E-mail Address

Property Owner Name

Yes, I would like to have my tree considered for designation as Significant.

No, please do not consider my tree further at this time.

Property Owner Consent with Signature

Return Form to: Urban Forestry Subcommittee, City of Gresham, Attn: Tina Osterink, 1333 N.W. Eastman Parkway, Gresham, OR 97030. You may also submit forms by email to Tina.Osterink@GreshamOregon.gov or drop them off in person at City Hall. Enclosed is a list of commonly asked questions regarding the Significant Tree Program.

Commonly Asked Questions about Gresham's Significant Tree Program

What is a Significant Tree?

A Significant Tree is a tree or tree grove that has special significance to the Gresham community. A current list of Significant Trees is available online at greshamoregon.gov/trees. A tree or grove may be considered significant if it possesses one or more of the following characteristics: distinctive size or age or species; exceptional beauty; functional part of a natural resource such as trees along a stream bank; or association with a historic person, place or event.

How does a tree get designated as a Significant Tree?

There are four steps in the process. First, a person or a group suggests the tree to the City.

Second, each tree is reviewed by the Urban Forestry Subcommittee (UFS). The UFS, appointed by the City Council, consists of seven persons including tree professionals (arborists, foresters, college professors, horticulturists) and Gresham citizens. The UFS inspects each tree to determine that it is healthy and that a designation as a Significant Tree will not unreasonably interfere with any potential future development of the property. The UFS then must decide if a tree has significance based on criteria listed in the City's development code.

Third, the UFS develops a list of recommended significant trees and holds a public hearing. The list of recommended significant trees will only include those property owners who have consented to being considered.

Fourth, the City's Hearings Officer conducts a public hearing. The Hearings Officer's job is, following the public testimony, to determine if the UFS recommendations are consistent with the development code criteria. The Hearings Officer's decision is final but can be appealed to the Council.

What does it mean to have a Significant Tree?

First, each property owner will be given a set of recommended maintenance standards. These standards are not mandatory. Their sole purpose is to help the property owner preserve the tree.

Second, a permit will be required for major pruning of the tree (more than 20% of limb structure or 10% of the root structure) or removal of the tree. Removal of the tree is allowed due to the poor health or safety hazard of the tree or when necessary to develop the property or construct a needed public facility. No fee is required to obtain a permit.

Third, development plans for a site with significant trees require a preservation plan showing how the tree will be protected during construction if development of the property is proposed.