



## CERTIFIED ARBORIST REPORT

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November 5, 2015

City of Sandy (Oregon)  
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This report has been prepared to independently address the current condition of a trees located within the City of Sandy, Oregon.

The report provides an opinion as to the current condition of the trees and any recommendations for services.

As the techniques and terminology of the Arboriculture industry are continuously evolving, we have provided some brief descriptions to assist with the review and understanding of this report.

This report was completed, reviewed and approved by the undersigned Certified Arborist and owner of Earth Care Designs, LLC dba Oregon Tree Care.

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## TERMINOLOGY

**Co-dominant Tree:** A tree that extends its crown into the canopy and receives direct sunlight from above but limited sunlight from the sides. One or more sides of a co-dominant tree are crowded by the crowns of dominant trees. This also commonly refers to trees with multiple trunks and/or tops.

**Crown Reduction:** By selectively pruning at the appropriate junctions, the stress load caused by excessive weight and foliage can be reduced. This practice is generally done when a tree is off balance due to limited growing conditions.

**Habitat Snag:** Tree "snag" is a term referring to a standing, dead or dying tree. Maintaining a habitat snag can be very beneficial to both the animals that use it and the people who get to see nature at work. Standing dead trees provide an amazing range of microhabitats.

**Pruning:** The act of sawing or cutting branches from a living tree generally involving thinning, deadwood removal and weight reduction to improve the overall health of a tree. The species and size/age of the tree will determine the proper amount of reduction and type of cuts performed.

**Stress:** Unfavorable deviation from normal. In arboriculture, the adverse alteration of tree health by abiotic or biotic factors.

**Vigor:** A measure of the increase in plant growth or foliage volume through time after planting.

## SITE REVIEW

### 1. Meinig Park

- a. Alder & Maples around property
  - i. Dead/dying
  - ii. Recommendation: Removal
    1. Some reduced to habitat snag and others to near ground level
- b. Cedar (located near gazebo)
  - i. Co-dominate, tree appears vigorous
  - ii. Recommendation: Proactive reduction
- c. Hemlock (located near office building)
  - i. Dead/dying
  - ii. Recommendation: Removal

### 2. Timberline Park

- a. Hemlock (located off Wall Street near court)
  - i. Co-dominate. Tree has continued to decline; visible dying top
  - ii. Recommendation: Removal
- b. Hemlock (located near Van Fleet Ave, at back of court)
  - i. Dead/dying
  - ii. Recommendation: Removal
- c. Western Red Cedar (located near Van Fleet Ave)
  - i. Tree appear vigorous
  - ii. Recommendation: Pruning for height reduction

### 3. East end of Galloway

- a. Douglas-fir
  - i. Co-dominate, one trunk, located street side, continues to decline while the second trunk's, nearest townhomes, foliage appears to be more vigorous than previous report.
  - ii. Recommendation: Reduction to dead top of declining trunk, proactive structural pruning up to 25% for side nearest townhomes.

### 4. Debarko

- a. Alder Tree & Hemlocks (2) (located off Tickle Creek at dead end)
  - i. All three trees are dead/dying; not an imminent threat yet will continue to decline.
  - ii. Recommendation: Height reduction to remove current dieback or continue to monitor with potential of full removal next year.

### 5. 37687 Reich Ct

- a. Maple (located behind the property)
  - i. Tree has a hanging branch wedged horizontally.
  - ii. Recommendation: Extract branch and assess canopy and attachments for structural integrity during service; mitigate accordingly.

### **Limits of Assignment**

Unless stated otherwise: 1) Information contained in this report covers only those trees that were examined and reflects the condition of those trees at the time of inspection; and 2) The inspection is limited to visual examination of the subject trees without dissection, probing, or coring unless explicitly specified. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the subject trees may not arise in the future.

### **Methods**

We used a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method to evaluate tree health and structure. VTA is based on the outward indications of tree stress and growth, as indicated by the formation of new tree parts, the shape of the new wood and the amount of live tissue. Trees adapt to current and past stress by growing wood to support themselves in an upright condition. This type of assessment is facilitated by our personal knowledge of tree growth as it relates to structural integrity.

### **Assumptions & Limiting Conditions**

1. Consultant assumes that any legal description provided to Consultant is correct and that title to property is good and marketable. Consultant assumes no responsibility for legal matters. Consultant assumes all property appraised or evaluated is free and clear, and is under responsible ownership and competent management.
2. Consultant assumes that the property and its use do not violate applicable codes, ordinances, statutes or regulations.
3. Although Consultant has taken care to obtain all information from reliable sources and to verify the data insofar as possible, Consultant does not guarantee and is not responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.
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10. Loss or alteration of any part of this Agreement invalidates the entire report.

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