

Your Tree Questions Answered

Parma Heights City Hall 6281 Pearl Road Parma Heights, OH 44130 440 884-9607

In Parma Heights, we are fortunate to have many parks and trees in our neighborhoods. However, questions about the responsibility for their care and maintenance arise from time to time. Here are some frequently asked questions on this topic.

- Who is responsible for the maintenance of trees in the city? The city is only responsible for trees that are owned or maintained by the city. Property owners are responsible for maintaining the trees on their property. The city may provide an assessment if the tree directly abuts a public area, but it is not responsible for trees on private property.
- 2. What happens if a privately owned tree damages property? The owner of the property where the debris landed is responsible for clearing and fixing the damage. If a neighbor's tree is at risk of damaging your property, you should notify them. It is best to communicate politely and get advice from a qualified tree professional if necessary.
- 3. What if a tree is on the boundary between two properties? According to Ohio law, a property owner may cut back tree limbs or branches that straddle the property boundary, as long as the overall health of the tree is not affected. It is important to communicate with your neighbor before doing any cutting. If a tree trunk rests across a property line, it may be considered jointly owned by all parties. Tree ownership must be determined by a qualified surveyor or agreement between the property owners.
- 4. What if there is a dispute? A dispute is a private civil issue, and either party may want to consider consulting an attorney.
- 5. Who can help with tree maintenance?

If you need to do maintenance or removal beyond regular yard work, it is recommended to contact a qualified tree service. The city has a list of registered tree service contractors that you can find by contacting the Building Department. Always ask to see proof of the service's insurance. 440-884-9607 or building@parmaheights.us

If you have concerns about the health of a tree on city property or a tree lawn, please contact the Service Department. 440-884-9607 or <u>service@parmaheights.us</u>