

# Neighbourwoods Quick Reference Guide

## Reduced Height

0	There are no signs that tree height has been reduced. Crown has not been topped or pollarded.
1	Less than 1/4 of the crown volume removed.
2	1/4 to 1/2 of the crown volume removed.
3	More than 1/2 of the crown volume removed

## Unbalanced Crown

0	There are no signs that the crown is unbalanced or lopsided; crown normally developed.
1	Crown slightly asymmetrical due to restricted growing space or lack of light.
2	Crown is asymmetrical, unbalanced or lopsided.
3	Crown is severely asymmetrical to the point where it clearly places damaging stress on the main stem and/or root system.

## Weak or Yellowing Foliage

0	Leaves normal size, color, and texture.
1	Leaves appear to be somewhat smaller than normal and/or pale in colour.
2	Leaves are significantly smaller than what is normal and/or pale foliage; thinning of foliage; the crown is significantly more transparent than typical for the species.
3	Leaves are dramatically smaller than normal and/or leaf colour is dramatically different; the crown is very transparent; the tree appears to be in a serious state of decline.

## Crown Defoliation

0	Tree crown not defoliated except for minor twig defoliation, which is normal in a healthy tree.
1	Between trace amounts of defoliation and less than 1/4 of the crown having lost its leaves - crown slightly defoliated.
2	1/4 to 1/2 of the crown has lost its leaves - crown moderately defoliated.
3	More than 1/2 of the crown without leaves - crown severely defoliated.

## Large Dead or Broken Branches

0	Tree does not have major dead branches; small branches within the inner crown should not be considered.
1	At least one dead or broken branch or stub greater than 7cm in diameter is present. Its diameter is less than 1/4 of the diameter of the next order branch or main stem at the point of attachment.
2	The tree has one or more dead or broken branches or stubs BUT its diameter is 1/4 to 1/2 of the diameter of the next order branch or main stem at the point of attachment.
3	The tree has one or more dead or broken branches or stubs which is (or was) a main branch (a scaffold branch. i.e. the diameter is more than 1/2 of the diameter of the main stem at the point of attachment).

## Poor Branch Attachment (V-shaped Fork)

0	Branches properly attached, there are no signs of poor attachment.
1	A V-shaped union between a minor branch and the main stem (the diameter of the branch is 1/2 of the diameter, or less, than the branch or main stem where it is attached). There is no evidence of included bark, but the angle of the fork is such that there is a potential for this to appear as the tree grows. This category also includes epicormic shoots following topping, pruning or storm damage, etc.
2	As in 1, but the branch is more than 1/2 of the diameter of the branch or main stem where it is attached, and there is evidence of included bark but no breakage. This category also includes trees with epicormic shoots resulting from poor pruning or breakage, and multiple trunks or co-dominant stems. Multiple stems are trunks of equal size and/or relative importance arising from the base of the tree, co-dominant stems are major branches of similar diameter arising in the crown of the tree.
3	As in 2, but with evidence of a crack between the stems.

## Lean

0	The tree is virtually vertically positioned over the base of the stem.
1	Slight or minor lean (< 15° from vertical) but no apparent danger.
2	Slight or minor lean (< 15° from vertical) with some evidence of root mounding or soil cracking on the side of the tree away from the lean.
3	Serious lean (>15° from vertical) with some evidence of root mounding or soil cracking on the side of the tree away from the lean.

## Branch Scar

0	No major (first order) branches have scars
1	One or more major branch (es) has a scar(s) with a width totaling 1/8 to 1/4 the circumference, OR a scar less than 1/8 but more than 50 cm in length.
2	One or more major branch has a scar(s) with a width totaling 1/4 to 1/2 the circumference, OR 1/8 to 1/4 the circumference but more than 50 cm in length.
3	One or more major branch has a scar(s) with a width totaling more than 1/2 the circumference of the stem, OR it is between 1/4 to 1/2 the circumference but more than 50 cm in length.

## Trunk scars

0	The main stem or trunk does not have any scars.
1	One or more scars with a width totaling 1/8 to 1/4 of the circumference, OR a scar less than 1/8 but more than 50 cm in length.
2	One or more scars with a width totaling 1/4 to 1/2 of circumference, OR 1/8 to 1/4 the circumference but more than 50 cm in length.
3	One or more scars with a width totaling more than 1/2 of circumference of the stem, OR it is between 1/4 to 1/2 the circumference but more than 50 cm in length.

## Conks

0	The absence of conks
1	The presence of conks

## Rot or Cavity - Trunk

0	Tree does not have any sign of rot or cavity in the trunk
1	Rot/cavity is 1/8 to 1/4 of the diameter of the trunk.
2	Rot or cavity is 1/4 to 1/2 of diameter of the trunk.
3	Rot or cavity is more than 1/2 of diameter of the trunk.

## Rot or Cavity - Major Branch

0	Tree does not have any sign of rot or cavity in any of the major (first order) branches
1	Rot/cavity is 1/8 to 1/4 of the diameter of the major branch.
2	Rot or cavity is 1/4 to 1/2 of diameter of the major branch.
3	Rot or cavity is more than 1/2 of diameter of the major branch.

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## Cracks

0	Tree does not have major cracks either on trunk or major branches.
1	One minor crack extends into the stem, major stubs or a branch of significant size. A minor crack is one that enters the wood (not just in the bark) but does not extend more than 1/2 of the distance to the centre of the stem. No "Ram's Horn".
2	Two or more minor cracks occur in the same general area of the stem, but there are no other defects in contact with the cracks;
3	A crack(s) is in contact with another defect (e.g. rot, poor branch attachment, lean); Tree has one deep crack where one-half or more of the tree diameter is structurally compromised;; Crack(s) in the tangential (horizontal) plane.

## Confined rooting space

0	No obstruction or conflicts are apparent in the area within the dripline of the tree.
1	An obstruction exists which would eliminate root development in an area less than 1/4 of the area within the dripline of the tree.
2	An obstruction exists which would eliminate root development in an area between 1/4 and 1/2 of the area within the dripline of the tree.
3	An obstruction exists which would eliminate root development in an area more than 1/2 of the area within the dripline of the tree.

## Root trenching

0	There are no signs of root trenching or cutting within the rooting area.
1	Up to 1/4 of the root system has been cut during trenching or excavation.
2	Between 1/4 and 1/2 of the root system has been cut during trenching or excavation.
3	More than 1/2 of the root system has been cut during trenching or excavation.

## Girdling roots

0	There are no signs of girdling roots.
1	1/8 to 1/4 of the diameter of the base of the trunk is restricted by girdling roots.
2	1/4 to 1/2 of the diameter of the base of the trunk is restricted by girdling roots.
3	More than 1/2 of the diameter of the base of the trunk is restricted by girdling roots.

Record standing dead trees by entering "DEAD" in the species column and record the DBH if possible.

## Overhead Wires

N	There are no conflicts.
E	The branches of a tree are currently within 0.5 meters of electrical, telephone, or other wires.
P	At some point (within the inspection cycle), as the tree grows, such a conflict could occur.

## Conflict with Structure

N	There are no conflicts
E	Tree is already touching the structure.
P	There is potential for the tree to come into contact with the structure within the next inspection cycle.

## Conflict with Sidewalk

N	There are no conflicts.
E	The sidewalk already shows signs of being lifted by stem or root growth.
P	A tree's stem, at some point in its life, would be within 0.3 m of a sidewalk

## Conflict with Trees

N	There are no conflicts.
E	The tree in question is currently touching the crown of another tree.
P	There is potential for existing conflict (E) to occur within the inspection cycle.

## Conflict with Traffic Signs

N	There are no conflicts.
E	The tree in question is currently screening or touching the sign.
P	There is potential for existing conflict (E) to occur within the inspection cycle.

For plantable spots enter an "X" in the species column and an approximate crown width (at maturity) that could be accommodated in the space.