

Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 1

Town of Orangeville

2025

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Executive Summary

The Town of Orangeville's tree canopy provides many economic, social and environmental benefits. The 2023 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, received by Council on August 14, 2023, determined that Orangeville's tree canopy is 24% of the total land mass with 79% being located on privately-owned properties and 21% located on Town owned, public property. This Assessment found that the tree canopy is providing Orangeville with \$471,206 ecosystem services annually (i.e., air quality improvement and stormwater management) and each year the canopy sequesters approximately 790 metric tons of carbon dioxide which is valued over \$163,000.

In 2024, the Town spent a total of \$361,971 on tree related expenditures, including maintenance, removal, replacement, planting and removal of Public Ash trees. Current investments made by the Town on the tree canopy are only made on Town owned, public property. This means that the Town is currently investing money into maintaining just over one fifth (i.e., 21%) of the total tree canopy in Orangeville, while the remaining 79% of the tree canopy (located on private property) is left unregulated.

The Town's 2020 Municipal Tree Canopy Policy, which was approved by Council on February 10, 2020, has an urban tree canopy cover target set to achieve a 40% urban tree canopy cover by 2040. This means that preservation of the current canopy in addition to planting efforts is needed to avoid a loss in canopy cover and to meet the target. To protect the ecological, social and financial benefits the tree canopy is providing to the Town and conserve the current canopy; preservation of trees on privately-owned properties would offer the greatest return on investment because this is where most of the tree canopy resides.

In June 2012, Councillor Bradley made a motion from Orangeville's Sustainability Action Team for a tree by-law. Staff reported back in February 2013 and a motion to prepare a draft tree cutting by-law was made, but the motion was ultimately lost. In June 2021, Councillor Peters made a motion to formalize the Town's direction with respect to canopy management and associated programming and policy. In May 2023, Council directed staff to report back with a framework for the development of a tree preservation by-law that included community input.

In the Fall of 2023, a public survey found that respondents identified the benefits that trees provide, and the majority of respondents agree that a tree by-law should be used to avoid the unnecessary removal of trees and to control how trees are removed. Engagement with other municipalities that have tree preservation by-laws was conducted in 2023 to gain an understanding of current regulations. Many municipalities have rolled out a private tree or tree preservation by-law in the last five years. The approaches vary, with some applying only to the development process, but most apply to all private trees. Depending on the by-law, size of the municipalities and the number of annual permits, municipalities manage their private tree or

tree preservation by-law through existing staff resources, while others have a dedicated staff member.

In the Town's Official Plan, it notes that at the discretion of Council, they may enact a tree by-law under the *Municipal Act* to regulate the destruction of trees in defined areas, and to require the issuance of permits for tree removal. Under Section 135 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 a local municipality may prohibit or regulate the destruction or injuring of trees. A municipality may also require that a permit be obtained to injure or destroy trees and impose conditions to permit, including conditions relating to the manner in which destruction occurs, and the qualifications of persons authorized to injure or destroy trees.

It is proposed that a tree preservation by-law be developed to regulate trees on privately owned land. In addition to the proposed tree preservation by-law it is recommended that the Urban Forestry Policy, 2012 and the Municipal Tree Canopy Policy, 2020 be reviewed and updated to ensure that they align with the findings of the Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, 2023 as well as federal, provincial and local guiding documents.

The framework will be presented in two reports. This report, *Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 1* outlines the findings of the 2023 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, existing urban forestry management, existing forestry policies, public consultation and the municipal tree by-law survey. The second report, *Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 2* will outline the proposed by-law framework including resourcing implications and a proposed implementation plan that will incorporate the direction and feedback received from Council with respect to Report No. 1.

Recommendations and considerations on the approach of the proposed by-law will be requested from Council. There are no direct corporate implications from this report.

Report Purpose

A motion for a tree by-law was first made by the Town of Orangeville Council in 2012. In 2013, Council learned that the public was not supportive of the by-law and as such the motion to proceed with developing a tree by-law was lost. In 2021, a motion with respect to canopy management and associated programming and policy was made. In 2023, Council directed staff to report back with a framework for the development of a tree preservation by-law that included community input. In that same year an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment was completed and was received by Council on August 14, 2023.

The framework will be presented in two reports. This report, *Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 1* outlines the findings of the 2023 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, existing urban forestry management, existing forestry policies, public consultation and the municipal tree by-law survey. The second report, *Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 2* will outline the proposed by-law framework including resourcing implications and a proposed implementation plan that will incorporate the direction and feedback received from Council with respect to Report No. 1.

Introduction

In an urban setting, trees provide a broad range of measurable environmental, economic, and social benefits that communities rely on. Urban tree canopies sequester carbon and lower the quantity of air pollutants, provide shade which aids in energy conservation of buildings and increases climate resiliency, promote stormwater attenuation, provide noise buffering, create habitat for wildlife, improve landscape aesthetics, and contribute to mental well-being.

There is a large economic benefit for the community to protect, preserve, manage, and enhance the urban tree canopy. Large trees provide greater ecosystem benefits than small trees because they have a larger biomass to store carbon, greater leaf coverage for shade, and extensive root structures to absorb water and promote infiltration. It can take decades for a tree to grow to full maturity and offer such services. Since large trees offer greater services the preservation of large trees is more important than that of smaller trees.

In addition to the intentional removal, destruction or felling of trees, urban forests are faced with environmental stressors. The variability in weather such as an increase in consecutive warm and dry days (i.e., drought) or prolonged periods of rain can lead to less-than-ideal conditions for tree growth, causing stunted growth, slower growth rates, and stress to the form and function of trees. Warmer winter temperatures and fewer consecutive days of cold allow more invasive pest species to survive over the winter months which puts additional stress on existing trees. Moreover, an increase in storm events puts trees at greater risk for the frequency of torn branches, split trunks, and uprooted trees. The Town takes precautions to protect the urban forest against these environmental stressors, however the occurrence of

environmental stressors is not within the Town's control. The Town does have control over preserving the urban tree canopy through the implementation of a tree preservation by-law.

Quantifying the Value of Trees

In 2023, the Town completed an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment, which mapped the urban tree canopy, possible planting areas and analyzed tree distribution within the Town's municipal boundary. Some highlights from the assessment are presented in **Figure 1**.

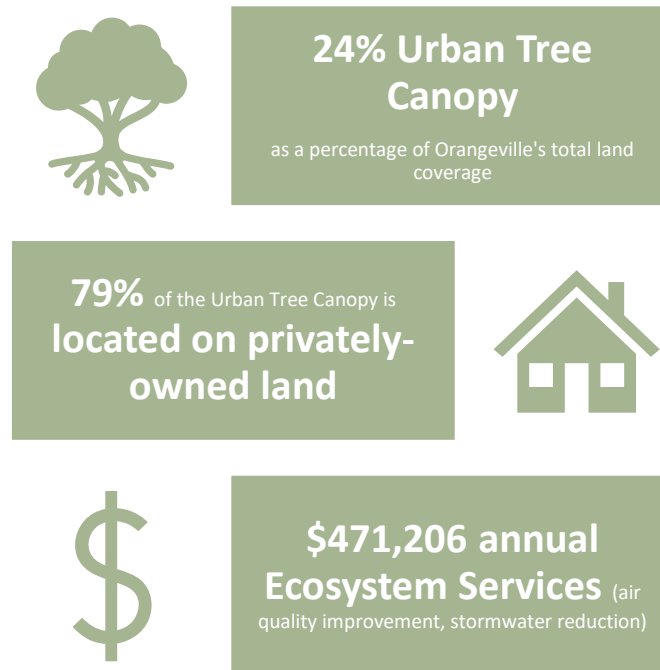


Figure 1: Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Highlights

The Assessment found that Orangeville's tree canopy removes 22,589 kg of pollution from the air annually by intercepting particulate matter and absorbing pollutants through the leaf stomata and prevents 32.8 million liters of water runoff annually.

The Town's urban tree canopy stores approximately 43,000 metric tons of carbon, which is valued at \$8.8 million and each year it sequesters approximately 790 metric tons of carbon dioxide which is valued over \$163,000. Carbon storage refers to the amount of carbon contained within our tree canopy whereas sequestration refers to the amount of carbon that the tree canopy removes from the atmosphere.

The total ecosystem services that Orangeville's tree canopy provide is valued at \$471,206 annually with an additional \$8.8 million of stored carbon. Without the urban tree canopy, the Town would need to manage air quality control and stormwater runoff through engineered infrastructure to maintain status quo.

The Assessment determined that Orangeville's tree canopy accounts for 24% of the total land mass, and 79% of the total tree canopy is located on privately-owned properties. As such, 21% of the total tree canopy is located on Town-owned property which is the only portion of the tree canopy being actively managed by the Town. In order to strategically protect the existing canopy and the economic benefits that the total tree canopy provides, preservation efforts must be focused on trees on privately-owned properties since this accounts for the majority of the tree canopy.

Public Tree Management

The Town of Orangeville has a strong history of tree maintenance and management on Town-owned property. Since 1999 the Town has inventoried the health of the boulevard and park trees and later developed an online Geographic Information System (GIS)-based tree inventory and workorder platform. The tree inventory database helps to address risks and concerns associated with the Town's trees to allow for timely responses and management.

The Town of Orangeville retains a Tree Service professional to maintain all Town trees. Active management is limited to the Heritage District, while maintenance of the remainder of Town trees is completed on a complaint basis, where the Town receives calls from concerned members of the public or staff. The Town does not actively assess the health of the canopy, except for the trees located within the Heritage District.

In 2024, the Town spent a total of \$361,971 on tree related expenditures, including maintenance, removal, replacement, planting and removal of Public Ash trees. Current investments made by the Town on the tree canopy, are only made on Town owned, public property. This means that the Town is currently investing money into maintaining just over one fifth (i.e., 21%) of the total tree canopy in Orangeville, while the remaining 79% of the tree canopy (located on private property) is left unregulated.

Current Tree Protection

The Town's Municipal Tree Canopy Policy set forth a target for tree canopy cover in Orangeville as 40% urban tree canopy cover by 2040. The Town's Official Plan, 2020 speaks to allocating funds annually for the care and planting of trees within road allowances and other publicly owned lands. Despite successes in preserving trees and ongoing planting efforts, the current state of tree policy, planting and protection is not conducive to the Town meeting the tree canopy target. While growing the urban canopy will allow the Town to meet this target, preserving trees ensure that the existing canopy cover size does not decline.

Even with existing measures in place, trees on private properties and on municipal properties are unregulated and unprotected. Large mature trees may be a dominant feature that creates the character of a neighborhood, but there is no requirement for a resident to retain them. Treed areas of private lots may be a feature that residents have come to expect to be retained but there are no controls to prevent the removal of trees.

It is important to note that by regulating the removal of private trees, the removal of trees is not prohibited. Overall, it is important that the value of trees to the Town, and its residents are recognized and reflected in policy and a by-law regime.

The Town and County currently have various tools to manage canopy cover. It is important to make a distinction between tree protection, which seeks to prevent the injury or removal of a tree, and tree regulation, which sets conditions to be met to remove or injure a tree that are generally enforced through a permit or approval process. The following table (**Table 1**) provides an overview of the Town's existing tree protection and regulation measures.

Table 1: Existing Tree Protection and Regulation in the Town of Orangeville

Policy/Plan/By-law	Public/Private	Notes	Effects
County of Dufferin			
County Forest By-law 2019-20	Public	Applies only to Dufferin County Forests to effectively manage recreation use.	Regulates the recreational use in Dufferin County Forests.
Dufferin Climate Action Plan (2021)	Private	Speaks to investigating the adoption of both a private and heritage tree protection by-law in local municipalities.	N/A
Dufferin County Official Plan (2017)	Both	Speaks to encouraging tree retention or tree replacement	N/A
Town of Orangeville			
Town Official Plan (2020)	Both	Speaks to possibly enacting a tree by-law to regulate the destruction of trees in defined areas and require the issuance of permits for tree removal	N/A
Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (2019)	Private	An action within the plan is to develop a tree preservation by-law to protect and enhance the natural environment	Tree Preservation
Urban Forestry Policy (2012)	Both	Guideline for the planting and maintenance of trees.	Tree Protection
Municipal Tree Canopy Policy (2020)	Both	Strategic framework for tree protection and enhancement.	Tree Protection

Although a total of 79% of Orangeville's tree canopy is located on privately-owned land, however the Town's current development application and approvals process does not provide the Town with authority to prevent the removal of private trees or those in woodlands less than one hectare in size or if the property has undergone a consent or site approval. In order to

protect the majority of the existing canopy, preservation efforts on privately-owned properties is needed.

The Town's existing approach to regulating trees has some limitations and deficiencies that have led to the loss of trees and an under-replacement rate of removed trees as discussed below:

Permissive Policies

The existing tree policies are permissive in nature. Rather than restricting the removal of any type or size of tree, they act more as a guidance and strategic framework. There is no wording within the policies to ensure that the trees the property owner wishes to remove are appropriately compensated for through replanting or payment or that the trees to be preserved are not damaged.

No Prevention

The current approach does well when property owners voluntarily comply. Such as when a property owner applies for a planning application and voluntarily delays removing trees until a decision is rendered. Also, when a property is developed and a property owner voluntarily retains the trees on the site and maintains them in a healthy state, the current approach works well.

The current approach does not work well when property owners want to remove trees outside of the limited duration of time that a Planning Act application is in process. There is no recourse for a property owner who removes trees before submitting a development application. By way of example, the Town currently has little ability to prevent the removal of trees in the following scenarios:

- By the owner of a large, wooded lot who wants to increase the ease of development.
- By a resident who has a large tree and considers it undesirable or a nuisance.
- By an investor who wishes to remove a grove of mature trees on a residential lot.
- By a commercial property owner who wants to increase the visibility of their property.

Lack of a By-Law

The existing tree policies lack the force that a by-law offers which other municipalities use for tree preservation. The effect of this is that contravention of the policy is difficult to enforce when properties are not currently in the process of a planning application or there is no wording around tree protection measures. A 'policy' has no force except when the Town has discretionary decision-making powers such as during a planning application. A by-law retains its force and can include penalties for infractions.

Engagement

To promote responsible tree management, the Town explored various education and outreach initiatives. An urban forestry webpage was created on the Town's website. The webpage helps

residents learn more about Orangeville's trees, the Town's forestry goals and objectives, the street tree maintenance program and ways residents can protect and maintain their own trees.

Furthermore, with the threat of invasive species being more prevalent and geographically widespread, the Town has focused on collaborating with different agencies to raise awareness, including Dufferin County for communication campaigns. These campaigns are designed to educate residents on the prevention of invasive species spread, protection measures, how to detect infestations or infections, and where to report sightings.

Moreover, to find effective ways to encourage tree preservation on private properties, Council directed staff to solicit input from the community. Staff developed a public consultation survey for residents to complete. The purpose of the survey was to hear from the community about the preferred ways to protect trees on private property and measures the Town should consider for future protection of trees. Feedback from the survey was used to help find the right balance to protect and enhance Orangeville's tree canopy as the Town continues to grow.

Public Survey

The survey was introduced at the Mayor's Townhall meeting on September 26, 2023, where residents attending could fill out the survey. A total of 15 surveys were completed at the event. The survey was also available online from September 25 to October 25, 2023. Promotion of the survey was facilitated by the Town's communication department through a social media campaign. A link to the survey was available on the Town's main webpage and on the Town's forestry webpage. Hardcopies were available at Townhall. A total of 176 surveys were submitted.

Public Survey Highlights

Respondents considered the top three benefits that trees provide to be:

1. Improved air quality;
2. Shade that cools buildings and streets; and
3. Added character, community appeal, and makes Orangeville more welcoming.

Through the survey respondents identified the benefits that trees provide, and the majority of respondents agree that a tree by-law should be used to avoid the unnecessary removal of trees and to control how trees are removed.

Highlights from the survey respondents are presented in **Figure 2**. A complete list of survey responses can be found in **Appendix A**.

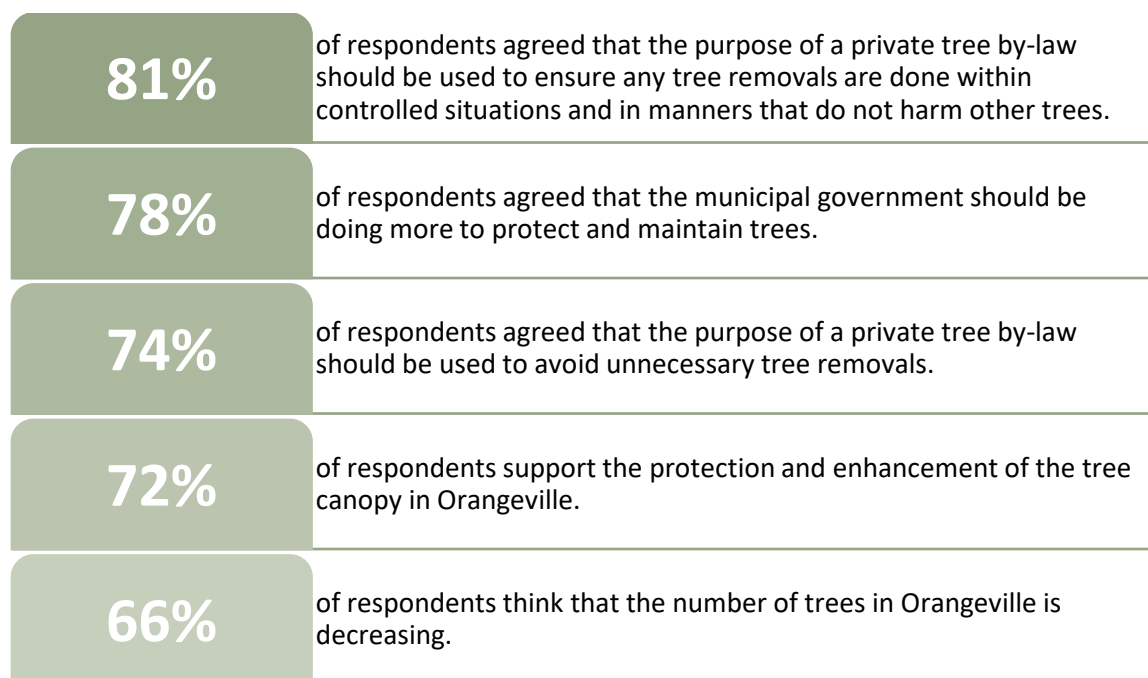


Figure 2: Public Survey Highlights

Municipal Survey

Upon completion of the public consultation survey, Staff undertook an analysis of surrounding municipalities who have successfully implemented a tree preservation by-law. The municipal survey was conducted in November 2023 with various municipalities across Ontario. A total of 11 responses were received.

Municipal Survey Highlights

Below are some highlights of the survey including level of enforcement and staff resourcing (**Table 2**). Based on the review of the Municipal Survey, there are varying levels of enforcement and staffing requirements. A complete list of survey responses can be found in **Appendix B**.

Table 2: Summary of Municipal Survey

Municipality and Size	Enforcement	Permitting	Staff Requirements
City of St. Thomas, 45,387	Private Tree Protection By-Law (2017) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trees greater than 30 cm DBH - Imminently hazard trees are exempt with photographic evidence 	Required prior to removal or replacement 140 permits issued in 2022	Two qualified urban foresters (who also manage the municipal trees)

Municipality and Size	Enforcement	Permitting	Staff Requirements
		Applies to development process	
City of Orillia, 34,835	By-law (2021) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private property 0.5 hectares or greater 	Required No permits in 2022 Applies to development process	One
Town of Aurora, 66,397	Tree Preservation By-Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trees greater than 20 cm DBH - Two live tree removals between 20-69 cm DBH are free per 0.25 hectares per year - All trees in heritage area require a permit 	Required 40 permits issued in 2022 Trees and the development process are linked to the Site Plan Agreement (not the by-law)	One Parks department employee manages this by-law among other responsibilities
City of Markham, 344,357	Tree Preservation By-law (2008) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trees greater than 20 cm DBH - Exemptions apply (dead, diseased, injured, risk) to be confirmed by a qualified arborist - Permits replacement planting or cash in lieu 	Required Received 830 in 2022 Part of an executed agreement for Site Plans	Two staff for by-law (residential, infill and violations)
City of Kingston, 166,212	Tree By-law (2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Related to development applications, commercial, industrial and 	Required Exemptions permitted	Planning staff administer the by-law and public works provide technical review of the arborist

Municipality and Size	Enforcement	Permitting	Staff Requirements
	institutional properties	Less than 25 permits in 2022	report and by-law supports enforcement
City of London, 447,255	Tree Protection By-law (2021) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies to trees 50 cm DBH or greater within the Urban Growth Boundary and ALL trees within the designated tree protection area 	Required 539 permits in 2022 231 investigations in 2022	Two clerk/ dispatches to support entire Forestry program, one FTE dedicated to by-law work and overflow support from two inspectors as needed
Town of Penetanguishene, 17,395	Tree Cutting By-Law (2005), Tree Protection By-law (anticipated 2024)	3 permits issued in 2022	One staff member, the Director of Public Works along with support staff from planning and by-law
City of Cambridge, 143,883	Private Tree Preservation By-law (2024) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies to trees greater than 20 cm DBH - For greater than 15 trees a Tree Management Plan is required 	Required. 144 applications and \$62K in compensation fees in 2022 Separate from development	None. One technician and one service representative currently spend time on this.
Town of New Tecumseth, 45,588	Tree By-law (2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies to town-owned trees and developers 	Developers are required to submit an Arborist Report No permits in 2022	One forestry technologist, three by-law officers
City of Mississauga, 804,872	Private Tree Protection By-law (2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies to trees 15 cm of greater at 1.4 m above ground level 	Required 856 permits issued in 2022 Staff provide comment on	One supervisor, three full-time forestry by-law officers, three preservation inspectors and one long-term temporary

Municipality and Size	Enforcement	Permitting	Staff Requirements
		Planning Applications	and one administration staff
Town of Collingwood, 26,599	Tree Destruction By-law (2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies to properties greater than 0.5 hectares and woodlands - Size restriction and number of tree removals is restricted 	Permits cannot be issued once development application is in process Only a few permits issued in 2022	No staff are fully dedicated – joint efforts between planning and by-law

Many municipalities have rolled out a private tree or tree preservation by-law in the last five years. The approaches vary, with some applying only to the development process, but most applying to all private trees. Depending on the by-law, size of the municipalities and the number of annual permits, municipalities manage their private tree or tree preservation by-law through existing staff resources, while others have a dedicated staff member.

Proposed Future Engagement

Two future public engagement activities are planned with respect to rolling out this by-law. First, a public consultation event will be held to present the framework of the by-law should Council decide that staff are to proceed with developing the by-law. This engagement event would be scheduled after the *Tree Preservation By-Law Framework Report No. 2* is reviewed and received by Council. Secondly, it would be beneficial to engage local tree service companies or arborists to educate them on the tree preservation by-law and what it will entail including the need for a permit from the Town prior to tree removal. The goal of this engagement is to initiate a local industry mindset shift from tree removal to tree preservation through maintenance or replanting. Any concerns or suggestions received during this industry engagement can be considered and incorporated as appropriate into the tree preservation by-law.

Developing a Tree By-law

Since 2012, the Town of Orangeville Council has considered the general issue of tree preservation. **Figure 3** outlines a summary of previous considerations of this initiative.

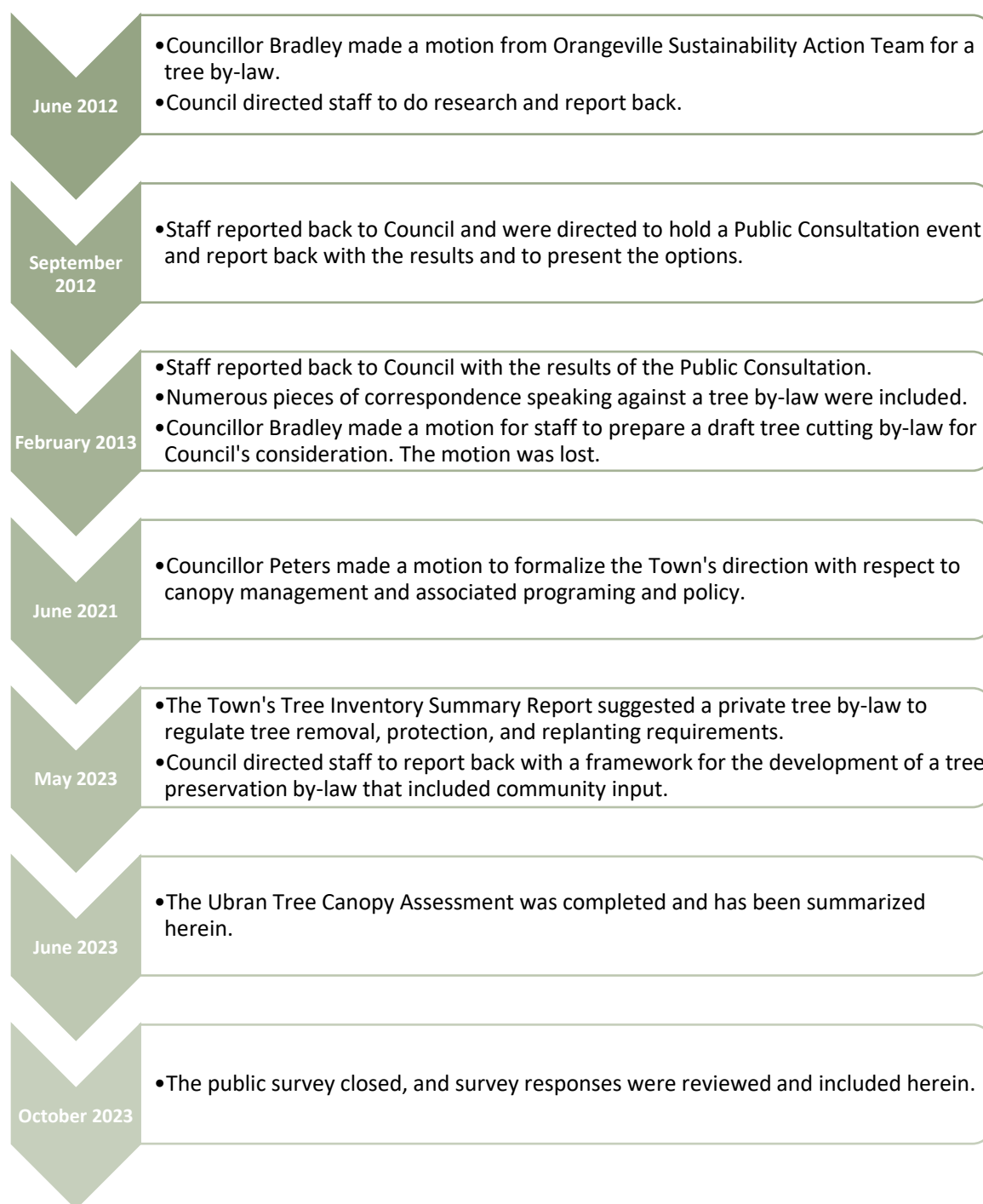


Figure 3: Timeline for Considerations for a Tree By-Law

Since the previous review of policies related to trees, a number of changes and trends have underlined the need for an improved approach to tree protection. Changes in federal to local Plans have reinforced the importance of trees. These guiding documents are summarized in **Table 3** below.

Table 3: Guiding Documents

Organization	Document	Applicable Action Items
Government of Canada	National Adaptation Action Plan (2023)	Supporting projects that use natural infrastructure such as urban tree canopies, to protect the natural environment, and support healthy resilient communities.
Government of Ontario	A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan (2018)	Promoting sustainable forest management, conservation, and environmental planning.
Dufferin County	Climate Action Plan (2021)	Explore adoption of both a private and heritage tree protection by-law in local municipalities. Ensure tree planting requirements are executed through new construction.
	Dufferin County Official Plan (2017)	Encourage tree retention or tree replacement.
Town of Orangeville	Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (2019)	Develop a tree preservation plan and/ or by-law.
	Town of Orangeville Official Plan (2020)	Council may enact a tree by-law under the Municipal Act to regulate the destruction of trees in defined areas, and to require the issuance of permits for tree removal.
	Site Alteration By-law 2024-001	Provide protection for trees as may be required pursuant to the Town of Orangeville's tree preservation by-law and requirements.

Any discussion of protecting and regulating trees would be incomplete without recognizing private property rights and the rights of property owners to develop their lands. Property owners have the right to develop their lands and use them as they see fit, although this right is not absolute. It is limited through statutes such as the Planning Act and zoning by-laws, through controls to limit negative impacts by property standards by-laws under the Municipal Act, and in many jurisdictions by tree protection by-laws under the Municipal Act.

It should not be thought that a tree preservation by-law is a means to prevent or prohibit development. Development applications are reviewed under the Planning Act and the broad provincial planning regime. Regulating the removal of trees ensures the maintenance and growth of the Town's urban canopy that provides valuable social, economic and environmental benefits which ultimately support development.

The strategic alignment of this proposed tree-preservation by-law is outlined in **Figure 4**.



Figure 4: Strategic Alignment

Update Existing Policies

In addition to creating a tree preservation by-law it is imperative that existing tree protection guiding documents (i.e., the Urban Forestry Policy and the Municipal Tree Canopy Policy) are also updated to reflect current urban forestry management standards and industry standards. This can be completed by Town staff.

Conclusion

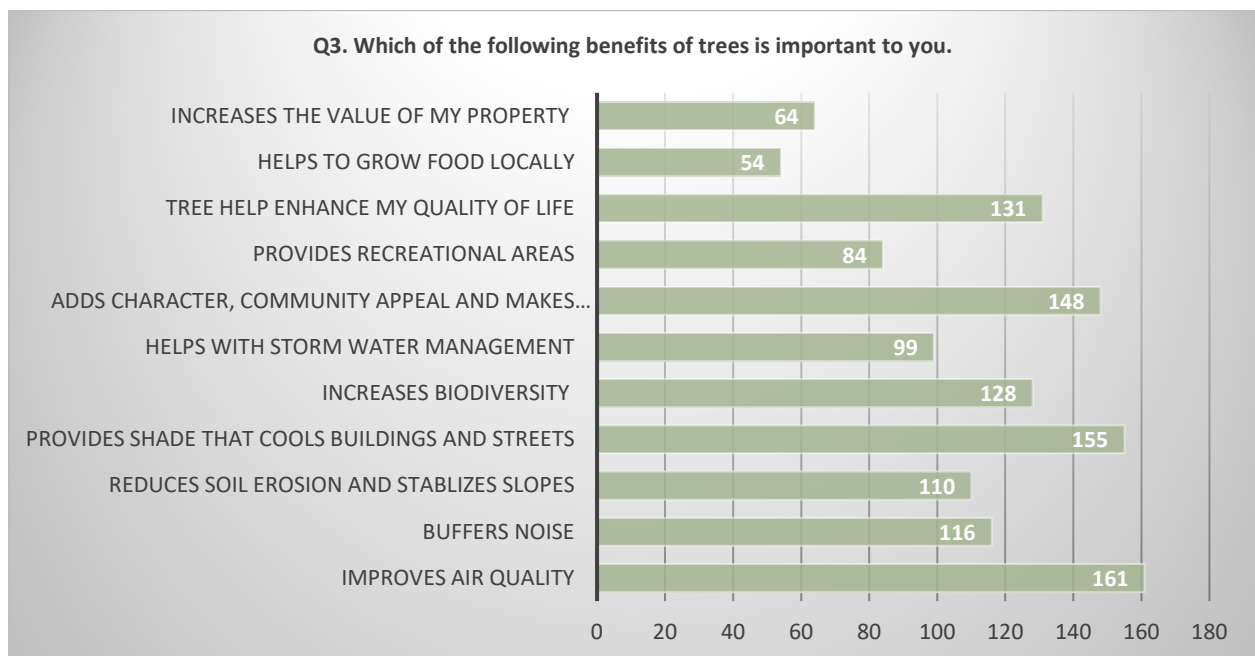
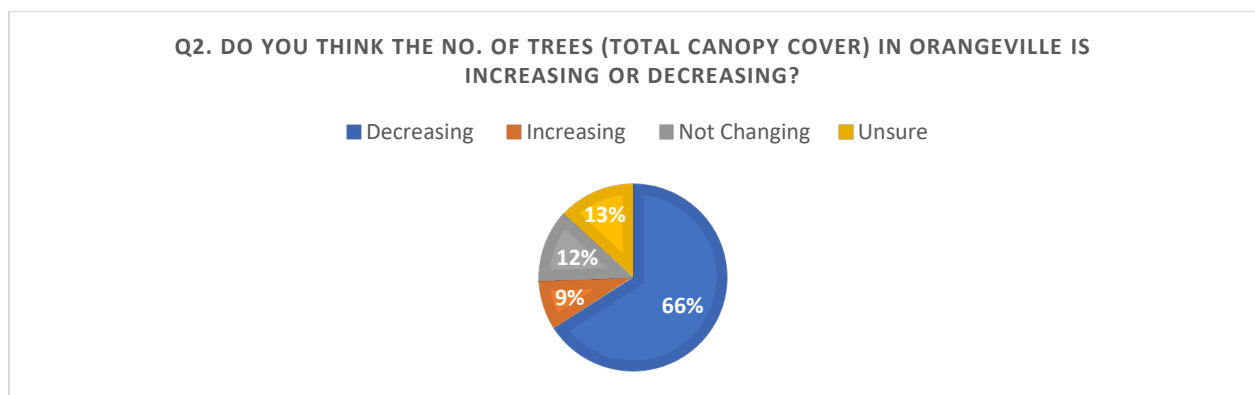
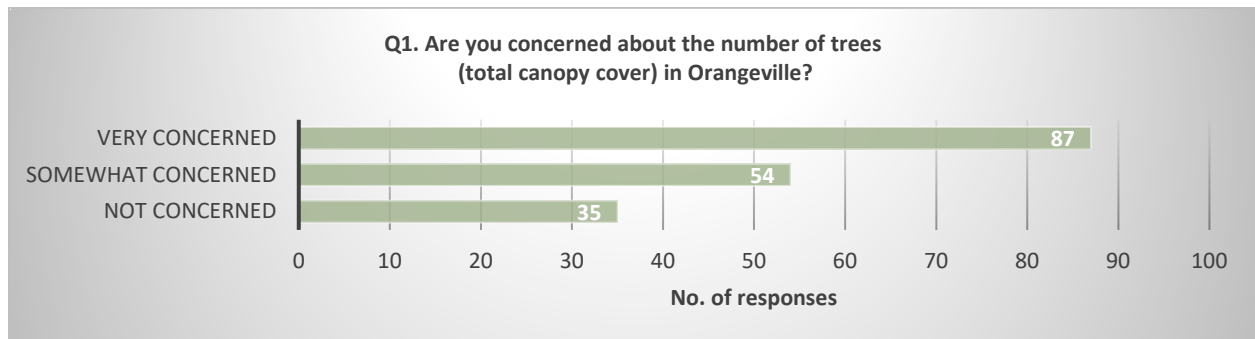
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In 2024, the Town spent a total of \$361,971 on tree related expenditures, including maintenance, removal, replacement, planting and removal of Public Ash trees. Current investments made by the Town on the tree canopy, are only made on Town owned, public property. This means that the Town is currently investing money into maintaining just over one fifth (i.e., 21%) of the total tree canopy in Orangeville, while the remaining 79% of the tree canopy (located on private property) is left unregulated.

It is recommended that a tree preservation by-law be developed to preserve trees on privately owned properties. Recommendations and considerations for the development of the proposed tree preservation by-law is requested from Council. There are no direct corporate implications from the development of this report. If future actions from this report will have corporate impact, a report will be presented to Council for approval.

Appendices

Appendix A: Public Survey Results



Q4. I believe the presence of trees enhances my quality of life.	
Strongly Agree	115
Agree	41
Neutral	16
Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	1

Q5. The municipal government should be doing more to protect and maintain trees.	
Strongly Agree	93
Agree	44
Neutral	21
Disagree	11
Strongly Disagree	7

Q6. I regularly maintain the trees on my property.	
Strongly Agree	76
Agree	71
Neutral	22
Disagree	7

Q7. There is a problem in Orangeville with developers cutting down trees.	
Strongly Agree	68
Agree	52
Neutral	40
Disagree	10
Strongly Disagree	6

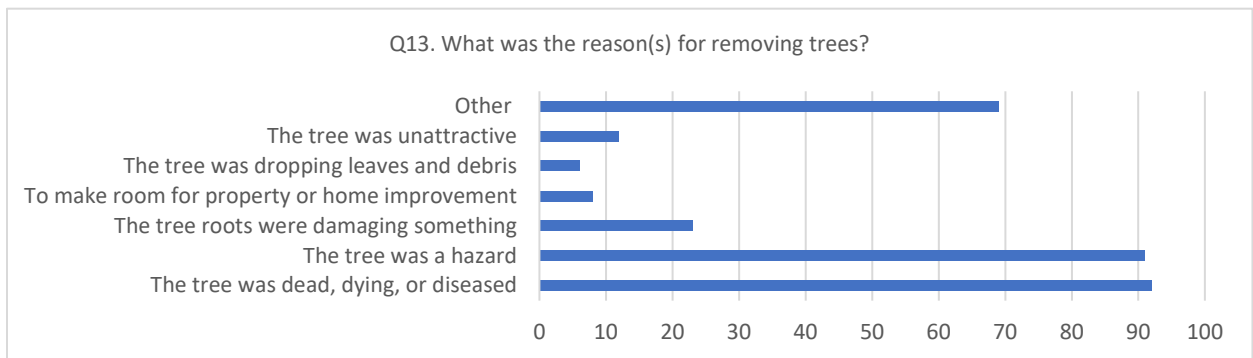
Q8. It would be a good idea for people to need permission to cut down trees on private property.	
Strongly Agree	45
Agree	40
Neutral	27
Disagree	31
Strongly Disagree	33

Q9. Homeowners should be allowed to do whatever they want to trees on their own property.	
Strongly Agree	33
Agree	32
Neutral	32
Disagree	51
Strongly Disagree	27

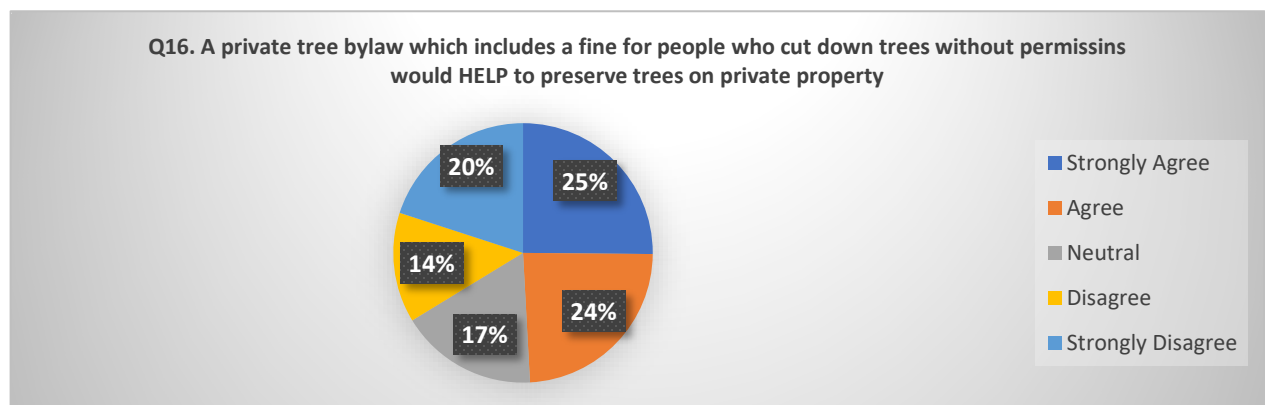
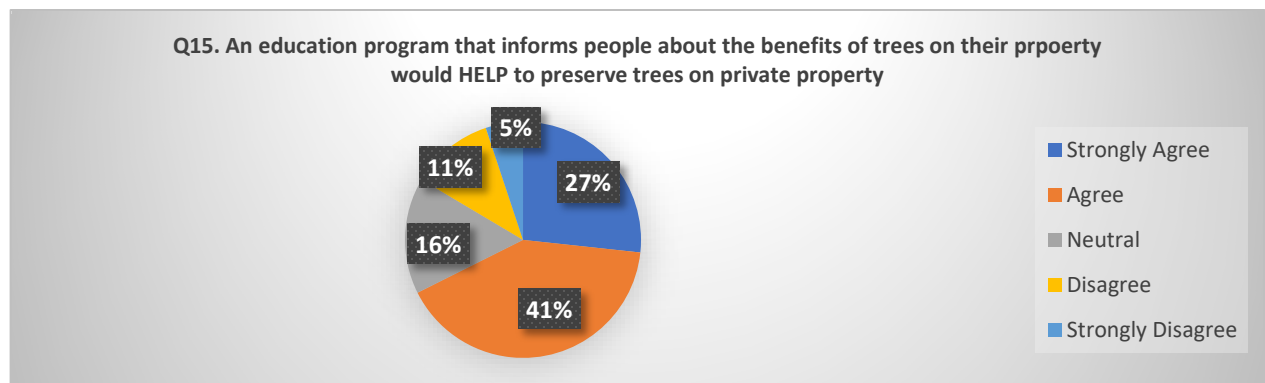
Q10. There is a problem in Orangeville with homeowners cutting down trees.	
Strongly Agree	20
Agree	31
Neutral	70
Disagree	31
Strongly Disagree	24

Q11. How many trees, if any, have you planted on your property?	
None	33
1 to 2	64
3 to 5	32
More than 5	47

Q12. How many trees, if any, have you removed from your property?	
None	75
1 to 2	83
3 to 5	11
More than 5	7



Q14. Do you support the protection and enhancement of the tree canopy in Orangeville?	
Yes	126
I think so, but I need more information	32
No	17



**Q17. Information for residents on how to care for an maintain trees on their own property would
HELP to preserve trees on private property**



**Q18. Incentives encouraging residents to plant more trees and protect existing trees on their own
property would HELP to preserve trees on private property**



**Q19. Community outreach program which subsidizes or covers the cost of purchasing a tree would
HELP to preserve trees on private property**



**Q20. Town should implement regulations (i.e., tree bylaw) to preserve and protect healthy trees
on which of the following areas**



**Q21. A private tree bylaw should be used to ensure any tree removals are done within controlled situations and in ways
that do not harm other trees or natural areas**

Strongly Agree	72
Agree	71
Neutral	16
Disagree	5
Strongly Disagree	12

Q22. A private tree bylaw should be used to avoid unnecessary tree removals.	
Strongly Agree	81
Agree	49
Neutral	18
Disagree	14
Strongly Disagree	14

Q23. A private tree bylaw should be used to educate people about trees and tree care.	
Strongly Agree	71
Agree	64
Neutral	25
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	9

Q24. A private tree bylaw should be used to require compensation for trees that are removed.	
Strongly Agree	36
Agree	29
Neutral	57
Disagree	24
Strongly Disagree	29

Q25. We all have to contribute to tree protection to preserve the Town's environment.	
Strongly Agree	83
Agree	59
Neutral	22
Disagree	9
Strongly Disagree	3

Q26. Removing healthy trees on private property should only be authorized by a permit.	
Strongly Agree	53
Agree	37
Neutral	24
Disagree	27
Strongly Disagree	35

Q27. An approved permit to remove a tree should be posted publicly before the tree is removed.	
Strongly Agree	28
Agree	28
Neutral	33
Disagree	43
Strongly Disagree	44

Q28. If I remove a healthy tree (with a permit), I should replace it with a new tree.	
Strongly Agree	61
Agree	34
Neutral	25
Disagree	29
Strongly Disagree	27

Q29. A permit (at no cost) should be required and posted to remove a dead, dying, or diseased tree.	
Strongly Agree	24
Agree	43
Neutral	25
Disagree	37
Strongly Disagree	47

Q30. If I don't want to plant replacement trees on my property, I support contributing cash-in-lieu to the Town to plant public trees elsewhere



Q31. On private property, a property owner should be able to remove a healthy tree without tree replacement requirements or cash-in-lieu if the removal is associated with a building permit



Q32. Residents should NOT be required to replace or pay cash-in-lieu to remove those trees that are determined to be dead, dying, or diseased



Q33. Determining tree health to identify if the tree is dead, dying or diseased should be evaluated by a certified arborist?	
Yes	60%
No	40%

Appendix B: Municipal Survey Results

Municipality	Tree By-law	How many permits were received last year (2022)?	How many staff are dedicated to administering the by-law?	Does staff who administer the by-law have a specialized skillset?
St. Thomas	Private Tree Protection Bylaw requires a permit for any tree 30cm DBH or greater. If imminently hazardous, do not require a permit to be in place, but photos taken to document the situation	140	2	Urban foresters are sworn-in bylaw officers to enforce the tree-related bylaws.
Orillia	Private Tree Bylaw applies to private lands greater than 0.5 hectares in size	None	1	No
Aurora	Tree Preservation Bylaw for trees over 20cm DBH.	40	1	The parks department staff member assisting bylaw has specialized skill set.
Markham	Tree Preservation Bylaw for any tree 20cm DBH or greater.	830	2.5	ISA Certified Arborists, Tree Risk Assessor Qualified, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer and combined educational background in urban forestry.
Kingston	Tree By-law 2018-15. Primarily related to development applications (subdivision, site plan control) but also applies to commercial, industrial, and institutional properties.	Less than 25	1	Technical review of the applications is primarily done by Public Works-Forestry
London	Tree Protection Bylaw, a permit is required to remove a tree 50 cm DBH or greater within our Urban Growth Boundary, or a tree of any size in a designated Tree Protection Area (woodlands, mostly)	439	1	Our By-law staff are ISA Certified Arborists and TRAQ Certified. They have also completed the MLEOA Part 1 Foundations training.
Penetanguishene	Tree Cutting Bylaw 2005-78, anticipated to be replaced with Tree Protection Bylaw (draft) in 2024. The Town also has a draft Tree Compensation Reserve policy for funds collected through cash-in-lieu of tree replanting. Draft By-law and policy are available here: https://www.connectpenetanguishene.ca/tree-protection .	3	1	The Town may retain qualified professionals to advise in special circumstances. It is up to the proponent to retain a qualified professional to provide arborist report, tree protection plans, etc. associated with a permit application.

Cambridge	For removal of 15 trees or fewer: We require a Tree Removal Permit for any trees over 20cm DBH. For removal of more than 15 trees: require a full Tree Management Plan	144	No staff are fully dedicated, 1 technician and 1 service representative currently spend a portion of their time on this	Background in Forestry.
New Tecumseth	Tree By-law, Technical Tree Guidelines, Tree Management Policy, provide comments as part of the Development Application Review process	None	1	Enforcement.
Mississauga	Private Tree Protection By-law, tree permit is required for a tree 15 cm or greater at 1.4 m above ground level	856	4	ISA certified, have TRAQ and have By-law core competency course certificate
Collingwood	Tree Bylaw applies to properties > 0.5 hectares and woodlands.	Just a few	No specific staff are fully dedicated. Joint efforts of Planning Staff (permits) and By-law (Enforcement)	No