

Ridge Road Estates Tree Review

Guidance for HOA assessment of trees reported by homeowners for possible maintenance/removal.

General guidelines:

Dead trees are prone to falling. However, a falling tree is not an HOA issue unless it's fall is likely to hit a structure.

It is beneficial to the ecological environment of our community to retain our trees and to allow dead trees/branches to decay into the soil rather than removing them from the common area.

Residents uncomfortable with a tree which does not meet the HOA's assessment for maintenance/removal, may remove the tree at their expense after Board notification/approval.

Warning Signs: Following are warning signs to look for in assessing our common area trees. These factors should be taken in total; meaning the presence of one factor alone does not necessarily mean a tree is a danger or must be removed immediately. A tree with problems will typically display more than one symptom:

- Cracks in the soil around the tree
- Water coming up from the soil around the tree during wind and rain
- Exposed roots from leaning tree
- Up-heaving or mounding soil near the base of the tree
- Mushrooms or fungus on-or-around the base of the tree
- New lean that was not present before; or increasing lean
- Tree now leaning 15 degrees or more, but did not grow with a lean
- Tree with no leaf or sparse leaves; dead tree or significant large dead branch
- Leaves falling first from the inside, near the trunk, instead of the outside first
- Healthy evergreen trees are more likely to fail in a storm (winter snow) than healthy deciduous trees