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Tree Law Overview & Shade Tree Preservation (On Demand)

Learn about how recent legislation substantially changed century-old municipal tree laws in this two-part recorded webinar session (est. 2.5 hours). The new law includes clear definitions for the term “shade tree,” as well as tree removal methods and management. During this training you’ll first hear from a VLCT MAC attorney who will review the amended tree law and explain how it affects municipal officials including selectboards and tree wardens. Then, in a special presentation, speakers from the [Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program](#) [1] will review statutory requirements for preservation plans and describe available educational and technical assistance.

This training is sponsored by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. An update to this session was held on November 4, 2021, slide decks from the session, Q&A, and a new [Tree Law Roles and Responsibilities Info Sheet](#) [2] resource are below. Please refer to our [Tree Law](#) [3] home page for additional information and resources.

Agenda

9:30 - 10:55: Tree Law Overview & Resources

This session provides municipal officials an overview of Vermont tree law and how recent amendments affect the roles and responsibilities of municipal officials. A new statutory definition for “public shade tree” helps clarify management and removal processes, and the law outlines specific requirements for tree preservation plans. Municipalities now have supplemental authority to adopt an ordinance to administer the plan and regulate shade trees. The speaker also describes new MAC resource documents to help selectboards, tree wardens, highway superintendents, and more.

Presenter: Carl Andeer, VLCT Staff Attorney II, Municipal Assistance Center

11:00 - 12:00: Shade Tree Preservation Plans & Technical Assistance

In this session, speakers discuss how the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program is currently working with 10 municipalities to draft shade tree preservation plans following the new statutory requirements. Staff from the Vermont Department of Forests, Park, and Recreation and University of Vermont Extension will describe the program’s technical and educational assistance, including via the

new online Tree Warden School, and how both tenured and new tree wardens can avail themselves of these resources.

Presenters:

Elise Schadler, Program Manager, Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program, VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Joanne Garton, Technical Assistance Coordinator, Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program, Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Gwen Kozlowski, Outreach & Education Coordinator, Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program, UVM Extension

Documents:

 [Slide Deck 2021 Tree Law.pdf](#) [4]

 [Slide Deck STP Program.pdf](#) [5]

 [Tree Law Webinar Q&As Spring.docx](#) [6]

 [Municipal Tree Law Q&A November.docx](#) [7]

 [STPP Slide Deck Clean.pdf](#) [8]

 [STPP Slide Deck With Notes.pdf](#) [9]

Links:

[Tree Law Home](#) [3]

[Tree Law Roles and Responsibilities Info Sheet](#) [2]

Publication Date:

Tuesday, November 09, 2021

Resource Category:

- Recorded Training

Links

[1] <https://vtcommunityforestry.org/>

[2] <https://www.vlct.org/node/16764>

[3] <https://www.vlct.org/node/16269>

[4] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/Slide%20Deck%202021%20Tree%20Law.pdf>

[5] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/Slide%20Deck%20STP%20Program.pdf>

[6] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/Tree%20Law%20Webinar%20Q%26As%20Spring.docx>

[7] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/Municipal%20Tree%20Law%20Q%26A%20November.docx>

[8] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/STPP%20Slide%20Deck%20Clean.pdf>

[9] <https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resource/STPP%20Slide%20Deck%20With%20Notes.pdf>