




Forest & Tree Management Within the Town of Qualicum Beach

Trevor Wicks
Trentec Innovations
February 2015



The purpose of a tree management policy is to provide guidelines to:

- Recognise trees as neighborhood and community assets
- Inventory tree species, age, size and health
- Provide a planting plan for long term tree variety, succession and density
- Ensure trees are safe, healthy and appropriate
- Educate and inform about proper training, pruning and maintenance
- Require a tree management plan during development and construction
- Determine appropriate limitations for tree removal



**Urban trees have many benefits and advantages
and some inconveniences**

**Healthy well managed trees
within a municipality contribute
to improved health and wellbeing
for residents, visitors and wildlife
and the environment.**

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood. The houses are densely packed, with many having reddish-brown roofs. A major road runs diagonally through the center of the image. In the background, there are mountains under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is a typical suburban landscape.

Imagine a community without trees

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood. The scene is dominated by numerous large, mature green trees that are interspersed among residential houses. The houses are mostly two-story structures with brown or grey roofs. A network of streets and sidewalks is visible, winding through the area. In the upper left, a larger road with a traffic light intersection is visible. The overall impression is of a well-established, green community.

Trees enhance property values



Trees filter pollutants from the air we breathe and release oxygen.

Trees provide habitat for wildlife.

Trees shade buildings, reducing the need for air conditioning.

Trees intercept and store rain water, relieving stress on municipal storm-water systems and reducing flooding.

Trees increase property values and improve mental health.

Trees act as a windbreak.

Trees remove carbon dioxide from the air and store it in their wood, leaves and roots.

Trees provide a barrier to noisy traffic.

Trees cool outdoor temperatures and protect us from UV rays.

Reduce storm-water runoff

Lower summer air temperatures

Improve air quality

Reduce heating and cooling costs

Provide habitat for wildlife



Improve learning, concentration and
other social, health
and aesthetic benefits





Trees provide beauty



A photograph of a single-story house with blue horizontal siding and a brick foundation. The house has a grey shingled roof with a small gable over the front entrance. Several windows are visible, some with white frames. The house is surrounded by lush greenery, including tall evergreen trees in the background and various shrubs and flowering plants in the foreground. A gravel driveway leads to the house. A yellow text box is overlaid on the image.

Protect property from wind and storms

**Damaging winds can occur when
open flow channels are created**





Looking
East

Looking
South



Trees that have been growing
for several decades can be
reduced to a pile of logs in a
few hours



Trees can encroach on neighbors

Roots can cause damage

Views can be blocked

Leaves and debris can be a problem

Trees can damage overhead lines

Training and pruning large trees is an ongoing operation, taking skill and training.

Education on effective tree management, is an essential component.

Hacking the tops of a big trees, or cutting the trees down, are not the only options.



Tree before pruning



After thinning out




Thinning out , one year later




After topping

Topping, one year later

A photograph of a dense forest. The foreground is covered in a thick layer of green moss and fallen brown leaves. Several thin, vertical tree trunks are visible, some with moss growing on them. In the background, there are more trees and a dense canopy of green foliage. A large, dark, moss-covered log lies horizontally across the middle ground. A white text box with a green border is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Regular maintenance should be scheduled in the forested areas to reduce the risk of fire and promote healthy recovery



Trees can limit sight-lines, creating serious traffic and pedestrian issue

Safety can be improved by implementing site line regulations.
These trees have just been removed.



Qualicum Rd. and Island Highway

Tree Health Management Plan

TREE MANAGEMENT POLICIES
AND GUIDELINES FOR NEW
DEVELOPMENTS



Urban Forestry Management Plan

Many communities have
tree/forest management plans

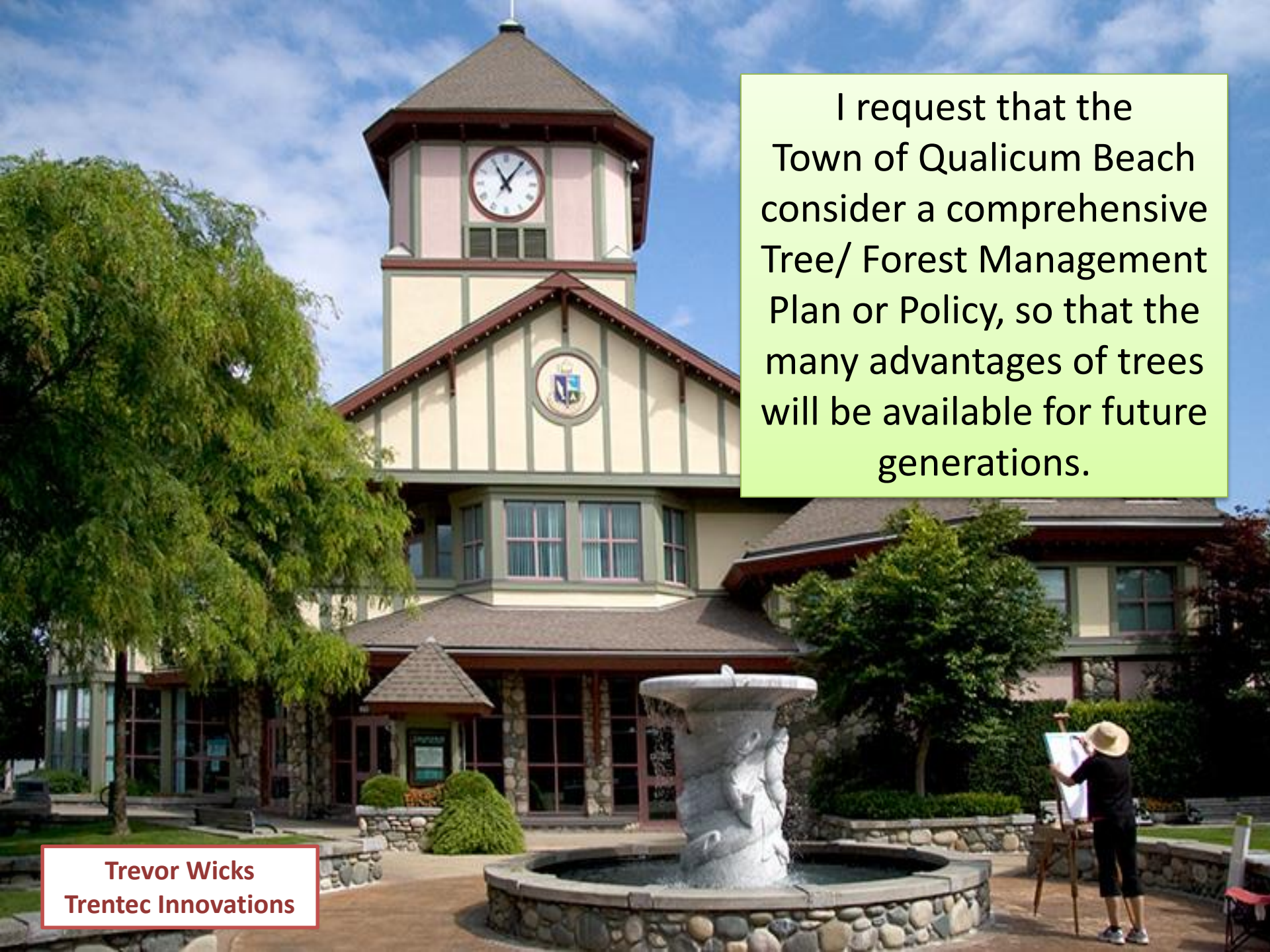


**A GUIDE:
DEVELOPING A STREET AND
PARK
TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Town has two existing tree policies for Town Controlled Lands

Town of Qualicum Beach Policy Manual
Subject: Buildings and Grounds Pruning,
Trimming and Removal of Trees on Town
Controlled Lands Policy Number: 4002-4

Subject: Buildings and Grounds Notice of
Removal of Trees in Community Park
Policy Number: 4002-7

A large, multi-story building with a prominent clock tower and a stone fountain in the foreground. The building has a light-colored facade with dark wood trim and a central clock tower with a white clock face. A large, leafy tree is on the left, and a person is painting on an easel on the right. The sky is blue with some clouds.

I request that the
Town of Qualicum Beach
consider a comprehensive
Tree/ Forest Management
Plan or Policy, so that the
many advantages of trees
will be available for future
generations.

Trevor Wicks
Trentec Innovations