

Tree Report #0146 Revision-03 - Campfire Circle

Original Report Date: August 14, 2025

Revision Date: August 5, 2026

Location: 565 Wesley Acres Rd, Prince Edward ON

Completed by County Arborists Inc.

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1.0 Introduction and Scope (Revised August 2026)

This Comprehensive Revised Arborist Report and Tree Preservation Plan has been prepared to provide an updated assessment of the arboreal assets at 565 Wesley Acres Road, Bloomfield on behalf of Campfire Circle.

1.1 Purpose of Revision

While the original assessment was integrated into the development project (encompassing new cabins, roadways, and parking facilities), this 2026 revision incorporates findings from a recent re-evaluation of the Directors Cabin and an expansion to the Lodge Facility including a cooking area, updated pathways, expansion/movement of the cabins within the forest and updated pathways/roadways. This update ensures that the preservation strategies remain accurate to the current physiological state of the trees and the evolving footprint of the camp's infrastructure.

The updated **Campfire Circle Tree Inventory** serves as the data foundation for this report. The scope of this revised document includes:

- **Health Re-Evaluation:** Updating the condition ratings for all previously inventoried trees to account for growth, environmental stressors, or storm damage.
- **Development Impact Analysis:** Re-assessing trees slated for retention or removal based on the current stage of cabin and road construction.

1.2 Methodology and Parameters

The tree inventory was conducted with a two-tiered approach to ensure all significant vegetation was catalogued. The inventory encompasses a large, forested area on the property that will be impacted by the development. The site was also inspected for the presence of any protected or endangered species of woody plants.

- For the entire forested area, all trees with a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), measured at 1.4 meters above grade, of 20 cm or greater were inventoried.
- For the area that will be directly impacted by the proposed development, all trees with a DBH of 10 cm or greater have been inventoried.

Each inventoried tree has been given a unique, numbered aluminum tag. For each tree, the following information has been recorded: species, Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) in centimeters, current condition (Poor, Fair, or Good), and the required action. Tree preservation strategies and recommendations, including the establishment of a minimum Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) radius, will be based upon the minimum guidelines outlined in the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy.

2.0 Site Description

The property is located on the edge of West Lake, with the grade sloping upward from the lake's shoreline. The topography consists of a prominent hill crest that sits within a large, forested area, before sloping back down to a wetland. The forested area is primarily comprised of open hardwoods, with a mix of Maple, Black Cherry, Oak, and Birch trees. The site originally had 158 dead White and Green Ash throughout the woodlot. These have now been cut down and removed from the corresponding inventory.

Most of the development, including the construction of cabins, roads, and a parking lot, will take place in an open field to the east of the forested area. The lodge is situated on the edge of the forest, and its footprint will encroach minimally on the forest's edge. The main development within the forest itself will be the construction of four cabins, each with a fire route. The camp's lodge is situated on the edge of the forest, with the western edge of the building's footprint extending into the trees. Plans also include making new walking paths from the cabins to the lodge and improving an existing roadway that runs through the forest, connecting the eastern and western fields.

3.0 Existing Tree Inventory and Assessment

A comprehensive tree inventory, named the Campfire Circle Tree Inventory, was completed for the site. The inventory encompassed all significant vegetation within the large, forested area, as well as the areas of direct impact for the proposed development.

A total of 903 trees were catalogued in the inventory, revealing a mixed hardwood forest. The most common species found on the property is Sugar Maple, with many the trees having an overall condition of fair to good. It is important to note that a significant population of mature hardwoods with a DBH more than 50 cm were also identified, adding to the value of the existing tree canopy. Furthermore, many of the American Beech and Black Cherry trees on the site were found to have significant structural flaws or visible decay. The inventory identified a total of 158 dead White and Green Ash trees, which have since been removed. An additional 120 trees of other species have also been designated for removal due to direct conflict with development or their poor condition. Trees in poor condition were removed in February 2026.

The baseline data for the Campfire Circle Tree Inventory was originally collected during the spring of 2024. In the intervening two years, the property has been subject to natural environmental stressors and significant localized storm events. A recent comprehensive site review conducted in February 2026 revealed that the physical condition of several inventoried trees has changed. Notably, several mature trees previously slated for retention have since uprooted or sustained structural failures due to storm damage; these have been updated in the inventory as "Removed" or "Failed." Additionally, a decline in the structural integrity of certain mature specimens now necessitates their removal to ensure the safety of campers and staff within high-traffic zones. All such changes have been documented in the updated inventory to reflect the status of the canopy.

A detailed list of every inventoried tree, including its tag number, species, Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), condition, and recommended action, will be provided in the corresponding Campfire Circle Tree Inventory.

3.1 Tree Condition Categories

The condition of each tree was assessed visually based on its health and structural integrity, categorized as follows:

- **Good:** Trees exhibiting no significant defects or only minor correctable defects, good vigor, and generally sound structure, indicating strong health and structural stability.
- **Fair:** Trees showing moderate defects requiring attention, some decline in vigor, or structural issues that may compromise their long-term health, especially if subjected to construction impacts. These trees may require significant mitigation measures if designated for retention.
- **Poor:** Trees with major structural defects, significant decline in vigor, or poor overall health, indicating a high risk of failure and limited long-term viability. These trees are generally recommended for removal, particularly in a development context.

3.2 Action Required

The "Action Required" column in the Tree Inventory reflects the outcome of the tree assessment in relation to the proposed development. The following categories are used to define the status of each tree:

- **Remove:** This designation is given to a tree that needs to be removed due to safety concerns (e.g., poor health, significant decay, or structural instability) or because its location directly conflicts with the proposed development footprint.
- **Protect:** This action is required for any tree whose Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) falls within the development area. These trees are to be retained, and specific measures must be implemented to ensure their survival during all phases of construction.
- **No Action:** This category applies to trees that are located at a sufficient distance from the proposed development and are not expected to be impacted by any construction activities.

3.3 Maintenance Tracking and Completed Works

To ensure this report serves as an active management tool, a new column has been integrated into the Campfire Circle Tree Inventory titled "Maintenance Status & Completion Date." This field serves as a formal record of all arboricultural interventions performed on-site since the 2024 baseline. By documenting exactly when specific removals, pruning or root barriers were completed, the camp maintains a verifiable history of risk mitigation. This audit trail is essential

for ongoing compliance with the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy and provides a clear timeline for the camp's long-term canopy management strategy.

4.0 Impact Assessment of Proposed Development

The proposed development for the Campfire Circle kids camp, as outlined in the preliminary plans, will result in various construction activities that pose potential impacts to the existing tree population. Based on the integration of the detailed tree inventory with the site's layout, the following primary types of impacts are anticipated:

- **Direct Tree Removal:** Most of the tree removals are expected to occur within the forested areas where the new cabins, fire routes, and an improved roadway are proposed. The four new cabins and their associated fire routes will directly conflict with existing trees, necessitating their removal. The encroachment of the new lodge's footprint into the eastern edge of the forest will also necessitate the removal of trees in this area.
- **Root Zone Disturbance & Soil Compaction:** Construction activities, including the improvement of the existing east-west roadway and the creation of new walking paths, pose a risk to the root zones of adjacent retained trees. Heavy machinery, vehicle traffic, and the storage of construction materials can lead to severe soil compaction, which reduces oxygen and water infiltration, critically impacting root health.
- **Condition of Trees as a Factor for Removal:** The tree inventory identified that many of the American Beech and Black Cherry trees have significant structural flaws or visible decay. While some trees are in good health, a portion of the removals will be necessary to address these safety concerns, especially for trees near the proposed cabins and fire routes.
- **Altered Hydrology:** New impervious surfaces from the improved roadway and fire routes could alter surface water flow, negatively affecting the long-term health of adjacent trees. This primarily affects the trees north of the proposed walking trail along the shoreline. It is critical that the pathway does not restrict the drainage of moisture away from the root plates of the adjacent hardwoods.

The "**Action Required**" column in the Campfire Circle Tree Inventory will reflect the outcome of this impact assessment for each individual tree.

4.1 Summary of Tree Impacts and Proposed Actions

Based on the detailed assessment of individual trees in relation to the proposed development, trees have been categorized by their anticipated impact and the required action.

- **Trees Designated for Removal:** This category includes trees in the direct development footprint of the new cabins, fire routes, and the improved roadway. It also includes trees with significant structural flaws or decay that pose a safety risk to the new construction,

regardless of their proximity to the development, as well as trees that are in direct conflict with the lodge's encroachment on the forest's edge.

- **Trees Designated for Protection/Retention:** This category applies to trees that are located outside the direct development footprint, but whose Tree Protection Zones (TPZs) are close to construction activities. The walking paths are expected to have minimal impact, as their routes can be shifted to avoid affecting trees, making them prime candidates for preservation.
- **Trees Requiring No Action:** This category applies to trees that are located at a sufficient distance from the proposed development and are not expected to be impacted by any construction activities.

5.0 Tree Protection Recommendations

The successful preservation of trees designated for retention during and after construction relies on the diligent implementation of specific protection measures. All recommended measures are intended to mitigate potential impacts and must strictly adhere to the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy.

5.1 General Tree Protection Measures

The following general practices must be strictly adhered to for all trees and treed areas designated for retention, particularly those adjacent to proposed development activities:

- **Establishment of Tree Protection Zones (TPZs):** Before any site work, demolition, or clearing commences, clearly marked and robust physical barriers must be erected at the calculated TPZ radius for each tree or group of trees to be retained. These barriers, such as orange snow fencing or chain-link fencing, must be highly visible, securely installed, and remain in place for the entire duration of the construction period. The TPZ is considered a "no-go" zone for all construction-related activities.
- **Prohibited Activities within TPZs:** No storage of construction materials, soil, debris, or waste is permitted within the TPZ. Furthermore, no parking or operation of vehicles or heavy equipment, no excavation, grading, trenching, or addition/removal of soil, and no cleaning of equipment or disposal of liquids (e.g., concrete wash-out, paints, solvents, fuels) are allowed within the TPZ. The lighting of fires is also strictly prohibited.
- **Tree Removal Procedures:** Care must be taken while removing trees that are designated for removal. Felling and extraction procedures should be carefully planned to ensure that no damage occurs to the protected trees and their Tree Protection Zones.
- **Root Protection:**
 - For trees in very close proximity to construction, their root plates should be mulched with a 10 cm layer of wood chips prior to the commencement of any site

work. Mulching helps to retain soil moisture, regulate soil temperature, and mitigate some of the effects of soil compaction.

- Where excavation, trenching, or grading must occur near a TPZ, methods such as hydro-excavation or air-spading should be employed to carefully expose roots and identify those that can be preserved. Any roots larger than 2.5 cm (1 inch) in diameter that must be severed should be cleanly cut by a qualified arborist using sharp tools to minimize tearing and promote callus formation.
- **Grade Change Management:** Significant changes in grade (cut or fill) within or immediately adjacent to a TPZ must be avoided. Where minor grade changes are unavoidable, consultation with a qualified arborist is mandatory to determine appropriate mitigation measures.
- **Mechanical Injury Prevention:** Where equipment must operate near a TPZ, additional protective measures such as heavy plywood sheeting or protective wrapping around tree trunks should be considered to prevent accidental mechanical injury.
- **Watering and Tree Health Monitoring:** Retained trees, especially during dry periods or after any unavoidable root disturbance, will require supplemental irrigation to mitigate stress. Regular monitoring by a qualified arborist should be conducted throughout the construction phase to assess tree health and ensure adherence to protection measures.

5.2 Specific Tree Preservation Measures

Beyond the general tree protection measures, specific considerations and heightened diligence are required for areas of sensitivity or those with unique preservation objectives.

- **Forest Protection Barriers:** To ensure the protection of the forested areas, a barrier should be set up along the entire northern side of the existing roadway. This barrier will clearly demarcate the area as "off limits" to all construction activities. A similar barrier should also be set up along the eastern side of the forest.
- **Protection of Cabins and Lodge:** To protect the trees around the four new cabins and the lodge, it is advisable to erect barriers along the fire routes and the southern side of the existing roadways. For any trees whose Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) falls within 6 meters of a building edge, a specific TPZ barrier must also be constructed.
- **Mitigation Measures: Decking Proximity to Regulated Trees** Construction of the large deck platform at the Lodge Facility may proceed within the critical root zones of the subject trees, provided that the physical deck surface is built *around* rather than against the trunks. A structural framing gap, or tree well, must be maintained around the circumference of each trunk. Crucially, the framing supporting these cutouts must be designed to be adaptable. As the trees grow in diameter, the joists and deck boards must

be capable of being retrofitted or trimmed back to maintain a safe buffer zone, thereby avoiding radial compression and subsequent vascular damage to the trees.

5.3 Condition-Based Recommendations

While a primary goal is to preserve the health of the forested area, safety is a paramount concern for the Campfire Circle project. The tree inventory identified several trees in "Poor" condition, which often indicates significant structural flaws, decay, or other factors that compromise their long-term stability.

For this reason, and due to the planned walking paths, that will have campers exploring the forest, all trees that have been identified as "Poor" in the tree inventory should be removed. Even if these trees are located further into the forest and away from any significant development footprint, they pose a safety hazard to campers and staff. Their removal is a proactive measure to ensure the safety of all who will be using the property.

5.4 Pruning and Further Inspection

For the safety of future workers and campers, it is advisable that all mature trees near the new building footprints be professionally pruned of all deadwood. This is a critical risk mitigation measure, as dead limbs can pose a significant hazard to people and property.

In addition, a qualified arborist should conduct a thorough canopy inspection of these trees with a closer look for any structural flaws that are not visible from the ground. This will help to ensure the long-term health and stability of the trees that will be in a high-traffic area.

5.5 Replanting and Landscape Compensation

With 163 trees currently designated for removal and an additional 48 in poor condition already removed, to accommodate the Campfire Circle development, a robust replanting and landscape compensation strategy is essential. This will mitigate the loss of existing canopy cover, enhance the ecological function of the site, and contribute to the long-term green infrastructure of the community. A total of 354 replacement trees will be replanted as part of this compensation strategy, which aligns with the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy.

Key considerations for the replanting and landscape compensation plan include:

- **Compensation Ratio:** The replanting plan will adhere to the following compensation ratios based on the trees' Diameter at Breast Height (DBH):
 - **1:1 replacement** for trees between **10 and 29 cm** DBH.
 - **2:1 replacement** for trees between **30 and 49 cm** DBH.
 - **3:1 replacement** for trees **50 cm and greater** DBH.
- **Species Selection:**

- A mix of native hardwood species should be selected to complement the existing forest and help extend it into the open parts of the camp.
- Priority should also be given to planting native, locally appropriate tree species that are well-adapted to the local climate and soil conditions.
- Selection should aim for a diverse mix of species to enhance ecological resilience.
- No invasive plant species should be used in the replanting plan.
- **Optimal Planting Locations:**
 - Replanting efforts should focus on designated open space areas, providing opportunities for ecological corridors and enhanced natural features.
 - New trees can be placed along the entrance road and around the other new structures (cabins, lodge, etc.) to be built in the open field to the east of the forest. This will provide shade, aesthetic value, and improve air quality.
- **Tree Quality & Size:** New plantings should consist of high-quality, nursery-grown stock of appropriate caliper to ensure successful establishment.
- **Proper Planting Techniques:** All new trees and shrubs must be planted according to accepted arboricultural standards, ensuring correct planting depth, proper root flare exposure, and adequate initial watering.
- **Post-Planting Establishment Care:** A detailed maintenance plan for newly planted trees is critical for their establishment, including regular watering, mulching, and structural pruning.

A detailed landscape plan, including species, sizes, quantities, and specific planting locations, should be developed by a qualified Landscape Architect and submitted for approval, ensuring it meets all municipal compensation requirements.

6.0 Monitoring and Compliance

To ensure the successful implementation of this Tree Preservation Plan and the long-term health of retained trees, a robust monitoring and compliance program is essential throughout all phases of the Campfire Circle project. Adherence to the recommendations outlined in Section 5.0 and the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy is critical.

Key components of the monitoring and compliance program include:

- **Pre-Construction Meeting:** A mandatory pre-construction meeting should be held on-site with the client, general contractor, and relevant sub-contractors. The purpose of this meeting is to review the Tree Preservation Plan, clarify all tree protection measures, and discuss construction sequencing in relation to tree protection.

- **Installation Inspection:** Following the installation of all Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) fencing and other initial protection measures, a site inspection by a Certified Arborist is required to verify that barriers are correctly located, properly installed, and adequately secured as per the plan.
- **Regular On-Site Inspections:** A Certified Arborist shall conduct regular, scheduled site inspections throughout the construction period. These inspections will specifically assess the integrity of TPZ fencing, compliance with prohibited activities within TPZs, and the overall health and vigor of retained trees.
- **Remedial Actions:** Any observed non-compliance or damage to retained trees or their TPZs must be reported immediately to the site superintendent. A Certified Arborist will recommend appropriate remedial actions, which must be implemented promptly.
- **Communication Protocol:** Clear lines of communication must be established between the Arborist, the client, and the site superintendent to facilitate timely reporting, discussion of issues, and resolution of conflicts related to tree protection.
- **Post-Construction Verification:** A final inspection by a Certified Arborist will be conducted upon completion of all construction activities to ensure that all temporary tree protection measures have been properly removed and that retained trees are in satisfactory condition, ready for the post-construction care outlined in Section 5.3.

7.0 Conclusion (Revised July 2026)

This updated Arborist Report and Tree Preservation Plan provides a current assessment of the tree inventory at 565 Wesley Acres Road, Bloomfield. Since the initial 2024 survey, the management of the Campfire Circle forest has transitioned from a baseline inventory into an active preservation and risk-mitigation phase.

7.1 Summary of Completed Works

A primary objective of the initial report was the mitigation of standing hazards. In accordance with those recommendations:

- **Invasive Species Management:** All 158 dead White and Green Ash trees identified in the original report have been successfully removed, significantly reducing the risk of limb failure and improving site safety.
- **Hazard Abatement:** Trees previously identified in "Poor" condition have been systematically removed to ensure a secure environment for campers and staff.
- **Maintenance Tracking:** All completed arboricultural interventions have been documented in the newly integrated "Maintenance Status" column of the 2026 Inventory to maintain a transparent safety audit trail.

7.2 Adaptive Development & Preservation

As the project evolved—including the final positioning of new cabins, fire routes, and parking facilities—this revised plan has successfully accommodated shifts in the building and roadway footprints. The inventory now reflects the current physical relationship between the forest edge and the new infrastructure.

While several mature trees were lost to natural uprooting during recent storm events, the preservation strategy remains robust. The long-term health of the remaining forest canopy is contingent upon continued adherence to the following:

1. **Protective Barriers:** Strict maintenance of physical hoarding along the northern and eastern forest boundaries and around new structures.
2. **Root Zone Care:** Ongoing pre-construction mulching and the prevention of soil compaction within the calculated Tree Protection Zones (TPZ).
3. **Dynamic Monitoring:** Continued semi-annual inspections to identify any new structural declines in mature specimens, particularly following extreme weather.

By integrating the 2026 site updates with the original preservation goals, Campfire Circle continues to demonstrate a high standard of stewardship in accordance with the Prince Edward County Tree Management and Preservation Policy.

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Figure 2 – Satellite View