

## Helping Seniors Address Hazardous Street Trees

July 2020

If you are over 65 and own the home you live in, the City may be able to help to address hazardous street trees on your property. Of particular concern are dead trees and trees with large dead limbs. If this sounds like your situation, we'd like to hear from you.

By city ordinance <https://ecode360.com/13783760> the care of trees growing adjacent to a public right-of-way (a streets or alley) is the responsibility of the owner of the property adjacent to the tree, and a permit is needed before pruning or removal work occurs. For any street tree concern (regardless of ownership) the first step is to request a tree inspection via the link at <http://harrisburgpa.gov/trees/> or by calling 255-3003. The City Forester will determine what needs to be done. If you're a senior with a hazardous street tree, it will be added to the list of those to be pruned or removed with City funds. NOTE: Funds are limited and will be used on a first come first served basis.

Healthy trees provide us with countless benefits—environmental, social, and economic. They cool the air and filter out pollutants, take up stormwater, calm traffic, increase property values, soften and add beauty to our streetscapes, and in general make our city more livable. While it's vitally important to remove hazardous trees, it's equally important to plant new trees and to care for those we have. If you'd like to help plant and tend to young trees in Harrisburg, please contact the City Forester, Ellen Roane, to be notified of future volunteer work days: [earoane@harrisburgpa.gov](mailto:earoane@harrisburgpa.gov).