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## 236 Columbia Ave trees

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From TJ Nagel <tj@russelltreeexperts.com>

Date Thu 10/31/2024 9:40 AM

To Lori Botkins <LBotkins@oaklandnursery.com>

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Hi Lori,

I stopped out yesterday, 10/30/24, at the 236 Columbia Ave. Bexley, OH 43209 address to take a second look at the mature landscape trees on the property you requested. I visited the property initially with you on Friday 10/11/24 to identify tree species and record trunk diameters.

The following are my thoughts after walking the property yesterday to evaluate the health and condition of the mature trees.

I observed fungal conks (which are the fruiting body of decay) and hollow cavities on the buttress roots of all three of the mature Northern Red oak on the SW corner of the house. These fungal conks are most likely the fruiting body of Ganoderma buttress rot, an aggressive decay pathogen that degrades the wood fibers of its host near ground level and ultimately impacts the stability of the tree. It is quite common for trees with Ganoderma buttress rot to fail under significant load bearing events like high winds or significant ice/snow accumulation. Removal of these three trees is recommended. I have included some photos of the defects in these trees at the bottom of this letter.

The large Red pine along the South perimeter of the property has been mostly covered and highly shaded by wisteria and other vines for many years. The live crown ratio is less than 25% and most of the lower to middle scaffold limbs are dead. Removal of this tree or significant pruning is recommended.

The group of 10 Callery pear along the East side of the property in the secret garden have been neglected over the years and all have developed poor structure. Several of the trees have already had whole stems fail and all of the canopies have large diameter broken limbs and hangers. These trees are beyond long term preservation and removal is recommended.

The large Red maple on the North side of the house and driveway has 3 existing steel cables to support the union where the two main stems come together. There is also decay present at this union. Additionally, there is little response growth around old existing pruning cuts indicating the overall vigor of this tree is poor. I observed two large existing wounds with decay present on the lower portions of the main stem. Removal of this tree is recommended. I have attached pictures below of the defects in this tree (the decay in the main stem attachment is partially blocked by a euonymus vine).

The Canadian hemlocks along the North and West perimeter of this property are in fair to poor condition. The canopies are thin and have a high volume of dead limbs. A couple of the Canadian hemlocks are entirely dead. Others are infested with elongate hemlock scale which is a difficult pest to manage and will likely lead to further decline in these trees. Mature Canadian hemlock have poor regenerative growth and it is unlikely that these will ever be an effective screen or landscape plant again. Removal and replacement is recommended.

In all, there are three mature trees I recommend making efforts to preserve on this property; the Sugar maple along the West property line, the larger of two Honeylocust trees on the SE corner of the property and the Ginkgo along the East property line (near the entrance to the Secret Garden).

Please let me know if I can answer any other questions or concerns.

Below are images taken of the buttress root systems of three Red oak trees on SW corner of home















Below are images of Red maple North side of house/driveway 10/30













T.J. Nagel, Production Manager



OH-6298B

ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified





3427 E. Dublin Granville Rd.  
Westerville, OH 43081  
Phone: 614.895.7000  
FAX: 614.895.9500

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