

From: Mt Gretna Campmeeting Association <office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2023 8:01 AM
To: office@mtgretnacampmeeting.org
Subject: MGCA Tree Rule - Important Reminder



Tree Removals in the Campmeeting

It is your responsibility to know the Rules & Regulations in our community. Rule No. 16 [a.k.a. *The Tree Rule*] relates to tree health and tree removal, and the process Members must follow.

A Member must have the Board of Managers' approval to remove a tree, even if it is on their property.

Trees provide a unique beauty in our community. We can all agree that without trees, our landscape would be vastly different. Therefore, it is imperative to understand our tree canopy and the symbiotic relationship that our trees have with one another. On the surface, you may think that a tree is dying or that it is infected—but understand that we actively care for the trees, fertilize the trees, and treat them for a host of issues that affect tree health. When the health of a tree is in question, the Board of Managers will solicit the expertise of a Certified Arborist. In general, the Board of Managers will not approve the removal of healthy trees not endangering cottages.

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The Tree Committee works in collaboration with the Buildings and Grounds Committee. When a Member is interested in removing a tree from their property, the following applies:

- If applicable, a survey may be needed to determine that the tree is in fact located on the Member's property—and not Campmeeting property.
- The Member completes the Building Permit Application and submits it to the Chair of the Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Committee outlining their request,

and includes supporting documentation.

- The B&G Chair shares the information with the Chair of the Tree Committee and presents the request at the next scheduled B&G Meeting. (Emergency requests for tree removal may be taken directly to the Executive Committee of the Board of Managers for approval in lieu of the timing necessary to wait for the next B&G Committee meeting.)
- A Member of the Tree Committee will arrange to visit the property and examine the tree(s) requested for removal. In many cases, the determination of tree health will be made at that time; however, if there is any question a Certified Arborist will be asked to make a determination of the tree's health.
- With the recommendation of the Tree Committee Member and/or Certified Arborist's recommendation, this information is presented to the B&G Committee at their next scheduled meeting. (The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month.)
- From the information presented, the Committee decides in favor of, or not in favor of removal of the tree(s) in question.
- If the Committee votes "not in favor" of tree removal, the Member is notified. (If a Member disagrees with the Committee's determination, the Member could elect to go directly to the Board of Managers to make their request.)
- If the Committee votes "in favor" of tree removal, the request is taken to the Board of Managers for their approval at the next scheduled meeting. (The MGCA Board of Managers meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month.)
- The Board of Managers votes in order to make the final decision on whether or not to remove a tree in the Campmeeting and the Member is notified of this determination.

The current MGCA Rules & Regulations are posted to the MGCA website. If you ever have any questions about the Rules & Regulations, feel free to contact the MGCA Office Manager.

Thank you.

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