



Planning and Development

Title: Tree and Shrub Planting Policy	Policy Number: PD-02
Authority: Resolution 2026-221 - July 21, 2026 Council Minutes	Next Review: August 2029

Purpose:

To establish guidelines for the planting of trees, shrubs and other vegetation on private property within the Town of Carrot River to prevent potential damage to municipal infrastructure, neighbouring properties and underground utilities caused by invasive or improperly located root systems.

Policy:

1. Property owners are encouraged to select tree and shrub species with non-invasive root systems and to consider the mature size and spread of vegetation before planting.
2. Trees or shrubs shall not be planted within 2.0 metres of any property line adjoining a municipal sidewalk, boulevard or lane without written approval from the Town.
3. Vegetation with aggressive root systems, such as poplar, willow, elm, or silver maple, should not be planted within 5.0 metres of underground service connections, paved surfaces, or building foundations.
4. The Town may publish and maintain a list of restricted or discouraged species known to cause damage or obstruction to underground or surface infrastructure. (Note : Elm trees are not permitted to be planted in Carrot River)
5. All planting must be positioned to ensure visibility is maintained at driveways, lanes and intersections.
6. Where tree roots or branches from private property cause damage or interference with Town infrastructure, the property owner will be notified and requested to complete the necessary trimming, removal, or maintenance.
7. If damage occurs due to planting in non-compliance with this policy, the property owner may be responsible for associated repair costs.
8. Council may, by resolution, allow planting closer than the recommended distances where there is no foreseeable risk to municipal services or infrastructure, provided the property owner assumes full responsibility for maintenance and any resulting damage.