Costs Of Not Maintaining Your Trees...
Dramatic Video Tree Falls on Boys as They Play in Park - ABC News.website
Risk
Merriam-Webster

- Possibility of loss or injury: [PERIL]
- Someone or something that creates or suggests a hazard
- The chance of loss or the perils to the subject matter of an insurance contract; also: the degree of probability of such loss
- A person or thing that is a specified hazard to an insurer
- An insurance hazard from a specified cause or source <war risk>
- The chance that an investment (as a stock or commodity) will lose value
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If We Knew, We’d Know

What do we know about Kyra?

Why is this important as it relates to teaching her how to drive?
Brandywine Hundred Realty Co. V. Cotillo

“The condition of the tree in question was the result of natural causes; still, if such condition was known or by the exercise of ordinary care could have been known by the defendant, then it became the duty of the defendant to exercise reasonable care and diligence to prevent the tree from falling and injuring those who might have occasion to use the public highway”
Brandywine Hundred Realty Co. V. Cotillo

We not only have a responsibility to maintain our trees, we have a responsibility to inspect to discover possible defective conditions of a tree in order to prevent the tree from falling and injuring others.
Acts of God

Gulf Oil Corporation V. Lemmons

An act of God represents some inevitable accident which could not have been prevented by human care, skill and foresight, but which results exclusively from nature’s cause, such as lightning, tempest, or floods.
Financial Responsibility

Municipalities may have some immunities, but the costs of litigation, impacts to reputations, and poor press image are very high prices to pay for “winning”.
Costs Of Not Maintaining Your Trees

- Maintaining a hazardous nuisance
- Reputation
- Short life span
- Financial exposure
- Instability of your forest – three
- Impacts to other municipalities
- Economics/businesses
What are the risks of not maintaining this car?
What Are The Risks Of Not Maintaining This Tree?
What Are The Risks Of Not Maintaining This Tree?
What Are The Risks Of Not Maintaining This Tree?
Risk Management

- Savannah, GA settles tree injury lawsuit for $9.5 million
- [http://awalkintheparknyc.blogspot.com/](http://awalkintheparknyc.blogspot.com/)
- Settlement Reached In Wrongful Death Lawsuit – Charlotte, NC
- St. Paul Set to Approve $124,000 Settlement in Tree Stump Lawsuit
- Route 31, Algonquin
- September 2014, Famous Actress; Chicago
Jared Loves Suckers!
Buy A Different Sucker! (Manage Your Risk)

• If we knew, we’d know
• Inventory
• Maintenance program
• Cyclical inspection
• Documentation
• Reaction to requests
• Know an expert
• Advertise success!
Village of Algonquin: Parks and Forestry

Tree ID Search: [Input]
ID Search

Address: 2290 Teton Pkwy
County: McHenry
Tree ID: 1587T-1
Location: Parkway
Common Name: Catalpa, Northern
Species: Catalpa speciosa

Notes:

Tree Service

Create New Work Order
Add Program Trimming
Add Sucker Trimming

Created By: Schuetz
Work Order Type: Remove/Replace
Problem 1: EAB Confirmed
Special Instructions/Comments:

Removal Next Step
- Start Work
- Remove Tree
- Pick Up Logs
- Pull Tree
- Stump
- Pick Up Grindings
- Dig Out
- Restore Site
- Replace Tree

Tree Removal: Harmening
Date: 1/31/2012

Stump: Harmening
Grindings: Harmening
Site Restored: Pieri
Planting Crew: Pieri

Closed By: Pieri
Close Date: 11/9/2012
Open/Closed: Closed

Days Open: 355

Print Current Record

Plant Site History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Plant Date</th>
<th>Rem DBH</th>
<th>Rem Date</th>
<th>Removal Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Green</td>
<td>1/1/2001</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>1/31/2012</td>
<td>EAB Confirmed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Programmatic Costs

One lawsuit potentially justifies your program for an entire lifetime.
The costs of injury or death are far more than financial. Who would you pick?
Costs Of Not Maintaining Your Trees (Are you willing to stand in your board room and say this):

• We are maintaining many hazardous nuisances
• We have a terrible reputation when it comes to our forest management.
• We spend many dollars on trees and let them die prematurely
• We could be in litigation at any moment
• When storms come, we’ll have a mess
• Other communities will need to help us, and we may appear to them as not being responsible
• Our community aesthetic is not intended to attract hard working people or businesses
Benefits of Maintaining Your Trees

- Eliminate hazardous nuisances
- Uphold your reputation
- Increase your forests life span; save money
- Reduce financial exposure
- Healthier, structurally sound urban forest
- Weather survivability
- Economics/businesses
- Protection of our friends and neighbors
Food for Thought

• We can unknowingly use our trees to kill people, or we can use them to create amazing (and safe) stages upon which to live amazing lives.

• We are the protectors of our community and its resources.
Why Risk Management?
Steve Ludwig
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