

Dear Guelph City Council:

Guelphites want to preserve our urban tree canopy. As such, I think that any further modifications to the City's tree control by-law is excessive and unnecessary.

Homeowners in Guelph should have the right to manage trees on their properties without harassment from City Hall. We constantly manage the trees on our properties for wind damage, rot, structural encroachment, aesthetics and functionality. If council wants to improve canopy cover in Guelph, then I suggest an aggressive tree planting program that provides a well diversified canopy not subject to sudden pest and disease devastation. We are losing trees because of poor planting practices in the past that provided monocultures for rapid disease and pest propagation.

Guelphites are getting very tired of harassment from City Hall. Our taxes are colossal and unjustifiable. Now, you want to harass us with ridiculous feel-good bylaws like tree restrictions and light management to justify your existence. If this continues, you are going to see a massive well-organized tax revolt that will paralyze Guelph. People cannot afford food, housing or basic amenities and we do not need any more useless governance.

Sincerely – Norm Bazinet, [REDACTED] Oak St., Guelph, [REDACTED]