

March 2026

The following information summarizes key changes introduced in the 2026 Tree Protection Bylaw, which is now in effect. It is intended as a quick reference for developers and builders, who are encouraged to consider the intent of the updated bylaw in new development concepts to proactively plan for tree retention on redeveloping sites. For detailed requirements or clarification on specific scenarios, consult the bylaw directly or contact City staff. Under the updated bylaw, protected trees ≥ 10 cm DBH or greater on development sites must be:

- retained where feasible;
- removed only where retention proves to be unfeasible; and
- replaced with trees that meet the canopy target for the proposed development type.

Note: Instream applications where applicable fees have been paid will be processed in accordance with the regulations under City of Port Moody Tree Protection Bylaw No. 2961, and any previous permits, notices, or orders issued by City staff under that bylaw will remain in effect.

What's new?

- Replacement tree requirements are based on the size of trees removed and the type of replacement species.
- Tree protection security deposits are required for trees that are being protected and retained throughout the construction process.

When is a Tree Management Permit required?

A tree management permit is required when removing any tree ≥ 10 cm DBH on any property undergoing development (e.g. development permits, building permits, demolition permits, OCP amendments, rezoning applications, heritage alteration permits, etc.).

Replacement requirements

Tree removed	Medium/large replacement species*	Small replacement species*
<50 cm DBH	1 tree	2 trees
≥ 50 cm DBH or tree located in an Environmentally Sensitive Area or Riparian Management Zone	2 trees	4 trees
Retained tree on development site	Security required (see below)	N/A

* See City of Port Moody Replacement Tree Species List for more details.

Fees and securities

Item	Rate
Permit fee	\$720
Replacement tree security	\$740 per tree
Retained tree security	\$5,000 per retained tree that is a landmark/legacy tree or a protected tree equal to or greater than 50cm DBH \$1,000 for all other retained trees Up to \$6,000 per lot for properties subject to a building permit or up to \$150,000 per application for all other properties
<i>If replanting trees on site is proven to be unfeasible, a cash-in-lieu payment may be considered appropriate on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the City Arborist.</i>	

Permit application checklist

Before starting your application, make sure you have the required documents, which may include the following:

- Letter of intent
- Letter of authorization
- Arborist report
- Tree management plan
- Tree replacement plan
- Tree risk assessment report (required when any tree has been identified as a hazardous)
- Nesting bird survey (required if tree removal is proposed between March-August)
- Letter of assurance (required when arborist supervision has been proposed)
- Post-construction impact report (required post construction for release of securities)

Visit portmoody.ca/tree-permits to find the specific documents and terms of reference required for each type of application.

How do I submit an application?

You can submit your application online. City Planning staff are available to review pre-application materials or site constraints before submission.

Questions?

Contact Planning staff at treepermits@portmoody.ca or 604.469.4540.