

From the desk of:

Jonathan Hale
277 Old Army Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Regarding application number 2021-0480
19 Evergreen Row, Armonk NY 10504
Owner- Lee Plutzer
Proposed tree removals for reasons of safety

To whom it may concern,

This property holds an estimated population of over one hundred Norway Spruce trees. Most notable about this property is the high density of the trees, reflective of the past history of this area as a tree farm where trees were planted closely to be harvested while relatively small. Spacing between the trees could reasonably be estimated at twelve to twenty feet. Diameters of well over fifteen inches and heights exceeding eighty five feet indicate that the majority of these trees are fully mature and of course, still growing.

This property has recently experienced severe storm damage by several of these trees which have struck the car and the house. The loss of these trees has opened up an obvious corridor through which high winds will now be less impeded and will exert even stronger forces against newly exposed trees which cannot acclimate to these changes fast enough to provide an acceptable margin of safety. As can be seen from pictures of the house, it is surrounded by many trees that could easily strike it if any of them should fall. One of the complications of falling trees in a crowded location is a bowling pin effect where a falling tree strikes another tree causing it to break or uproot and indirectly causes damage though not itself within reach of the target such as a house. As a result of crowding and the heights of the trees on this property, such an effect is highly likely. This puts the homeowner and family at risk from impacts both directly and indirectly caused by a falling tree.

In my view, this homeowner's request to remove twenty trees is quite conservative. To anyone familiar with the scenes of downed trees around Kensico Reservoir and other local areas where large groups of trees were levelled in a single storm, the potential for catastrophic wind damage is clear. Of over one hundred trees, the twenty trees he wants to remove represents approximately twenty percent of the total tree population. I want to remind the Committee that these trees represent an artificial forest with an unnatural density that carries with it high risks to the structures and residents if targeted removals are not allowed.

Regards,



Jonathan Hale, I.S.A. Certified Arborist NY 1105A Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ)
jhale135@gmail.com







Lee Plutzer
19 Evergreen Row
Armonk, NY 10504
June 14, 2021

Town of North Castle
Residential Project Review Committee
15 Bedford Rd
Armonk, NY 10504

To the Town of North Castle RPRC:

Thank you for your initial consideration of the removal of hazardous trees from my property, 19 Evergreen Row. In response to your Return Letter, please accept the following:

- Letter from Jonathan Hale, ISA Certified Arborist.

- In order to give the committee proper perspective of the trees in question, two pictures are attached to help to show the height of the trees located on the sides and back of the house. A third picture is taken from the side of the house in an effort to show how close the trees are, and thus the hazard. The trees that have caused damage to the house and the car were not as close in proximity as the trees that are pictured. This is a heavily wooded area with an abundance of trees, many of which have grown to significant heights. The proposed removal of twenty trees constitutes less than 25% of the significant trees on the property.

- Mitigation will consist of planting ten new trees on the property in similar locations (back and sides of house) dependent on adequate sunlight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Plutzer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lee Plutzer