

What By-law?

The Grey County Forest Management By-law regulates tree injury, removal or harvesting for woodlands described in the "When to Call" section. Although there are exceptions to this by-law, you should [Call Before You Cut](#).

Common exemptions to this by-law include:

- Cutting for personal use (firewood)
- Cutting in accordance with an approved development application
- Cutting to provide utilities or a driveway where a building permit has been issued
- To prevent encroachment into existing agricultural production lands

Someone looking to remove, injure or harvest a tree within one of these areas is required to:

- Get a permit
- Harvest or remove trees using good forestry practices, or within minimum circumference to cut guidelines
- Not cut trees smaller than those illustrated in the "Species Minimum Circumference to Cut" section
- Not decrease the average basal area of a woodland to less than 20 m²/Ha
- Not cut a tree in a conifer plantation
- Not cut a tree in a sensitive natural area
- Properly mark trees before removal
- Cut marked trees unless told otherwise
- Not harm a tree where unnecessary
- Not harm a tree by pushing it into a watercourse
- Give removal notice to neighbours
- Not cut trees to the point that the woodland is no longer considered a woodland

Why a Forest Management By-law?

Forest management by-laws regulate the clearing of forests, and help ensure that forests are sustainably harvested. Forest management by-laws have existed in Ontario for 50 years.

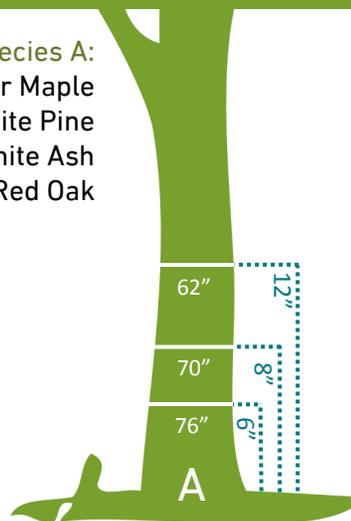
A forest management by-law provides the means to monitor woodland harvesting, and to help ensure sustainable harvesting is practiced.

Woodland preservation and sustainable harvesting results in:

- Preservation of economies and cultural lifestyles through renewable tree harvesting practices
- Consistent production of products such as lumber, fuelwood and maple syrup
- Improved water, air and soil quality
- Continued protection of wildlife and sustainable ecosystems
- Opportunities for recreational activity like hiking, mountain biking or hunting
- Increased property values
- Improved quality of life and health

Species Minimum Circumference To Cut

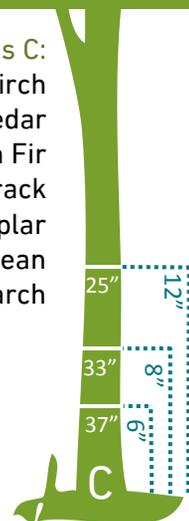
Species A:
Sugar Maple
White Pine
White Ash
Red Oak



Species B:
Silver Maple
Green Ash, Black Ash
Red Elm, White Elm
Rock Elm
Basswood
Other Oak
Black Cherry
Yellow Birch
Hemlock
Spruce, Red Pine
Beech



Species C:
White Birch
White Cedar
Balsam Fir
Tamarack
Poplar
European
Larch



When To Call

CALL WHEN YOU ARE CUTTING A TREE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

1 HECTARE

IN A FORESTED AREA
1 HECTARE IN SIZE
OR LARGER

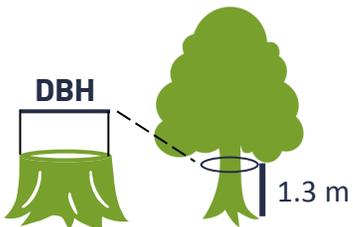
SURROUNDED BY
1,000 TREES
OF ANY SIZE

SURROUNDED BY
750 TREES LARGER THAN
5 CM DBH

SURROUNDED BY
500 TREES LARGER THAN
12 CM DBH

SURROUNDED BY
250 TREES LARGER THAN
20 CM DBH

HOW TO MEASURE DIAMETER AT
BREAST HEIGHT (DBH):



Measure of trunk
diameter at 1.3
meters above
ground level

Who to Call

Grey County Planning Department

 (519) 372-0219 ext. 1232

 forests@grey.ca

 grey.ca/forests-trails

Other Forestry Information

Ontario Woodlot Association

Provincial information on forest
management and related links
ontariowoodlot.com

Grey Bruce Woodlands Association

Local workshops and courses
through a peer network
bgwa.ca

Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program

A provincial program which helps
provide a reduction in property taxes
on the forested portion of a property
Ontario.ca/page/managed-forest-tax-incentive-program



CALL BEFORE YOU CUT

THE WHAT, WHEN & WHY OF
GREY COUNTY'S FOREST
MANAGEMENT BY-LAW

