

## Proactive Tree Maintenance

The City's arborist team has identified three locations where trees will receive proactive treatment, the details of which may be of interest to residents. This intensive treatment program will be provided by a contractor on May 17 and May 18.

- Elm trees on Memorial Avenue and in front of the McMillan Arts Centre and the Society of Organization Services building on McMillan will undergo an intensive fertilization program based on soil analysis aimed at tree health maintenance.
- An application to the maple tree near the gazebo and beach washrooms Parksville Community Park will target the soil beneath the crown of the maple using an air-spade to cultivate the soil to a depth of 40-50 cm to promote root development and function. Biochar, compost and other amendments will be added to the soil. Biochar is a carbon-rich material that helps with soil rejuvenation. It is a lightweight, porous substance which acts like a sponge and serves as a habitat for many beneficial soil microorganisms to promote soil and plant health.
- The three giant sequoias in the greenspace behind the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre, 100 Jensen Avenue will also receive treatment. A fungus was identified which targets sequoias in our area, and we hope treatments will help these three relatively healthy trees fight off any future infection. A similar process of root invigoration will help improve the soil beneath the sequoias including the application of biochar. Some girdling roots will also be removed, and the trees will be given a tree ring to better manage turf below. A fertilizer application and soil amendments will be added based on soil analysis.



The maple and the sequoia trees will be given a layer of mulch afterwards to help retain moisture and regulate the temperature of the soil.

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**For more information:**

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications  
[communications@parksville.ca](mailto:communications@parksville.ca); 250 954-3073

*The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations,  
home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.*