

The following is a survey about trees and residential development.  
We would greatly appreciate your participation in this survey.

The confidentiality of all respondents will be maintained in this research.

**1** What year did you start working in the City of Highland Park?

**2** How long have you been building homes?

- 3** How often do you work in Highland Park?
- a. Frequently
  - b. Occasionally
  - c. Rarely

- 4** Which of the following typify your work?
- a. Homes built on spec
  - b. Custom built homes
  - c. Both

- 5** The following typify your activities when building homes on wooded lots (check all that apply):
- a. Raising of grade (adding soil fill)
  - b. Lowering of grade (removing soil)
  - c. Trees pruned
  - d. Trees removed
  - e. Driveways placed within 0 to 10 feet of trees
  - f. Sidewalks placed within 0 to 10 feet of trees
  - g. Foundations placed within 0 to 10 feet of trees
  - h. Boring for underground utilities
  - i. Heavy equipment passes near the base of trees
  - j. Trees or shrubs planted
  - k. Root pruning prior to construction
  - l. Irrigation provided for trees during construction

- 6** During construction, approximately what % of trees are removed from the lot? (check one)
- a. 80 - 100%
  - b. 60 - 79%
  - c. 40 - 59%
  - d. 20 - 39%
  - e. 0 - 19%

- 7** Are certain sized trees removed?
- a. Yes (Go to question 8)
  - b. No (Go to question 11)

- 8** If yes, what sizes are most often removed?
- a. Small – 2 to 3.9” diameter
  - b. Medium – 4 to 9.9” diameter
  - c. Large – 10” or greater diameter

- 9** Are certain types of species removed?
- a. No, species is unimportant
  - b. Yes, certain species are removed

**10** If yes, please list typical species removed:

- 11** Do buyers generally express preferences for certain **species** of trees to be left on the lot?
- a. Yes
  - b. No

**12** Do buyers generally express preferences for certain **sizes** of trees to be left on the lot?

- a. Yes (*Go to question 13*)
- b. No (*Go to question 14*)

**13** If yes, what sizes? (*check all that apply*):

- a. Small – 2 to 3.9" diameter
- b. Medium – 4 to 9.9" diameter
- c. Large – 10" or greater diameter

**14** Most homeowners seem to express a preference for (*check one*):

- a. A home site left as much as possible in its native condition
- b. A partially landscaped, partially natural site
- c. A totally landscaped lot

**15** Do you ever receive any complaints from buyers of homes concerning any of the following? (*check all that apply*):

- a. Dead trees
- b. Scars on trees
- c. Portions of trees dying
- d. Cut roots
- e. Exposed roots
- f. Windthrown trees
- g. No complaints

**16** Is the placement of the following ever altered to avoid damage to trees? (*check all that apply*):

- a. Foundation / House
- b. Garage
- c. Driveway
- d. Sidewalk
- e. Utilities

**17** Soils differ according to the degree of susceptibility to compaction (use one choice only and enter for each soil type):

- 1 – compacts easily
  - 2 – somewhere in between 1 and 3
  - 3 – resistant to compaction
- a. Sand \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Silt \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Clay \_\_\_\_\_

**18** Soils differ in their ability to allow for air and water movement (use one choice only and enter for each soil type):

- 1 – rapid movement
- 2 – somewhere in between
- 3 – slow movement.

- a. Sand \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Silt \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Clay \_\_\_\_\_

**19** Compaction is most severe when soil is:

- a. Wet
- b. Dry

**20** When pruning, it is best to: (*check one*):

- a. Leave a small stub
- b. Cut flush with trunk or branch
- c. Cut to the branch collar
- d. Where the branch is pruned is not important
- e. I don't know

**21** Grass around the base of a tree tends to (*check one*):

- a. Benefit the tree
- b. Have no effect on the tree
- c. Can be detrimental to the tree
- d. I don't know

**22** Mulch around the base of a tree (*check one*):

- a. Is preferable to grass
- b. Is only used for cosmetic purposes
- c. Can be detrimental to the tree
- d. I don't know

**23** Fill over existing soil levels will have the following consequences for air and water exchange with tree roots (*check one*):

- a. Improve exchange
- b. No effect
- c. Hinders exchange
- d. I don't know

**24** Heavy equipment passing near trees (*check one*):

- a. Will only injure the exposed roots
- b. Won't damage roots
- c. Will injure exposed and underground roots
- d. I don't know

**25** If roots are damaged, it is wise to remove a portion of the branches to compensate for root loss.

- a. True                       b. False

**26** Removal of native undergrowth vegetation and leaf litter will generally (*check one*):

- a. Benefit the tree   
 b. Have no effect on the tree   
 c. Be detrimental to the tree   
 d. I don't know

**27** Tree roots generally extend away laterally from the tree trunk (*check one*):

- a. Half way from the trunk to the canopy edge (dripline)   
 b. To approximately the canopy edge   
 c. Two times or more the distance of trunk to the canopy edge   
 d. I don't know

**28** When driving over tree roots near the tree trunk I add mulch or boards over the root area to minimize soil compaction (*check one*):

- a. Always   
 b. More than half the time   
 c. About half the time   
 d. Less than half the time   
 e. Never

**29** Do you use independent foresters, arborists, or other tree specialists while creating development plans for residential construction?

- a. Yes                       b. No

**30** Tree root systems are (*check one*):

- a. As deep as a tree is tall   
 b. Only half as deep as a tree is tall   
 c. Approximately one quarter deep as the tree is tall   
 d. Typically most prevalent in the upper few feet of soil only

**31** During or post construction, how often do trees die from construction activities on lots you've developed? (*check one*):

- a. Always   
 b. More than half the time   
 c. About half the time   
 d. Less than half the time   
 e. Never

**32** Waste water from mixing cement has the potential to: (*check one*):

- a. Increase the alkalinity of the soil   
 b. Decrease the alkalinity of the soil   
 c. No effect   
 I don't know

**33** For the following activities, how important is each to your decision to remove or preserve trees during residential construction?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Very unimportant	Not applicable
	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
a. Inventorying tree species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Inventorying tree size	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Assessing tree condition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Consulting with tree preservation experts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Identification of tree location in proximity to construction activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Identification of vehicle access movement locations outside of a tree protection zone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Creating tree protection zones based on the critical root zone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Creating tree protection zones based on tree species tolerance to construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Determining trees suitable for preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Identifying tree care needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Moving proposed house and road locations based on tree susceptibility to construction activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Please answer the following based on your preferences for altering natural areas.

	Strongly Agree ▼	Agree ▼	Neither Agree nor Disagree ▼	Disagree ▼	Strongly Disagree ▼
a. Grass and weeds growing between paving stones may be untidy but are natural and should be left alone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The idea that natural areas should be maintained exactly as they are is silly, wasteful, and wrong.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. I'd prefer a garden that is wild and natural to a well groomed and ordered one.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Human beings should not tamper with nature even when nature is uncomfortable and inconvenient for us.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Turning new unused land over to cultivation and agricultural development should be stopped.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. I'd much prefer a garden that is well groomed and ordered to a wild and natural one.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. When nature is uncomfortable and inconvenient for humans we have every right to change and remake it to suit ourselves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Turning new unused land over to cultivation and agricultural development is positive and should be supported	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Grass and weeds growing between pavement stones looks really untidy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Please answer the following based on your preferences for natural areas and the environment

	Strongly Agree ▼	Agree ▼	Neither Agree nor Disagree ▼	Disagree ▼	Strongly Disagree ▼
a. I am NOT the kind of person who loves spending time in wild, untamed wilderness areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. I really like going on trips into the countryside, for example to forests or field.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. I find it very boring being out in wilderness areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Sometimes when I am unhappy, I find comfort in nature.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Being out in nature is a great stress reducer for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. I would rather spend my weekend in the city than in wilderness areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. I enjoy spending time in natural settings just for the sake of being out in nature.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. I have a sense of well-being in the silence of nature.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. I find it more interesting in a shopping mall than out in the forest looking at trees and birds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. I think spending time in nature is boring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**36** Would you be interested in attending a workshop on tree preservation and construction in Highland Park?

- a. Yes
- b. No

**37** How much time would you be willing to spend at a workshop on construction and trees?

- a. 2 hours (1/4 day)
- b. 4 hours (1/2 day)
- c. 6 hours (3/4 day)
- d. 8 hours (1 day)
- e. 12 hours (1 1/2 days)
- f. 16 hours (2 days)
- g. Other ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

The following are some basic questions that are commonly asked in many public opinion surveys. All responses will remain confidential. Please skip any questions you are uncomfortable answering.

**38** What is your age?

- a. 18 - 24
- b. 25 - 34
- c. 35 - 44
- d. 45 - 54
- e. 55 - 64
- f. 65 - 74
- g. 75 years or older

**40** What is your highest level of education?

- a. High school diploma
- b. Trade / technical / vocational
- c. Bachelor's degree
- d. Master's degree
- e. Doctorate degree
- f. Professional (MD, JD, DDS, etc.)
- g. None of the above

**39** Which of the following best describes your main daily activities and/or responsibilities? *(check all that apply):*

- a. Working full time
- b. Working part time
- c. Housekeeping / raising children
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Military
- g. Other ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

**41** What is your household income before taxes?

- a. Less than \$20,000
- b. \$20,000 - \$49,999
- c. \$50,000 - \$99,999
- d. \$100,000 - \$149,999
- e. \$150,000 - \$199,999
- f. \$200,000 - \$249,999
- g. \$250,000 or more

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey. If you would like to receive a summary of the results of the study, please indicate "Yes" by checking the box here: