

March 1, 2024

Richmond Selectboard
c/o Jay Furr, Chair
via email

Re: Arborist selection for tree removals and pruning around the library

I recommend that Richmond hire Acer Tree Company for upcoming work around the library and elaborate on this decision below.

Beginning in fall 2024, I solicited and received four bids associated with tree work around the library, focusing initially on pruning and removals on the northside of building. This work has since been extended to include pruning and one removal on other sides of the library to accommodate upcoming renovation and painting of the building. All bids are appended. Please note that the totals across these bids are not directly comparable, as some include more tasks than others. For example, the Limberwalker bid (received Aug 2023) includes only three tasks whereas SavATree and VT Tree Service (both received Dec 2023) include additional pruning that the arborists at these companies advised. Finally, the Acer Tree Company bid (received February 2024) encompasses the most work, including on other sides of the library. Even with those additional tasks, the Acer bid is the most economical. Other criteria guiding my recommendation include:

- **International Society of Arboriculture certification:** Acer, Limbwalker, and SavATree have this certification; VT Tree Service does not yet.
- **Timely availability for carrying out work:** Acer has affirmed their availability to carry out this work in advance of scheduled renovations and painting of the library by Hunger Valley Construction.
- **Locally-owned company:** Acer, Limberwalker, and VT Tree Service are all local companies; SavATree is not.
- **Coordination with other contractors:** Coordination with Hunger Valley Construction will be necessary to ensure that pruning is carried out in a manner that can accommodate renovation and painting equipment (eg a lift). Individuals at Acer and Hunger Valley have an existing working relationship.
- **Professionalism:** All companies I engaged with were professional and highly communicative. Acer, in particular, presented their Certificate of Insurance immediately, provided a quote in very short order, and fully elaborated on the rationale behind various tasks (eg black cherry removal; see additional considerations below).
- **Total price:** As noted above, the Acer quote entails the most work and yet will cost the least.

There are two additional considerations that will affect the final price: Acer notes that pruning the large sugar maple atop the stonewall is not at all pressing; removing that task from the scope of work would reduce the price by \$500 to \$2500. However, Acer does advise removing the black cherry on the north-side of the building given a rotting seam; this would increase the price by \$875. These two modifications would bring the total quote to \$3375, which still remains the most economical of the quotes.

In conclusion, I advise hiring Acer Tree Company to carry out this work around the library. I might suggest allocating funds not-to-exceed \$5000 for this work, in case additional pruning or removal needs arise once renovation and painting work commences (or if we elect to proceed with pruning of the large sugar maple atop the stonewall). Please let me know if you have any questions.

Caitlin Littlefield, Richmond Tree Warden
clittlef@gmail.com; 978-807-1494

PROPOSAL

CLIENT: Caitlin Littlefield
201 Bridge St Richmond, VT 05477
9788071494



ACER TREE COMPANY LLC

WWW.ACERTREECO.COM

DATE: 02/29/2024
PROJECT: Littlefield 20240229
WORKSITE: 201 Bridge St Richmond, VT 05477

SALES REP: Jake Blauvelt
802-598-9680
jake@acertreeco.com

P.O. BOX 62 WATERBURY CTR, VT 05677

INFO@ACERTREECO.COM

(802) 882-7063

#	SERVICE	ITEM	QTY	DETAILS	COST
1	Removal Level 1 Standard	Fraxinus americana (white ash)	8	Remove 7-8 declining White Ash on north side of building (most <10", two >12")	\$250.00
2	Removal Level 1 Standard	Acer Saccharum (Sugar Maple)	1	Remove dead sugar maple on North side of building.	\$500.00
3	Removal Level 1 Standard	Thuja occidentalis (Eastern White-cedar)	7	Remove 7 cedars on north side of building (2-4" , 12-15' tall)	\$125.00
4	Removal Level 1 Standard	All Trees	0	Clean out smaller stems to enable more airflow and light on north side of building. (a few dozen 1-2" stems)	\$125.00
5	Pruning	All Trees	3	Prune back Box Elder, Hickory and Black Cherry from building to give 10-12' building clearance. No structural or deadwood pruning. (Please note that the Black Cherry is severely compromised and threatening failure on building. Acer recommends full removal of tree. See line item 10 description. +\$875 for Black Cherry removal.	\$500.00
6	Pruning	All Trees	4	Prune back branches on 3 red maples and 1 White ash to give 10-12' building clearance on south side of building. No structural or deadwood pruning.	\$500.00
7	Removal Level 1 Standard	Apple (Crab)	1	Remove multi-stemmed 14' crab apple against stairwell on west side entrance of building.	\$125.00
8	Removal Level 1 Standard	Taxus canadensis (canadian yew)	10	Remove Yews that line front of building on west side.	\$375.00
9	Pruning	Acer Saccharum (Sugar Maple)	1	Structural and deadwood prune Large Sugar Maple on east side of building atop old stone wall.	\$500.00

Total: \$3,000.00

MINIMUM 30% PAYMENT DUE TO CONFIRM PROJECT: \$900.00





Caitlin Littlefield <clittlef@gmail.com>

Acer Tree Co. | Proposal:

1 message

jake@acertreeco.com <jake@acertreeco.com>

Thu, Feb 29, 2024 at 2:21 PM

To: clittlef@gmail.com

Cc: office@acertreeco.com

Hi Caitlin,

Thank you for inviting me to take a look at the library trees yesterday. It was great speaking with you!

A proposal for the work we discussed is included below for your review. I would like to only send 2 workers and keep it at \$2,500, but the Sugar Maple prune on east side of building atop the stone wall is putting us over and we would need a third worker in order to get the job done in a day. It's a big tree and would take time to be pruned properly. If budget is tight, I would recommend holding off on pruning the Sugar Maple. It is perfectly healthy as is, and pruning is not pressing at all. If you would like me to remove from estimate, I will amend and resend at \$2,500.

Lastly, see attachment image of compromised Black Cherry on North side that is threatening building. Acer recommends full removal at +\$875. I can amend estimate if you would like to add this removal service.

We are happy to leave firewood on site if wanted. Chips as well?

To confirm your project as outlined, please accept this proposal and provide a 30% deposit. Pre-Payments may be submitted via credit card, ACH or check remitted to Acer Tree Co. at P.O. Box 62 Waterbury Center, VT 05677. Please note, a 3% surcharge will be applied to credit card payments.

A member of our team will be in touch to organize a start date for your work shortly after your approval. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to make any amendments to this proposal, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to working with you!


Jake Blauvelt

Acer Tree Co.*Modern Arboriculture in Central Vermont*www.acertreeco.com

(802) 882-7063

[View My Proposal](#)

2 attachments**IMG_3912.PNG**
2812K

 **Job_Littlefield20240229_ProposalFusionAcer(1).pdf**
356K



Limbwalker

Tree Service

P.O. Box 733 Shelburne, VT 05482 802-989-9343

Date: 8/25/2023 12:11 PM

Job Name: Littlefield 20230825

Caitlin Littlefield
333 Cochran Rd # 2
Richmond, VT 05477

Work Site: 201 Bridge St
Richmond, VT 05477

: (978) 807-1494

Proposed By: Mike Fallis

Customer Code: 773592

Item #	Description	Cost
1	Prune North side of the building: Prune the box elder, cherry, and hickory trees to lift and clear from the building.	\$1,200.00
2	Remove Remove 5 ash trees. Leave wood. Leave stumps.	\$1,800.00
3	Remove Remove the dying sugar maple on the back left corner. Leave wood. Leave stump.	\$1,500.00



Limbwalker

Tree Service

P.O. Box 733 Shelburne, VT 05482 802-989-9343

Item #	Description	Cost
4	Haul wood	\$400.00
	Haul wood.	

Notes:

Subtotal: \$4,900.00

Tax: \$0.00

Total: \$4,900.00

Customer Signature _____

Date _____



147 Vermont Rt 15
 Jericho, VT 05465
 802-495-8526
chris@vttreeservice.com

Invoice Date:
 Bill To: Caitlin littlefield
 Address: Richmond Library
 Phone:
 E-mail:
 Fax:

Description of work

Cut back undergrowth & up prune small cedar trees along path to make it easy to walk
 Up prune large hickory tree limbs 8'+ off of library roof & side of building (Climber)
 Prune cherry tree limbs 8'+ off of library roof (Climber)
 Up prune boxelder limbs on front corner boxelder
 Remove 5 small to medium sized ash trees throughout wooded row of trees (Climber)
 Remove dead maple tree near back corner of building
 Total: \$3,500.
 Add: Remove boxelder limb over power lines on front corner of bulding: \$1,000.

Description	Units	Cost Per Unit	Amount
Core work	-	-	\$3,500
Add box elder limb over power lines	-	-	\$ 1,000.00
		Invoice Subtotal	\$ 4,500.00
		TOTAL	\$ 4,500.00



SavATree Stowe Office
 PO Box 1557, Stowe VT 05672
 P: 802-244-5100
 E: stowe@savatree.com

Estimate

Prepared By: Patrick Mckelvey

pmckelvey@savatree.com

Date: 12/20/2023

Estimate #: 1064604

Billing Key: 8108380

Prepared for

Caitlin Littlefield

Service Address:

15 Tayer Ln, Waterbury Center VT 05677

Account Key:

8423162

Recommendations

General Tree Care

General Tree Care

\$5,380.00

Richmond Library

When looking at the library from road, left side of library (woodline) needs to be addressed.

Box elder, hickory, and cherry- Prune back from building. We will be providing 8-10ft of clearance to allow more air flow to building.

Removal of a couple lower scrub trees and brush will also be done to allow a bit more airflow.

Remove 5 dead/ dying ash trees.

Removal of larger dead sugar maple.

Large sugar maple- located left side of property as well and above stone wall. Structural prune. We want to open up the main stem to accelerate growth and subordinate larger codominants. Removal of any 1" and larger deadwood. The idea is to make this tree more appealing visually by thinning and pruning while also providing more safety for the surrounding.

Two red maples- located parking lot side of library. Prune away from building (8-10 ft.)

Cedars- left side of library. Slight raising and pruning back to open up pathway more.

Location of plant material is from the perspective of main entry point and targets (trees and shrubs) are oriented in a clockwise direction.

ASH: +20% die back- NO CLIMBING OR RIGGING

ASH: 0-20% dieback - follow standards

DEAD TREE- NO CLIMBING

Hazard: Cracks

Hazard: Deadwood

Hazard: Mushrooms

Hazard: Loose bark

Hazard: Included Bark

Identified Hazards and Obstacles

Obstacle: Busy Street

Obstacle: Car

Obstacle: Downspouts

Obstacle: Gutter

Obstacle: Roof

General Tree Care

\$5,380.00

TOTAL

General Tree Care \$4,487.00

Special Work / Special Equipment \$893.00

Note: Included in this program is 1 service for a total of \$5,380.00.

This proposal has been provided to you on a confidential basis. We kindly request that neither this proposal nor any of its contents be reproduced or shared with any competitor without the prior written consent of SavATree.

Sales tax, if applicable, will be added to the amounts of this estimate per your local and state tax jurisdiction. Fuel surcharges may apply.

If you wish to pay via credit card, please click link to pay. A deposit of 50% may be required prior to the commencement of General Tree Care work. Thank you!

[\\$2690 Pay.](#)

By paying a deposit, I authorize the work described above and agree to the terms and conditions that follow.

OUR BRAND PROMISE

We are committed to your complete satisfaction. Should anything not be to your liking please let us know right away so we can make it right.

Fully Licensed & Insured**Tree Care Industry Accredited**[Testimonials](#)www.savatree.com[VIEW FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS](#)