

Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman



Town Hall
530 Main Street
Post Office Box 316
New Hartford, CT
06057

Dear New Hartford Residents,

August 22, 2011

Over the past 18 months, members of the Highway Crew have been actively pruning and/or removing trees from all of our publically maintained parks. Over the past week this office has received a few questions regarding the maintenance of trees at Brodie Park South. To fully address the situation, I thought I would put in writing an outline of the plan so there is no confusion.

Early last summer, during a regular inspection of the property, members of the Highway Crew approached me concerning the deteriorating condition of many of the Spruce trees at Brodie South. These trees have been engulfed by a stubborn vine that is strangling and killing them. Since then we developed a plan to prune the trees in an attempt to save them. Roughly 6 to 8 trees have been pruned over the past year and are making a remarkable comeback and I think they look great. Unfortunately, we also found several dead trees at the park that need to be removed for safety reasons.

So that all of you can understand what trees are under consideration to be pruned and/or removed, I have had trees marked with colored ribbons. A "pink" ribbon means that a tree will be pruned. There are roughly 10 - 15 trees in the area surrounding the field near the parking lot. To understand what is meant by pruning, one needs to look to the southwest to see the trees that have already received this treatment. The canopies have been raised roughly 4 to 5 feet and the vines removed.

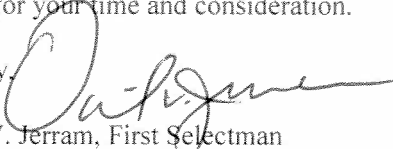
An "orange" ribbon means a tree will be removed. Most of these trees (10 - 15) consist of standing dead or near dead hard woods mostly located in the peninsula north of the field (beyond the goal posts). One of these trees includes a "widow maker" so please be wary if you plan on viewing these trees up close. These trees are a liability to the town and must be removed.

Trees that have both pink and orange ribbons (total of 2) will be pruned and evaluated to see if they can be saved. These two large Norway Spruce trees are fully engulfed by the vine. In one case, the vine has collapsed the top of the tree. Pruning may save the trees, but only time will tell. They may have to be removed.

Should you have questions pertaining to the maintenance program, please feel free to call me at Town Hall. Should you wish to discuss the program in detail, I request that you take the time to visit the park and view the trees up close in order to properly evaluate the damage being caused by the vines as well as view the success of the pruning program.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman



Town Hall
530 Main Street
Post Office Box 316
New Hartford, CT
06057

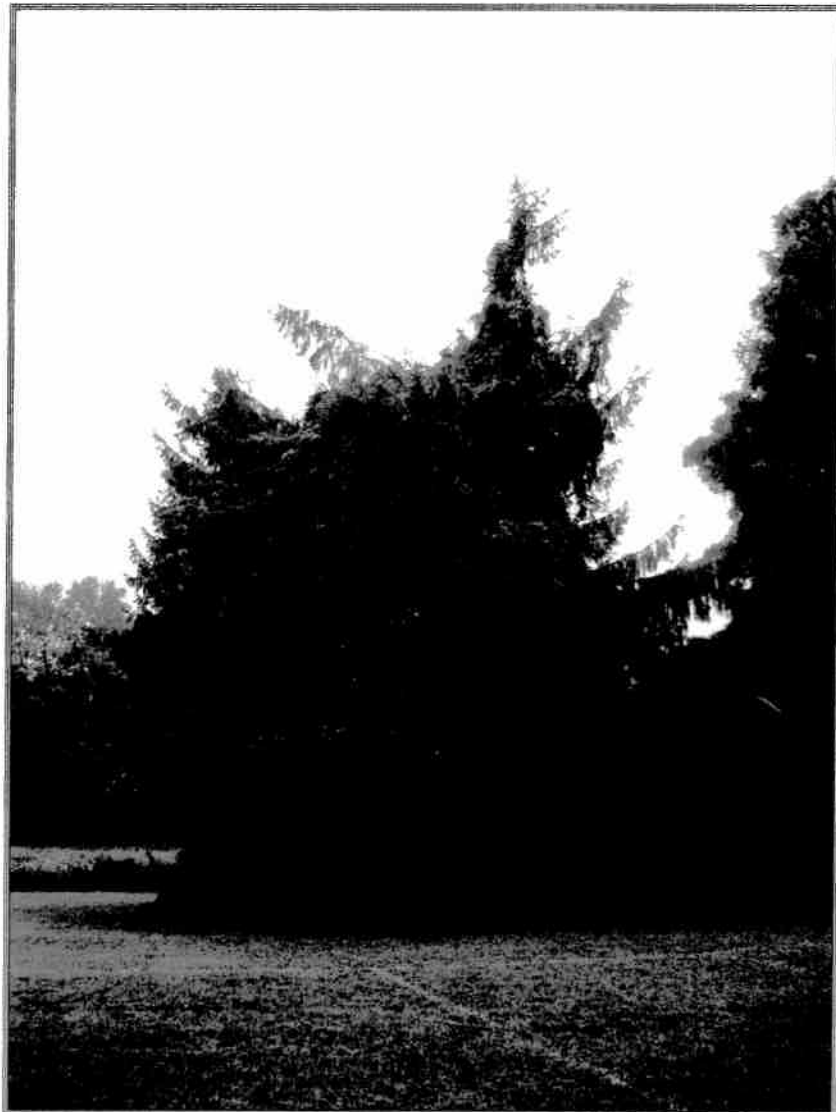


View of an overgrown tree (left) next to two well pruned trees (center and right)
as seen from the parking area looking southwest.

Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman



Town Hall
530 Main Street
Post Office Box 316
New Hartford, CT
06057

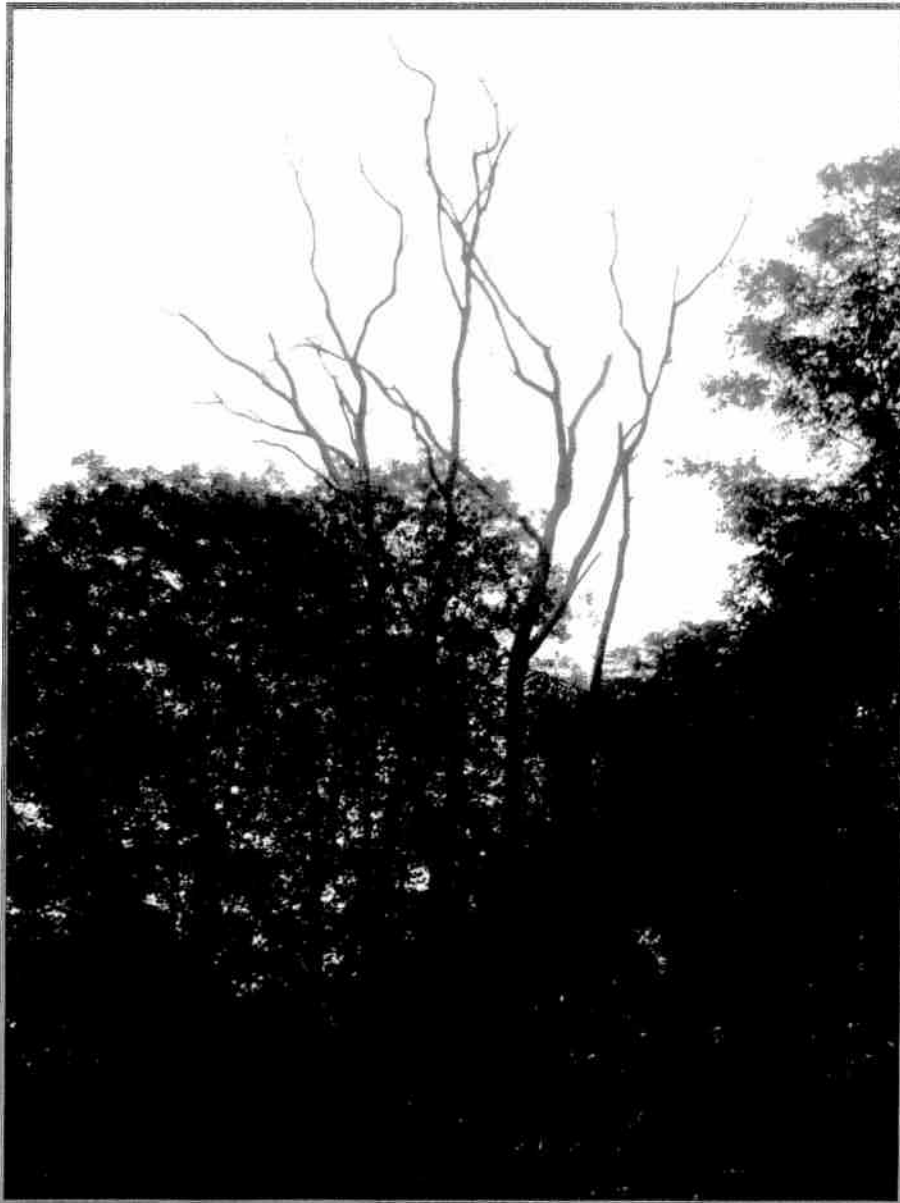


Another one of the many overgrown trees at Brodie South located northwest of the parking area (between the field and meadow). This tree lost its crown.

Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman



Town Hall
530 Main Street
Post Office Box 316
New Hartford, CT
06057



View of one of the many standing dead trees at Brodie South located northwest of the parking area in the tree line between fields. This is a liability to the Town.

Telephone: 860-379-3389 - Fax 860-379-0940 - Web: www.town.new-hartford.ct.us
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer