

TREE HEALTH

"Caring for Plants from the Soil Up"



May 4, 2016

Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Road
East Hills, NY 11576

RE: Tree Inspection of 95 Birch Drive, East Hills, NY 11576

To whom it may concern:

As per your request, I inspected the large oak tree at 95 Birch Dr. Many efforts have been made to preserve this tree for many years. It is growing in a deep well, a cable was installed, and extensive pruning has been done.

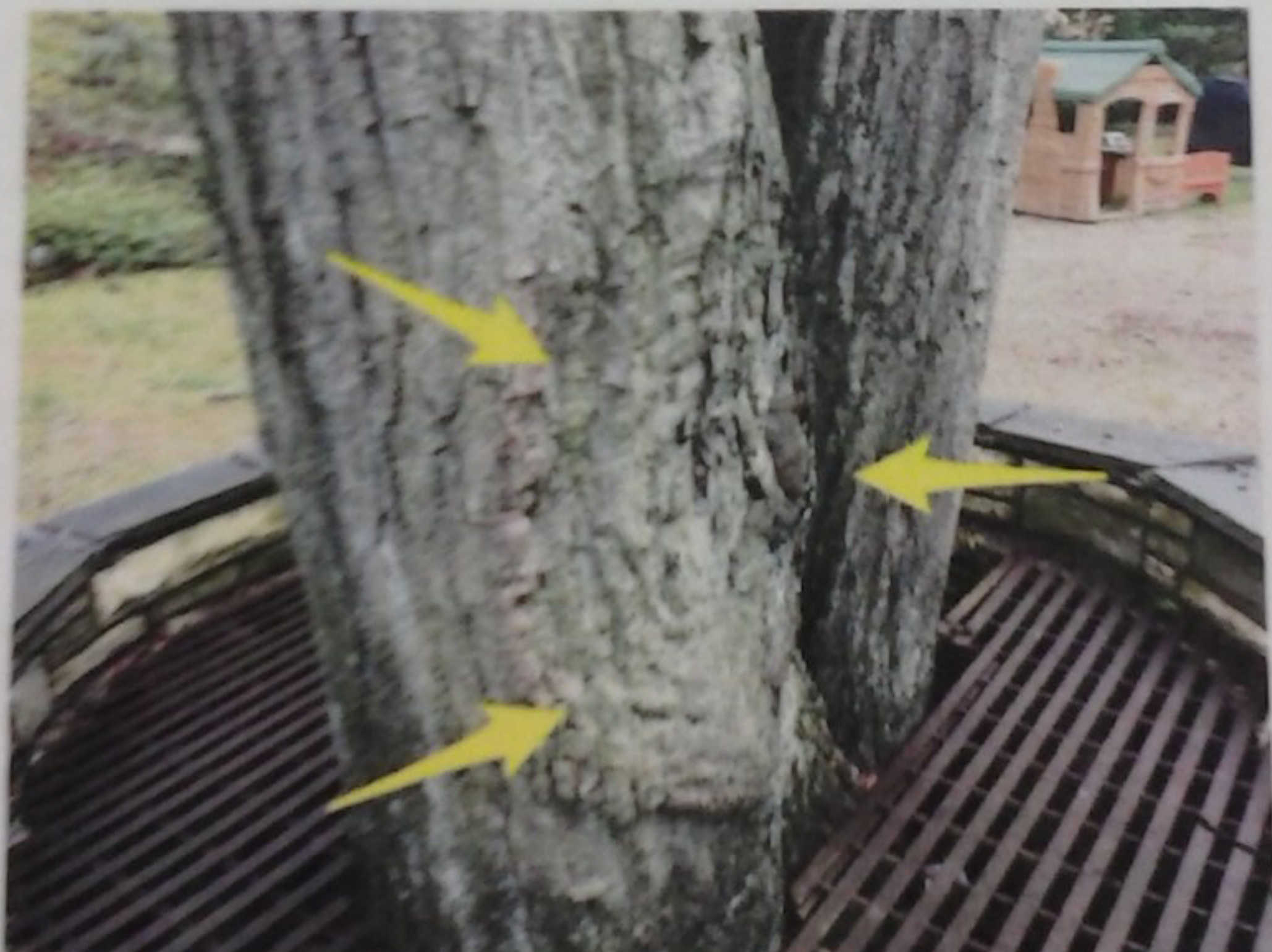
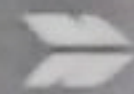
Unfortunately the grate of the well has now been engulfed by the trunk, the thin cable is performing little function and there is some trunk decay. The tree appears healthy and is leafing out normally. The homeowner expressed his fear of this tree failing.

Since there is a potential for this tree to fail and the risk to personal or property damage is great, this tree should be removed.

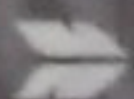




Cable is too thin



Abnormality in bark on large trunk



If you have any questions please call me at 516-781-6464

Sincerely,

DANA L. AND ERIC I. MOSKOWITZ
95 Birch Drive
East Hills, NY 11576

Received

APR 25 2016

Inc. Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Rd
East Hills, NY 11576

April 25, 2016

Tree Subcommittee of the Architectural Review Board
Building Department
Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Road
East Hills, NY 11576

**Re: Application for Tree Removal Permit for 95 Birch Drive
Section 7, Block 265, Lot 009**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are writing to you regarding the above-mentioned application to remove a tree on our property. Our application was denied a permit by the Village of East Hills Tree Warden via a letter dated April 12, 2016. We hereby respectfully request that the Tree Subcommittee approve our application.

The tree we propose removing is a large oak located in a treewell approximately 12 feet behind our home. The oak has a split trunk, with one trunk leaning over the house towards our master bedroom and the other leaning over our backyard. We estimate the tree to be 50 feet tall. The well is approximately five feet deep and is covered by a rusted iron grate. The trunk of the tree has grown around the prongs of this grate on several sides, so that the metal is now embedded in the trunk and cannot be removed. The stone walls surrounding the well and the interior concrete walls are old and deteriorating. For your reference, we have enclosed photographs of the tree and well.

As you are aware, we have an open construction permit for renovations to our home. In the plans approved by the Architectural Review Board, we did not anticipate making alterations to our backyard. However, during construction, the Village inspector required that we relocate a drywell from a little-used area of our property to the center of our yard, which necessitated the destruction of our patio. As a result, we are now forced to make additional changes and further expenditures in order to restore our yard to a usable condition. Unfortunately, any work of this nature would require removal of the aforementioned tree and its well due to the prominence of its location.

We request the Tree Subcommittee's approval of our permit for the following safety reasons:

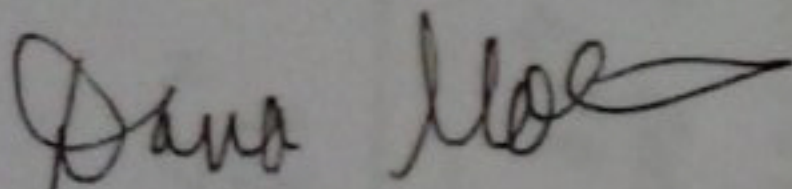
- (i) The proximity of the tree to our house, together with its height and the angle with which it leans towards our master bedroom are of grave concern to us. Were it to

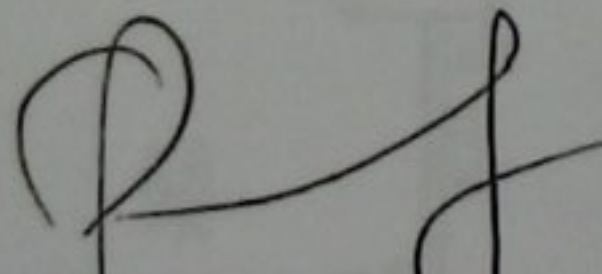
fall, the trunk would undoubtedly destroy one side of our house and endanger those inside.

- (ii) In recent years, the tree has grown around the decaying iron grate, such that the grate itself cannot be removed. We fear that the growth around this grate further puts the tree at risk.
- (iii) Despite the fact that we have pruned this tree several times over the past few years, on multiple occasions large branches have fallen to the ground from the portion of the trunk leaning over the backyard where our son, age five, regularly plays. Luckily, no one has been injured to date, but we view this as an unacceptable safety hazard.
- (iv) We believe the treewell itself is dangerous, particularly for our two young children. The well is deep, and the iron grate covering it is rusted and sharp in places. We want to ensure that no one falls through the grate into the well or is otherwise cut by attempting to reach through the metal.

We appreciate the Tree Subcommittee's consideration, and request that this matter be docketed for the Architectural Review Board's next meeting on May 9, 2016. Thank you for your time and prompt attention.

Sincerely,


Dana Moskowitz


Eric Moskowitz

Enclosures

Received

APR 25 2016

Inc. Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Rd
East Hills, NY 11576



Incorporated Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Road, East Hills, New York 11576
516-621-5600 Fax: 516-625-8736
E-mail: mayor@villageofeasthills.org

Received

MAR 23 2016

Inc. Village of East Hills
209 Harbor Hill Rd
East Hills, NY 11576

**TREE REMOVAL/ALTERATION PERMIT
APPLICATION**

A) DESCRIPTION:

Property Owner: Dana Maskowitz Phone: (516) 484-0273

Address of Property: 95 Birch Drive

Section: _____ Block: _____ Lot(s): _____ Date: 3/23/16

Tree Info:

Total # of Trees to be Removed: 1

Species of Tree:

Diameter:

Reason for Removal:

Tulip/Oak ??

Dangerous, too close to
house, branches falling
down

Is the above tree work part of a construction/renovation project, either ongoing or
planned in the next 12 months? [YES] [NO]

Are there any proposed grade changes that might adversely affect trees? [YES] [NO]

N 12°47'40" E 140.00

TOP OF BANK

