



GSP
group

72 Victoria Street South
Kitchener, ON, N2G 4Y9
office: 226.243.7402
regger@gspgroup.ca

SHAPING GREAT COMMUNITIES

ARBORIST ASSESSMENT

February 5, 2025

GSP File No. 24151

RE: 1128 & 1134 Printery Street, St. Jacobs
Existing trees

In response to the proposed multi-residential development proposed at 1128 and 1134 Printery Street in St. Jacobs, GSP has prepared this vegetation overview of the existing vegetation on the property and adjacent properties. The report has been prepared to support the draft plan of subdivision and zoning by-law amendment applications for the property.

STATEMENT OF LIMITATIONS: The following report has been prepared to reflect the condition of the existing trees in the landscape at the time of inspection. Trees were generally assessed using standard arboricultural methods and are limited to basic visual examination. Recommendations in this report are based on reasonable efforts by GSP Group Inc. staff to collect and analyze data collected while onsite. Since many symptoms of tree decline are only present seasonally, there is no guarantee that observations recorded at this time lead to an exact conclusion of the future condition of existing trees. All trees have the potential to fail due to unforeseen circumstances or events and it is impossible to know, with absolute certainty, the risk that any tree may pose on its surrounding environment over time. The health of trees suggested to remain post-construction has been evaluated in conjunction with the proposed site work. This report presents general species and health of vegetation valid at the time of inspection. It is recommended that future periodic evaluation be continued in this landscape to update tree record of health and risk assessment.

DATE OF INSPECTION: February 3, 2025

NATURE OF THE WORK: In response to the development proposal at 1128 & 1134 Printery Street, GSP Group conducted a general assessment of the vegetation within property boundaries and 6m beyond the property boundaries on adjacent properties to provide an overview of existing vegetation found within the property and along adjacent property boundaries.

PLANNING | URBAN DESIGN | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

72 Victoria Street South, Suite 201, Kitchener, ON N2G 4Y9 519 569 8883
162 Locke Street South, Suite 200, Hamilton, ON L8P 4A9 905 572 7477
gspgroup.ca

MEASUREMENTS: Health and structural conditions were visually assessed and assigned the following qualitative rating:

E – Excellent; Full crown with no evidence of decline, disease or dieback. Healthy leaf color or good set of winter buds. No visible structural defects.

G – Good, Full crown or dieback of <10% of secondary branches. Crown with only minor deadwood or dieback with well-spaced branches. Minor structural or biological deficiency.

F – Fair, Moderate crown with <30% incomplete sections or deadwood/dieback. Moderate structural or biological deficiency or presence of disease.

P – Poor, <70% live crown. Poor vigor. One or more major structural or biological deficiencies or several moderate deficiencies and/or presence of major disease.

D – Dead / Hazardous, Tree has <10% live crown or has completely succumbed to deficiencies, or tree is an immediate risk to surroundings.

VEGETATION OVERVIEW

SUBJECT PROPERTY TREES

Along Printery Street there are 11 trees that have been planted and appear to be on private property.

Maples: Framing the existing driveway are two Norway Maples (*Acer platanoides*) with a trunk diameter at breast height (DBH) of around 40cm. Further west is a Silver Maple (*Acer saccharum*) with a DBH of around 60-70cm. This tree's canopy extends approximately three-quarters of the way across Printery Street. These trees all appear to be in good health, no significant health or structural concerns were identified while onsite.



Norway Maples



Silver Maple

Spruces: Further west from the existing driveway along Printery Street is a row of six White Spruce (*Picea glauca*) trees. The two most western trees are slightly smaller, while the remaining trees are approximately 15-20cm DBH. The eastern tree in this grouping is showing signs of decline while the remaining trees are in fair to good condition.

There are also two smaller spruces along the east side of the existing driveway which are in the 10-14cm DBH range and appear to be in good condition.



Spruce trees east of ex driveway



Within the project limits there are a handful of trees such as fruit trees, cedar and maples, some of which are described in more detail below.

Fruit trees (below left): Within the site surrounding the existing farmhouse and yard there are several fruit trees in different stages of health. The trees appear to have been pruned over the years to maintain their shape but have become overgrown more recently.

Maple (below right): Located along an existing chain link fence behind the original barn structure is a Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) with 4-6 stems. The trunk sizes range from 10-28cm DBH. The shape of the tree is uniform and overall, the tree appears to be in good condition.

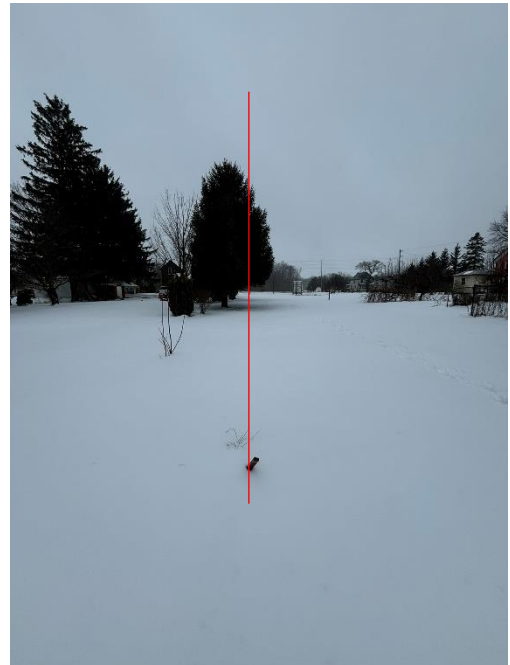


ADJACENT PROPERTY TREES

Along the shared property boundary with 1144 King Street North, adjacent to proposed Blocks 7-12 on the Draft Plan of Subdivision, are several trees on adjacent property (below left). The grouping of trees along this edge includes Cedar, Spruce and Norway Maple. The dripline (tree canopy) of the Norway Maple, one of the Cedars and the Spruce tree slightly overhang the property line by approximately two-four metres. The trees are generally in good condition, but it was noted onsite that the existing cedar overhanging the shared boundary is in fair to poor condition with a very thin canopy. It is recommended that once available, the proposed grading plan be reviewed with these tree locations to ensure no significant grades changes are proposed along this edge, which would impact the neighbouring property owner's trees as a result.



Trees along N boundary with 1144 King St



Adjacent trees at 1144 King St N overhanging property boundary



1 Norway Maple along boundary with 1140 King St

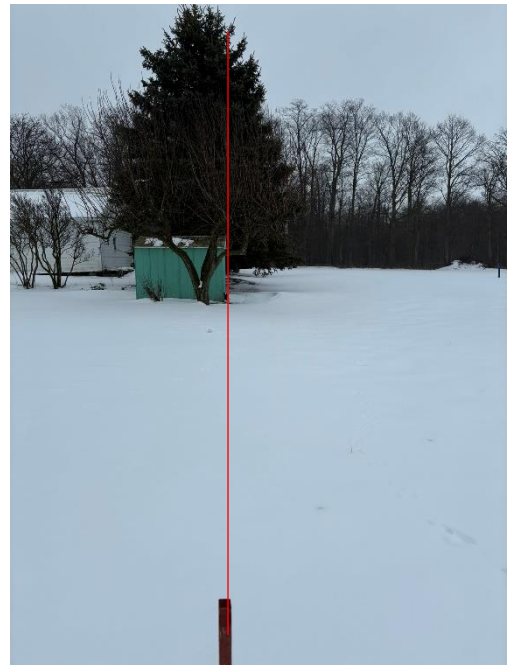


Along the shared boundary with 1140 King Street North adjacent to the proposed Block 13 on the Draft Plan of Subdivision, is a Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) whose dripline (tree canopy) overhangs the property line by about four metres. This tree is approximately 40cm DBH and appears to be in fair to good condition, with a large trunk wound on the southwest side of the tree. It is recommended that once available, the proposed grading plan be reviewed with this tree location to ensure no significant grades changes are proposed along this edge, which would impact the neighbouring property owner's tree as a result.

Along the shared boundary with 1124 Printery Street at the northeast corner of Block 13 on the Draft Plan of Subdivision, is a row of five spruce trees. These trees appear to be located on the adjacent property. The trees are spaced evenly along the rear property line with the centre tree being smaller than the other four. The larger four are about 40cm DBH while the middle one is around 25cm DBH. These trees are generally in good condition, and the four larger trees appear to overhang the property line by about 1-2 metres. It is recommended that the proposed grading plan be reviewed with these tree locations to ensure no significant grades changes are proposed along this edge, which would impact the neighbouring property owner's trees as a result.



Trees along boundary with 1124 Printery St



Adjacent trees overhanging boundary at 1124 Printery St

The eastern most property line abuts what is referred to in the Official Plan as a Core Environmental Feature. This area is comprised of a dense woodlot, with what appears to be a tubing system running through the woodlot for sap collection in the spring. Upon review of the edge that runs along the subject property boundary, a mix of native species and range of sizes were observed. Species observed include Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), American Basswood (*Tilia americana*), Oaks (*Quercus sp.*), Sugar Maples (*Acer saccharum*), and American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*).

Along the edge of the woodlot the trees are small to medium sized, ranging in size from 20-40cm DBH. Further into the woodlot, there are larger Sugar Maples in the 70cm DBH range. While it was difficult to identify the property line in this area with absolute certainty, the dripline (tree canopy) of these trees did not extend very far over the edge of the existing farm field limits. The Development Concept prepared by GSP Group has allowed for a 10m

Dripline Buffer along this shared property boundary, meaning no development will take place within this area. Upon review of the existing trees along this property, the offset that is being proposed should be sufficient to properly preserve the trees along this edge.



CONCLUSION

The properties at 1128 & 1134 Printery Street contain a small number of trees, which have been discussed above. As well, there are some adjacent property trees discussed and given the locations of these trees related to the proposed townhouse units, it is likely these neighbouring trees will be able to be preserved. It is recommended that once detailed grading plans are prepared, the adjacent property trees be reviewed to verify that these trees will not be impacted.

The proposed 10 metre drip line buffer proposed from the Core Environmental Feature to the east will ensure that none of the trees along the shared boundary will be negatively impacted through the construction process. It is recommended that tree protection hoarding be installed along this 10-meter buffer line prior to construction and be maintained throughout construction, ensuring there is no machinery or materials being stored within the canopy dripline of these trees.

Should you have any questions or concerns with this report, please feel free to contact me to discuss it further.

Best regards,



Rebecca Egger, OALA, CSLA, ISA ON-2738A
Senior Landscape Architect & Arborist
GSP Group Inc.
(226) 243-7402
regger@gspgroup.ca