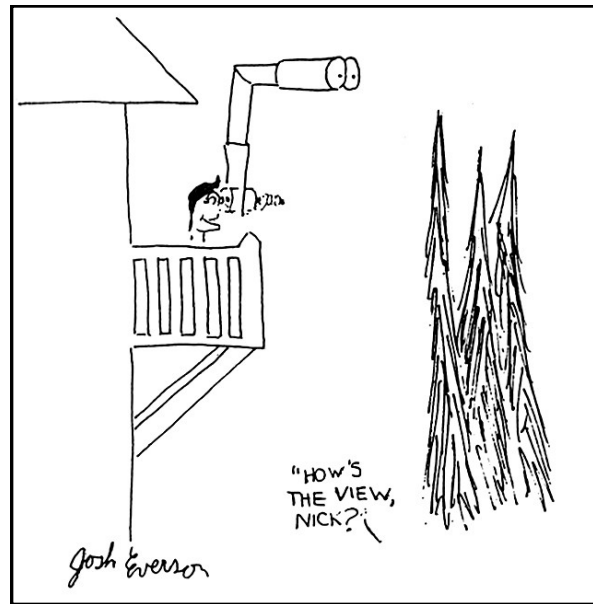


FAQ: My City

What should I do if...

1. **A tree or vegetation obstructs my view of traffic at a stop sign or uncontrolled intersection?**
 - Call 311
2. **A tree in the right-of-way outside my home needs trimming?**
 - ONLY the owner of the property abutting the tree can obtain a permit to prune trees in the right-of-way. This is a FREE permit, obtained at tacomapermits.org or by calling 253-591-5030.
3. **A tree on public property is blocking my view?**
 - You may ask the city to consider trimming or removal, but there is a fee involved. For detailed information, go to cityoftacoma.org. enter "pruning" in the search bar, then read "pruning for views."

This brochure does not constitute legal advice or legal opinion.



Ode to a Downslope Tree

I think that I shall never see

A thing as beautiful as a tree

'specially when it's trimmed just right

So my view is ne'er lost from sight

With apologies to Joyce Kilmer

For more information, contact your WSNC Area Rep or visit our website:
www.westslopewsnc.com



**WEST SLOPE
NEIGHBORHOOD
COALITION**

P.O. Box 64321 • Tacoma, WA 98464-0321

As time passes, trees take views.



WEST SLOPE VEGETATION AND TREE CONTROL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Our most valued asset within the West Slope neighborhood is our view. Preserving this asset requires management of tree and vegetation growth by our entire community. This brochure covers the most frequently asked questions (FAQ) by category:

- **Myself**
- **My Neighbor**
- **Who pays?**
- **My City**

Revised August, 2020

FAQ: Myself

What should I do if...

1. I'm not sure if my trees or vegetation affect a neighbor's view?

- Take the initiative and pay them a call. **Don't forget the neighbors to your left and right as well as those who live upslope.**

2. A neighbor informs me that my trees or vegetation need trimming or removal?

- If the trimming needed is minor, do it yourself.
- For major jobs or removal, negotiate an agreement to share the expense. Exception: If you live in Narrowmoor II or III, the cost is your responsibility.

3. I want to help increase Tacoma's tree canopy without blocking others' views?

- Some trees suitable for our climate which do not grow over 20' tall are: Venus Hybrid Dogwood, Lavalley's Hawthorn, Japanese Hornbeam, Cutleaf Vine Maple, and Dwarf Sargent's Crabapple.
- More help with tree selection is available: ehouse@cityoftacoma.org and the WSU extension: extension.wsu.edu

FAQ: My Neighbor

What should I do if...

1. A neighbor's trees or vegetation are blocking my view?

- Invite your neighbor to your home where they can see the view blockage caused by their trees or vegetation.
- Pay a visit to them at their home to discuss your concern and suggest remedies.

2. A neighbor refuses to prune trees that are blocking my view?

- Ask a friend of the neighbor to mention the issue for you
- Send a letter to the neighbor requesting trim/removal
- Ask your WSNC area rep for help, if you are a member
- If you live in Narrowmoor II or III where covenants address tree height, have an attorney write a letter referencing Pierce County case #83-2-00969-9 Jones vs Wegner. You also have the option of seeking legal remedies.

3. I'm concerned that a neighbor's tree might fall on my property?

- Protect yourself by sending a certified letter to the neighbor stating your concerns, and keep a copy of the letter. Otherwise, if the tree does fall, your insurance carrier may be responsible for the damages.

FAQ: Who Pays?

What should I do....

1. I am not sure who should bear the cost of tree removal or trimming?

- A common approach on the West Slope is for the requesting neighbor to undertake the responsibility and costs to trim and remove cuttings in exchange for permission to have it done (except in Narrowmoor II and III).
- Before any work is done, be sure you have a clear understanding with your neighbor of exactly what will be done, who will do it, and who has the use of any firewood. It is a good idea to put the agreement in writing.