

Tree Removal voter information:

DNR tree pathologist report:

The following is a copy of the email from Daniel Omdal, tree pathologist for the DNR. In January, he came to our park and observed laminated root rot fungus in the stumps of trees in each area cut so far, as well as in the stumps of the trees that fell on and destroyed a house in our neighborhood.

Hi Chris,

This note is to confirm that laminated root rot, caused by the fungus *Coniferiporia sulphurascens*, was detected in several recently cut stumps we examined within Rhododendron Park greenbelts. The presence of setal hyphae, laminated decay, and characteristic staining from incipient decay are typical signs and symptoms affirming the presence of laminated root rot. Though not present everywhere, there are clearly pockets of disease, and the infected stumps will serve as long lived inoculum enabling the fungus to remain on the site and potentially reinitiate the disease in the replacement stand should necessary precautions not be taken.

Please review the attached publication by Thies and Sturrock for helpful information on disease identification and management, as well as the list of species in Table 1. that are resistant or immune to laminated root rot.

Cheers,

Dan.

Daniel Omdal

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With this information, he also sent some research documentation on the disease, which will be available at rhodypark.com. For those that do not have any internet access, please call the RPMC office at (253)891-9108 if you would like a copy of that documentation.

This is now a recognized problem:

RPMC now has to take steps to remove any diseased or potentially diseased tree from the common areas as it is now a potential issue of liability if we neglect this problem and it causes more property damage.

There are two options:

Option 1)

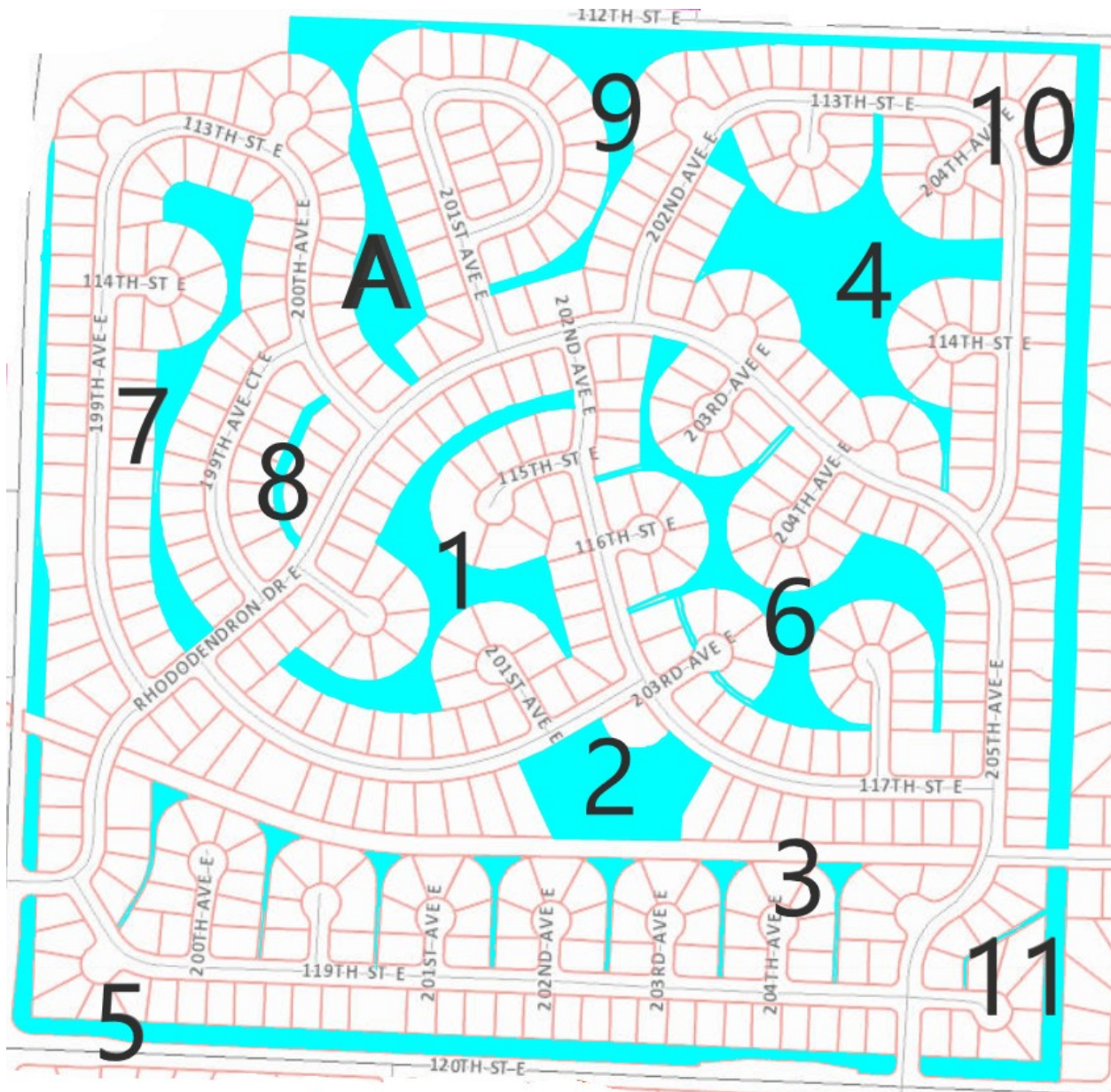
We continue with the contract for Flanders' Tree Service to remove the trees from common areas. With this option, dues will not need to be increased to cover tree cutting. We will use the 5% we get back from mill as well as the unused portions of the budget for tree cutting for clean-up and replanting and, only if necessary, pull from our reserve.

Option 2)

We cancel the contract with Flanders' Tree Service. We then have Flanders or another tree service remove diseased trees on a case by case basis at an average cost of \$1,000 per tree. When a tree is showing that it has laminated root rot, we need to clear all susceptible types of trees in a 25' area around the diseased tree. This could also lead to entire areas being clear cut due to the spread of the disease. If this option is selected and we have 100 trees that still need to be cut, it will cost the RPMC an estimated \$100,000. Since that is much more than RPMC can pay in a reasonable amount of time, dues will be increased to \$300 per year as part of this option to cover the cost of tree removal, cleanup, and replanting.

If option 1 is chosen, the attached map has areas marked out with numbers that will be announced in advance of cutting on the entrance board and the website rhodypark.com. Tree cutting may not be done in order of numbers. There are areas that may have limited or no access and will be cut on a case

by case basis. The goal is to have this project completed in 2020 as time and funding allows. There is also the presentation from the special meeting on tree removal on rhodypark.com, and the office can be called for a copy of that for residents that do not have internet access.



All RPMC common area properties are highlighted in blue.