



# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 11-0780, **Version:** 0

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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INTRODUCTORY\*

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmember Clarke

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning  
**Natural Resources - Notice Required Before Removal of Trees on City Streets**

FOR the purpose of clarifying that no person or City agency may remove a tree from a City street without providing notice; clarifying and conforming related provisions; and generally related to the removal of trees from City streets.

BY repealing and reordaining, with amendment  
Article 7 - Natural resources  
Section(s) 53-5  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

Baltimore City Code

Article 7. Natural Resources

Subtitle 53. Trees along City Streets, etc.

§ 535. Public notice of tree removal.

(a) Notice required.

[The Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Public Works shall] UNLESS NOTICE IS GIVEN AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION, NO CITY AGENCY MAY:

(1) [not] remove or destroy a tree along one of the streets, lanes, alleys, or other public ways in this City; or

(2) PERMIT ANY PERSON TO REMOVE OR DESTROY A TREE ALONG ONE OF THE STREETS, LANES, ALLEYS, OR OTHER PUBLIC WAYS IN THIS CITY[, unless notice of the intended removal or destruction is given].

(b) Form and content.

The notice REQUIRED BY § 53-5(A):

(1) [shall] MUST consist of a durable and legible statement of the [Department's] AGENCY'S intent, affixed to and easily visible on the tree for not less than 5 days immediately preceding the contemplated removal or destruction; and

(2) [shall] MUST state:

(i) the reason for the intended removal or destruction of the tree; and

(ii) the person or persons to whom inquiries or protests thereon may be directed.

(c) Exception for emergency.

(1) In the event of an emergency situation, such as a fallen tree or some other condition or occurrence requiring an immediate removal or destruction of a tree along one of these public ways, the Department may remove or destroy the tree without complying with the foregoing provisions of this section.

(2) But in this event, the Department promptly shall notify the City Council of the circumstances, conditions, and justification under which the tree was thus removed or destroyed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.

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