Arboriculture is the science and art of caring for trees, shrubs, and other woody plants in a diverse range of landscape settings. Arboriculture involves developing and implementing management activities for both single trees and those in groups, like woodlands.

Serving clients four seasons of the year, Stantec Arborists help to navigate through the industry standards and regulations that vary based on region, municipality, and city; our team has the experience and knowledge to support the needs of our clients throughout the entire duration of a project. Our broad experience provides the necessary tools to complete projects safely, efficiently, and with the highest of quality.

Development is a complex process; when trees are involved it can add to the complexity. We are able to produce tree/vegetation management plans that provide detailed assessments and recommendations related to preservation or removals, if warranted. Our clients benefit from our expertise as we work with approval agencies to effectively navigate the pertinent jurisdictional approvals process. This will ensure sound decision making and create a solution that provides added value to your project while maintaining an aesthetically treed area.
INTRODUCING OUR ARBORISTS

**Steve Bendo**, OALA, CSLA, ISA Certified Arborist ON-1245A

Steve is an ISA Certified Arborist with an Honours in Landscape Architecture from the University of Guelph. His 10 years of industry experience encompasses both the private and municipal sectors with a diverse range of projects. Steve’s prime responsibility lies in the contract administration component of projects, enabling him to form the critical link to the design process.

As Project Manager, Steve has diverse experience with projects throughout Southwestern Ontario. He has supervised the design and site plan approval for parks, trails, and naturalized areas and has consistently delivered projects on budget and on time. Steve’s uncompromising quality of work is consistently recognized through positive client feedback. His ability to see projects through from concept to construction and his commitment to excellence makes Steve a key contributor to the design team. He has extensive experience working with multidisciplinary teams composed of architects, engineers, and planners, and is able to effectively communicate with and coordinate team members to deliver practical solutions for his clients’ needs.

As an ISA Certified Arborist, Steve’s vast knowledge of plant material ensures that due consideration is given to the environmental factors of each project and that appropriate measures are taken to optimize sustainable design within the constraints of each site. His in-depth knowledge of construction practices allows him to identify potential impacts to existing vegetation and create functional design plans that mitigate impacts to the surrounding environment. His strengths and expertise are found in community park development and design, urban and streetscape design, and contract administration.
Jennifer Koskinen, HBESfcon, ISA Certified Arborist
ON-1234A

Jennifer is a Certified Arborist from Sir Sandford Fleming College and an ISA Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture. She graduated from Lakehead University with Honours Bachelor of Environmental Studies Forest Conservation. In 2010 she became a Certified Butternut Assessor through the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Jennifer’s diverse range of experience from forest data sampling to individual tree care assessments and management was gained through working in Ontario, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey. She has more than 7 years of experience, including 4 years with the Ministry of Natural Resources where she was involved in multiple research projects including data sampling for the assessment of watershed impacts on the presence of forest buffers.

Jennifer’s experience of managing trees in an urban setting and her understanding of the development process provides clients with the necessary measures required for project development. She introduces clients to the importance of retaining trees in our community through various methods of tree management. Her personable nature allows her to communicate tree management issues between stakeholders with understanding and reconciliation. Jennifer’s experience conducting tree removals, pruning, stump grinding, and fertilizer and pesticide application while working in the tree care industry has given her an understanding of reasonable applications of tree management throughout various stages of a project.
ARBORICULTURE &
THE PROJECT LIFE CYCLE

Stantec provides tree management solutions and consulting services, from the planning phase throughout the construction process and beyond.

Planning
The first step in any development or restoration situation is to conduct a site analysis. This would incorporate a general overview of vegetation onsite and include an inventory of trees. Inventories can be as detailed as individual tree assessments to as broad as entire woodland assessments. Once an understanding of the condition of the trees on a proposed project site has been established, strategies for tree preservation are explored. Preliminary site planning is a crucial step in the project process as it can identify if there are areas on the site that would not be permitted or can be managed for project construction or development due to the existing vegetation type.

Design
The design phase of a project will utilize the Tree Inventory Report to identify tree impacts as part of a Tree Management Plan. The plan allows clear identification of tree areas that will be retained and protected with tree protection fencing. The plan also provides construction management practices for working around trees including tree root management. This also gives the Arborists an opportunity to be involved in public meetings to discuss tree management, to answer questions, and provide win-win solutions for our clients.
Construction

Stantec Arborists apply their knowledge to the construction process to ensure that projects effectively balance the economic, social, and environmental factors of tree management. Our experienced professionals develop vegetation management programs for implementation on a regional, community, and site specific scale. Onsite guidance is provided to tree removal contractors and onsite review of tree protection fencing to provide required certification. Root management is also important to include during the construction process to prevent damage to tree’s health and prevent compromising a tree’s structural integrity.

Maintenance

Upon, but not limited to, the completion of construction, retained trees may not be in the same condition as they were during the preliminary assessment. Identifying hazard trees before a development is open to the public is essential to ensuring a safe environment for people and property.
OUR SERVICES

Arborist Report/General Vegetation Inventory/Class EA
An overall site report that identifies tree inventory, including rare or endangered species, and vegetative concerns to aid in preliminary site plan development.

Tree Management/Preservation Plan
An essential report for acquiring the appropriate approvals for development and construction, it outlines strategies for impact mitigation and management of trees within the proposed development/construction area.

Edge Management/Edge Rehabilitation Plan
A plan focused specifically on the assessment and management of woodland edges.

Woodland Assessment Report
A report that assesses whether a tree stand would be classified as “woodland” based on Regional By-laws.

Tree Clearing Review
Provides onsite monitoring during tree removals within public and environmentally sensitive areas.

Litigation Report
An assessment of impacted vegetation and the determination of financial value of damaged species.

Certified Butternut Assessment and Permitting
Performed by a Certified Butternut Health Assessor, this required assessment by the Ministry of Natural Resources will determine how this endangered species needs to be managed throughout the project life cycle.

Hazard Tree Assessment
A risk assessment report of trees to identify the hazard potential to people and property.

Public Information Centers
Certified Arborists participate in public meetings to discuss project impacts on trees and address public concerns.

Peer Review
A third party review on projects, including reports and site analysis.

Construction Administration
Includes contract administration services, site inspection services, post-construction tree monitoring and evaluation, and Construction Impact Analysis.
OUR PROJECTS

University of Waterloo Northwest Campus

Stantec provided a Tree Preservation Report for the future expansion of the campus student residence.

The project included a detailed inventory of trees on the property, identifying locations of tree protection fences, and working with the project grading design engineers on preserving trees in areas adjacent to future development. The project also included managing the preservation of nine endangered Butternut trees by implementing a buffer width designated by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

Vista Hills – Comm.ESPA

A Tree Management Report was provided to the client for a sanitary sewer installation through the protected Columbia Forest in Waterloo.

The report included managing tree removals for clearing of future borehole drilling, monitoring borehole drilling within the forest adjacent to retained trees, a Butternut Health Assessment and tree removal approval by the MNR, a detailed tree inventory, and a Forest Edge Management Plan.
Scott Property

Preparing for a litigation, Stantec provided a Tree Inventory and Assessment of trees that were removed on adjacent property resulting in a depreciation of the client’s property value. Stantec was able to determine that the trees removed were part of a woodland, as defined in the County’s Tree By-law, and thus leading them to seek compensation for the loss in value of their property.

Stantec was also involved in preparing a Buffer Planting Plan on the perimeter of our client’s property as part of the request for compensation. This plan included a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees on the property boundary for immediate screening, and nucleolus cell planting for the start of regeneration.

Lutherwood – Benjamin Road

Stantec provided multiple services on this building and parking expansion project. A General Vegetation Inventory provided guidance early on in project design to aid in retaining the highest number and quality of trees within this heavily treed site, and also with respect to maintaining a buffer for the adjacent residences.

A Tree Management and Preservation Plan was produced to identify areas of removal and areas of retention. Stantec also conducted a Tree Clearing Review to monitor removals in close proximity to retained trees and to identify tree material to be left onsite for the decomposition in the retained natural wooded area.

Stantec was involved in the Public Information Centre, providing information to adjacent residences on the tree management that would be occurring. The public was pleased that the tree buffer would remain and the minimal disturbance that would occur.
Union Gas — Belvedere Road

Stantec prepared a Tree Protection Audit for residential services and gas main replacements.

Stantec was on site to observe hydrovacing pits of future gas main locations and provide onsite management of roots. The team provided recommendations along with an analysis of the impact of root loss. Our reports conformed to the Town of Oakville’s required standards.

Jaycee Trail

Stantec developed a Tree Conservation and Active Management Plan for the Jaycee Trail system in the Town of Milton. The heavily used public trail system is located in a wooded area in the downtown core of Milton.

Stantec provided the Town with a management plan identifying hazard trees and indicated key risk factors to address to ensure the safety of the trails. The report provided management solutions to an area that was heavily degraded due to informal dirt jumps, which lead to a decline in the wooded area. Management solutions included tree removals, soil management, and re-planting.

Hilltop Subdivision

Hilltop Subdivision is a prominent community development in Ayr, Ontario with mature forest areas. Stantec Engineers, Landscape Architects, and Regional Planners worked with the developer to ensure the lot configuration of the subdivision supported the preservation of the mature forested areas. A restrictive covenant limiting the removal of the trees was placed on the properties to ensure the preservation of the trees for generations to come.

To educate residents on the importance of environmental stewardship, a homeowner brochure was created to inform homeowners about the tree preservation efforts as well as brief sections on forest edge remediation, invasive plant species, and rear lot living fence plantings within Hilltop.
Contact Us

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