

## Vassalboro Tree Assessment

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is not a comprehensive recommendation or strategy for dealing with the trees in Nichols, Oak Grove, Priest Hill, Union, Webber and Weeks cemeteries. Please refer to the health and risk spreadsheets for a comprehensive list of issues.

The trees are identified with pink flags. Each flag has a number that corresponds to the report. Yellow ribbons indicated immediate action should be taken. Someone has removed many of the flags that I originally installed. As of Sunday, March 15, 2026, I replaced the missing flags. There are photos that will assist in identifying each tree, should the flags be removed. I highly recommend creating metal tags, with tree numbers, to be permanently attached to each tree.

Trees identified in the reports may fall outside the boundaries or fence and they may be within the easement of state roads. If the trees could impact stones or infrastructure, I added them to the list.

A general recommendation is to remove trees less than 5 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) that border the cemeteries. If the town has employees that can create a buffer, it will save money and lower risk by removing the trees before they become a future hazard. There is a lot of light in the cemeteries and it is only natural that new growth will grow towards the open areas.

**Nichols:**      23 Trees Identified  
                     7 Immediate Action  
                     4 Remove 4 Trees (17.39%)

| Priority Number | Tree Number | Action - Budget \$9,000 +/-                                |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6               | 14          | Reduce canopy. Top 14 feet of the tree is dead.            |
| 5               | 16          | <b>Removal</b>                                             |
| 7               | 17          | Cable to extend life of tree and reduce risk               |
| 4               | 19          | <b>Remove</b> - Profound lean and questionable root system |
| 3               | 20          | <b>Remove</b> one side - Rotten and leaning into fence -   |

|   |    |                                                                        |
|---|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 21 | <b>Removal</b> - Tree is pulling up the fence - 5 minute cut to ground |
| 2 | 22 | Branch - Tree only has one limb over the fence that is a threat        |

### **Oak Grove**

25 Trees

3 Action Items, all removals (12%)

| Priority Number | Tree Number | Action - Budget \$2,500                                                                                    |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3               | 12          | Risk is to anyone walking near it - easy removal                                                           |
| 2               | 13          | Risk is to anyone walking near it - easy removal                                                           |
| 1               | 18          | One side of the pine tree has a large hole at 30 feet, strong lean toward cemetery. Remove side with hole. |

### **Priest Hill**

14 Trees

Only recommendation is to remove the side of tree #12 that threatens the cemetery. Budget \$1,500. Many trees are hollow and in poor condition but don't pose a risk to the area inside the cemetery.

### **Union Cemetery**

24 Trees

14 Action Items

9 Removals (39%)

| Priority Number | Tree Number | Action - Budget \$40,000 +/- depending on scope of work |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 10              | 3           | Remove center leader - rotten                           |

|    |    |                                                                                                                                                  |
|----|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7  | 4  | Cable - to extend life and reduce risk                                                                                                           |
| 8  | 5  | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 9  | 7  | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 11 | 8  | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 1  | 10 | Extremely dangerous oak. Don't underestimate the weak union and crack. The large canopy is ready to fail! Probably best done from a spider lift. |
| 6  | 12 | Cable - to extend life and reduce risk                                                                                                           |
| 14 | 13 | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 2  | 14 | Almost Dead - needs to be done ASAP or it will be much more expensive to remove                                                                  |
| 12 | 16 | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 3  | 18 | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 13 | 20 | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |
| 5  | 22 | Cable - to extend life and reduce risk - remove large hanger                                                                                     |
| 4  | 23 | Remove due to advanced deterioration                                                                                                             |

## Webber Cemetery

### 2 Trees

Tree number 1 is a massive maple. It should be removed. However, the cost would be in excess of \$7,000.00, if you focus on just the canopy and ignore the trunk of the tree and large leader that leans away from the cemetery. Money could be saved by reducing the canopy and reducing stress on the tree. However, the cost of reduction will still be thousands of dollars because of the advanced rot and location.

Tree number 2 is a leaning ash. The lean is profound. The roots appear to be unstable. Removing the ash while working on the maple is advised.

## Weeks Cemetery

4 Trees

1 removal

| Priority Number | Tree Number | Action and Budget (\$3,000 +/-)                                                                         |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1               | 1           | Maple with the whole canopy facing the neighbors building. Removing a 10 - 12 large branches would help |
| 3               | 2           | Remove right leader- the rest of the tree is leaning away                                               |
| 2               | 3           | Remove the only branch left... leave the trunk to save money                                            |

There is a significant amount of work that needs to be performed at the cemeteries. I would prioritize Union Cemetery tree 10, 14 and 18 and Trimming Tree Number 1 in Weeks Cemetery.

Based on a \$15,000 annual cemetery budget the first 5 years will be devoted to the highlighted work on each sheet.

Trees with Sparse Canopies, Dead Branches, Hangers, Cracks, Weak Attachments, Dead or Missing Bark, Cavities and holes, Heartwood Decay and Medium and High Loads on Defects should be continuously monitored. They likely require attention over the next 10 years.

| Union - Tree #    | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 10  | 11  | 12    | 13    | 14     | 15    | 16  | 17  | 18    | 19  | 20    | 21    | 22    | 23    | 24    |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| SPECIES           | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple | oak | oak | maple | maple | cherry | maple | ash | oak | cedar | ash | maple | maple | maple | maple | maple |
| DBH               | 27    | 24    | 33    | 36    | 30    | 31    | 48    | 38    | 34    | 44  | 40  | 28    | 16    | 29     | 25    | 30  | 36  | 20    | 28  | 26    | 31    | 39    | 69    | 43    |
| Foliage           |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| 1 - none          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       | x     | x      |       | x   |     | x     |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| 2 - seasonal      | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     | x   | x   | x     |       |        | x     |     | x   |       | x   | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     |
| 3 - normal        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| 4 - choloratic    |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| 5 - necrotic      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| Insect Damage     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| Crown: 1- sparse  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | x     |       |     |     |       |       | x      |       | x   |     | x     |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| 2 - normal        |       |       |       | x     | x     | x     | x     |       | x     | x   | x   | x     | x     |        |       |     | x   |       | x   | x     | x     | x     | x     | x     |
| 3- dense          | x     | x     | x     |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        | x     | x   |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| Dead Branches     |       |       | x     |       | x     |       | x     | x     | x     | x   | x   | x     | x     | x      | x     |     | x   | x     | x   |       |       | x     | x     | x     |
| Hangers           | x     | x     | x     |       |       |       |       |       | x     |     |     |       |       |        | x     |     |     |       |     |       |       | x     |       |       |
| Cracks            |       | x     |       |       | x     |       | x     | x     |       | x   |     | x     |       |        | x     |     |     | x     |     | x     |       |       | x     |       |
| Galls             |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       | x   |     |       |     |       |       |       |       |       |
| Burls             |       |       | x     |       |       |       |       |       |       |     |     |       |       |        |       |     |     |       |     |       |       | x     | x     |       |
| Weak Attach       |       |       |       |       | x     |       | x     | x     |       | x   |     |       |       | x      |       | x   |     | x     |     |       |       | x     | x     |       |
| Dead/Missing Bark |       |       | x     | x     |       |       | x     | x     |       | x   |     |       |       | x      |       | x   |     | x     |     | x     | x     | x     | x     |       |

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| Union           |             | 1  | 2  | 3                    | 4     | 5 | 6  | 7  | 8 | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12    | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22            | 23 | 24 |
|-----------------|-------------|----|----|----------------------|-------|---|----|----|---|----|----|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|
| failure         | IMPROBABLE  | x  | x  |                      |       |   | x  |    |   | x  |    | x  |       |    |    | x  |    | x  |    |    |    |    |               |    |    |
|                 | POSSIBLE    |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    | x     |    |    |    |    |    | x  |    |    |    |               |    | x  |
|                 | PROBABLE    |    |    | x                    | x     |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       | x  |    |    |    |    | x  |    | x  | x  |               |    |    |
|                 | IMMINENT    |    |    |                      |       | x |    | x  | x |    | x  |    |       |    | x  |    | x  |    |    |    |    |    | x             | x  |    |
| impact          | VERY LOW    |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |    |    |
|                 | LOW         |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    | x  |    |    |    |               |    |    |
|                 | MEDIUM      | x  | x  | x                    |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    | x     |    | x  |    |    | x  |    |    |    | x  | x             |    | x  |
|                 | HIGH        |    |    |                      | x     | x | x  | x  | x | x  | x  | x  |       | x  |    | x  | x  |    |    | x  | x  |    |               | x  |    |
| conseq          | NEGLIBLE    |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |               |    |    |
|                 | MINOR       |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       | x  |    |    |    |    | x  |    |    | x  |               |    |    |
|                 | SIGNIFICANT | x  | x  |                      |       | x |    |    | x |    |    |    | x     |    | x  |    |    | x  |    |    | x  |    | x             |    |    |
|                 | SEVERE      |    |    | x                    | x     |   | x  | x  |   | x  | x  | x  |       |    |    | x  | x  |    |    | x  |    |    |               | x  | x  |
| IMPACTED STONES |             | 10 | 10 | 30                   | 30    | 5 | 30 | 30 | 3 | 30 | 50 | 70 | 10    | 2  | 15 | 20 | 15 | 20 | 3  | 10 | 6  | 3  | 15            | 60 | 20 |
|                 |             |    |    | remove center leader | cable |   |    |    |   |    |    |    | cable |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | cable         |    |    |
|                 |             |    |    |                      |       |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | remove hanger |    |    |

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| Oak G. Tree #    | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5     | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11   | 12    | 13    | 14   | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18   | 19   | 20   | 21  | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25  |   |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|---|
| SPECIES          | oak | oak | ash | ash | locus | oak | oak | oak | oak | oak | pine | maple | maple | pine | oak | oak | oak | pine | pine | pine | oak | pine | pine | pine | ash |   |
| DBH              | 30  | 36  | 9   | 10  | 8     | 10  | 17  | 11  | 18  | 12  | 19   | 22    | 26    | 33   | 15  | 31  | 36  | 34   | 24   | 31   | 26  | 31   | 30   | 25   | 16  |   |
| Foliage          |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| 1 - none         |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      | x     |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| 2 - seasonal     | x   | x   | x   | x   | x     | x   | x   | x   | x   | x   |      |       | x     |      | x   | x   | x   |      |      |      | x   |      |      |      |     | x |
| 3 - normal       |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     | x    |       |       | x    |     |     |     | x    | x    | x    |     | x    | x    | x    |     |   |
| 4 - choloratic   |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| 5 - necrotic     |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| Insect Damage    |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       | x     |      |     | x   |     | x    |      |      | x   |      |      |      |     |   |
| Crown: 1- sparse |     |     |     |     |       |     |     | x   |     |     |      | x     | x     |      |     |     |     |      |      |      | x   |      |      |      |     |   |
| 2 - normal       | x   | x   | x   | x   | x     | x   | x   |     | x   | x   | x    |       |       |      |     | x   |     |      | x    | x    |     | x    | x    | x    | x   |   |
| 3- dense         |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       | x    | x   |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| Dead Branches    | x   | x   |     |     |       |     | x   | x   | x   | x   |      | x     | x     | x    | x   | x   |     | x    | x    | x    | x   | x    | x    | x    | x   |   |
| Hangers          |     |     |     |     |       | x   |     |     |     |     |      |       | x     |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| Cracks           |     | x   |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      | x   |      |      |      |     |   |
| Galls            |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| Burls            |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      |     |      |      |      |     |   |
| Weak Attach      |     |     |     |     |       |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |      |     |     |     |      |      |      | x   |      |      |      |     |   |

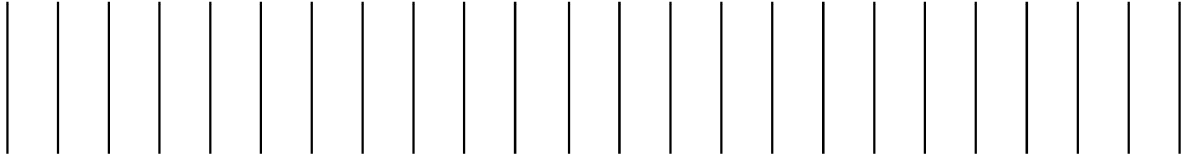


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| NICHOLS                        |             | 1 | 2  | 3 | 4    | 5     | 6 | 7 | 8  | 9    | 10        | 11 | 12 | 13        | 14           | 15 | 16 | 17    | 18    | 19 | 20 | 21    | 22 | 23     | 24 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---|----|---|------|-------|---|---|----|------|-----------|----|----|-----------|--------------|----|----|-------|-------|----|----|-------|----|--------|----|
| failure                        | IMPROBABLE  | x |    | x |      | x     | x | x |    |      | x         | x  | x  |           |              | x  |    |       |       |    | x  |       |    |        |    |
|                                | POSSIBLE    |   | x  |   | x    |       |   |   | x  | x    |           |    |    | x         |              |    | x  | x     |       |    |    |       |    |        |    |
|                                | PROBABLE    |   |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           | x            |    |    |       | x     | x  |    |       |    |        |    |
|                                | IMMINENT    |   |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    |    |       |       |    |    | x     | x  | x      |    |
| impact                         | VERY LOW    | x |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    |    |       |       |    |    |       |    |        |    |
|                                | LOW         |   |    | x |      | x     |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    |    |       |       |    |    | x     |    |        |    |
|                                | MEDIUM      |   |    |   | x    |       | x | x | x  | x    | x         | x  | x  | x         | x            | x  |    | x     |       |    |    |       | x  | x      |    |
|                                | HIGH        |   | x  |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    | x  | x     |       | x  | x  |       |    |        |    |
| conseq                         | NEGLIBLE    | x |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    |    |       |       |    |    |       |    |        |    |
|                                | MINOR       |   |    | x |      |       | x | x |    |      |           | x  | x  |           |              |    |    |       | x     |    |    | x     |    |        |    |
|                                | SIGNIFICANT |   | x  |   | x    | x     |   |   | x  | x    | x         |    |    | x         | x            | x  |    |       |       |    | x  |       | x  | x      |    |
|                                | SEVERE      |   |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           |              |    | x  | x     |       | x  |    |       |    |        |    |
| IMPACTED STONES, FENCES, ROADS |             | 0 | 15 | 0 | Road | Fence | 0 | 0 | 12 | Road | 5 & Fence | 0  | 3  | 4 & Fence | 10           | 10 | 10 | 15    | Fence | 20 | 8  | Fence | 3  | 3      |    |
|                                |             |   |    |   |      |       |   |   |    |      |           |    |    |           | Crown Reduce |    |    | Cable |       |    |    |       |    | branch |    |

| Nichols Tree #   | 1   | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6    | 7    | 8    | 9    | 10  | 11    | 12    | 13   | 14  | 15  | 16    | 17    | 18    | 19   | 20  | 21     | 22    | 23   | 24 |  |  |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-------|-------|------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|------|-----|--------|-------|------|----|--|--|
| SPECIES          | oak | pine | pine | pine | pine | pine | pine | pine | pine | oak | maple | maple | pine | oak | oak | maple | maple | maple | pine | oak | poplar | maple | pine |    |  |  |
| DBH              | 17  | 43   | 19   | 32   | 21   | 36   | 18   | 35   | 33   | 43  | 34    | 26    | 43   | 42  | 37  | 35    | 42    | 29    | 43   | 26  | 24     | 19    | 36   |    |  |  |
| Foliage          |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| 1 - none         |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| 2 - seasonal     | x   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | X   | x     | x     |      | X   | X   | x     | x     | x     |      | x   | x      | x     |      |    |  |  |
| 3 - normal       |     |      | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    |     |       |       | x    |     |     |       |       |       | x    |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| 4 - choloratic   |     | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| 5 - necrotic     |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| Insect Damage    |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       | x    |    |  |  |
| Crown: 1- sparse |     | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       | x     |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| 2 - normal       | x   |      | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    | x    | X   | X     | X     | x    | x   | x   | x     | x     |       | x    | x   | x      | x     |      |    |  |  |
| 3- dense         |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| Dead Branches    |     | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | X   | X     |       |      | x   | x   | x     | x     | x     | x    | x   | x      | x     | x    |    |  |  |
| Hangers          |     | x    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | X   |       |       |      |     | x   |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| Cracks           |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     | x     |       | x     |      |     |        | x     | x    |    |  |  |
| Galls            |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| Burls            |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       |       |       |      |     |        |       |      |    |  |  |
| Weak Attach      |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |       |       |      |     |     |       | x     | x     |      |     |        |       | x    |    |  |  |

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**Plot Plan of Cemetery Trees:** <https://photos.app.goo.gl/kA8i6gN9UNjnsoRv5>

**Union:** Tree Location Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/uisevUoYWYnXK25dA>  
Cemetery Action Items Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/eCGULice56ivAsRC9>

**Webber:** Webber Cemetery Action Item Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/oZmcyBom1XeEHhJH7>

**Oak Grove:** Oak Grove Cemetery Tree Location Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Ggeyiiop87HiNJqH9>  
Oak Grove Cemetery Action Item Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wC31uRuZ4a34YqDH9>

**Priest Hill:** Cemetery Tree Location Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/qfoYXQwHjGK43efF9>

**Nichols:** Nichols Cemetery Tree Location Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/t3ehkvHUxZaiGMq26>  
Nichols Cemetery Action Item Photos:  
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Mu6bvLczxhDENSCK6>

**Weeks** Cemetery Action Item Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wP1ZVkAWfp7QtRwj9>

Weeks Tree Location Photo:





Priest Hill Action Item Photo:



Webber Cemetery Tree Location Photo