

Condition

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Table of Contents

Condition	3
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Condition

Reference Number:
MTAS-1367

The purpose of recording condition is to get a general idea of the health and potential hazard of the tree. Condition looks at insect and disease problems, structure of the tree's limbs, crown balance, foliage color (if available), trunk decay and missing bark, trunk flare wounds, estimate of life expectancy, growth (twig), dieback and other potential problems.

Assessment: Condition is usually converted to a numeric code relating to the factors mentioned. A common condition class system uses a 1 through 5 condition rating, with 1 being excellent condition. Other systems may use 1 through 10.

If the purpose of the inventory is to implement maintenance on the tree population, then recording the work needed is required. Work needed may include removal, light or extensive pruning, insect or disease treatment, or other intervention. If the purpose of the inventory is to evaluate tree hazard, then potential failure and potential target are subsets of the condition class that should be recorded.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

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