

HOW TO HIRE AN ARBORIST?

Like other living things, trees occasionally need professional care. Before hiring anyone to assess, care for, or remove trees from your property, consider taking the following steps:

- **Ask** for an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Certified arborists pass an exam covering a variety of aspects of tree care. You can find an ISA-certified arborist or verify a certification with the International Society of Arboriculture at www.treesaregood.org or the Georgia Arborist Association at www.georgiaarborist.org.
- **Verify** that the company carries both worker's and liability insurance.
- **Ask** for a written bid or proposal before hiring a tree company. Never accept a verbal estimate.
- **Address** details such as scheduling, debris disposal, stump grinding, equipment access, and road, lane, or sidewalk closures.

PERMIT REQUIRED: Please note that most reputable tree companies will know that the City of Atlanta requires a permit to remove trees (including hardwood trees greater than or equal six inches in diameter and pines greater than or equal twelve inches in diameter **on private property** and **all trees on public property**.)

PRIVATE PROPERTY: Homeowners and tree companies may request a permit to remove dead, dying, and hazardous trees from private property, free of charge online at www.aflantaga.gov under Department of City Planning, Arborist Division, or at 404-330-6874.

PUBLIC PROPERTY: To report a tree in the **right-of-way, in a park, on other public property** that requires maintenance, please contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at parkscustomersevice@aflantaga.gov or 404-546-6813.

