



October 17, 2024

Island Pointe Owners Assoc.
Attn: Mr. Warren Ludvigsen
152 Canyon Road
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Re: Forest needs of the Island Pointe Resort Property

Assignment

Provide a walking tour throughout the property with Board members assessing health of the trees on site, looking for any potential threats to the overall health of the forest on this property. Provide recommendations via a written report to promote health of the trees on this property, and proactively manage potential risk.

Methods

I visited the site on October 16, 2024, to meet with Board Members and toured the property discussing forestry management options. Using our web-based inventory program, I located individual trees that require removal or safety pruning due to health, structural, or pest concerns.

Observations

Overall, the trees on this site have good health and ok structure. The stand of trees is an even-aged white pine plantation with some red pine and norway spruce mixed in. The association has been replanting trees as they are removed, laying the foundation for a new generation of trees to establish throughout the property.

During our walk through the property, I observed the 2020-2023 management recommendations were followed to address the immediate tree hazards. This year, I identified 6 trees on property for removal due to disease, declining health, or whole tree death. I observed the association took steps to start "safety pruning" deadwood around high-use areas such as the beach. Pruning cuts on these trees can be improved, I have included a diagram of proper pruning cuts within this report that demonstrates how a proper pruning cut should be made. I believe the association should continue to focus on pruning deadwood in lower tree crowns to preserve safe use of this property.

Recommendations

Removals



Tree Id	Common Name	DBH
57	Eastern White Pine	23
56	Eastern White Pine	16
55	Black Walnut	17
54	Eastern White Pine	18
53	Eastern White Pine	2
52	Eastern White Pine	18
51	Paper Birch	23

I believe Tree ID 53, 3" Eastern White Pine, just southwest of the beach is infected with White Pine Blister Rust. This tree should be removed from the property and disposed of sanitarly (i.e. burned). This tree is highlighted on the above map image.

During our tour, we identified a dead black walnut tree that has failed from the bordering Village property and is leaning against trees surrounding the East parking lot. I recommend contacting the Village to remove this tree by year-end as it could fail into the parking lot.

A future removal consideration on site should be thinning of the red pine plantings by 30%-50%. Thinning these tree stands through selective tree removal will allocate greater resources (air, water, nutrients) to the remaining red pines and encourage better health of the tree stand.

Replanting

As trees are removed, I feel the association can do a better job of replanting with a more diverse selection of “evergreens”. The following species will help maintain the aesthetics of a forested cabin property, while diversifying the surrounding forest landscape and prevent excessive loss of trees to any singular pest:

Tall		Short	
Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>	Ames Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> ‘Ames’
Serbian Spruce	<i>Picea omorika</i>	Sea Green Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> ‘Sea Green’
		Trautman Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> ‘Trautman’
Scots Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Chalet Swiss Stone Pine	<i>Pinus cembra</i> ‘Chalet’

During our tour, I discussed the importance of not “over-stocking” this site with new trees. We discussed the long-term impacts of the current density of large trees on this site, and how that may be negatively impacting overall tree health due to a high number of trees sharing a finite amount of resources. I recommend replanting 1-2 trees for every 3-5 removals. New tree plantings should be focused on open spaces within the forest stand where the sky is visible through the forest canopy.

Tree Preservation during Construction

During this visit, the entrance raised planter surrounding a large pine tree was being replaced. Once the new planter material is in place, I recommend hand pruning exposed root ends and backfilling with sand and black topsoil. New roots will develop from the cut root ends to support future tree health.

Association members described a potential new cabin construction project on the south end of the property. I kept my recommendations basic for now as the association investigates requirements for new construction:

1. Communicate that the Association wishes to preserve tree health with project planners early on during construction planning.
2. Include surrounding trees with the site survey as construction plans are drafted.
3. Trees require a tree protection zone (TPZ) that will be guarded to prevent soil disturbance during construction. As the site plan is drafted, we can determine which trees should be removed and which trees could be preserved and work preservation requirements in construction planning.

This project is an evolving process. We will make ourselves available to assist future planning as it relates to identifying tree removals and making recommendations for tree preservation.

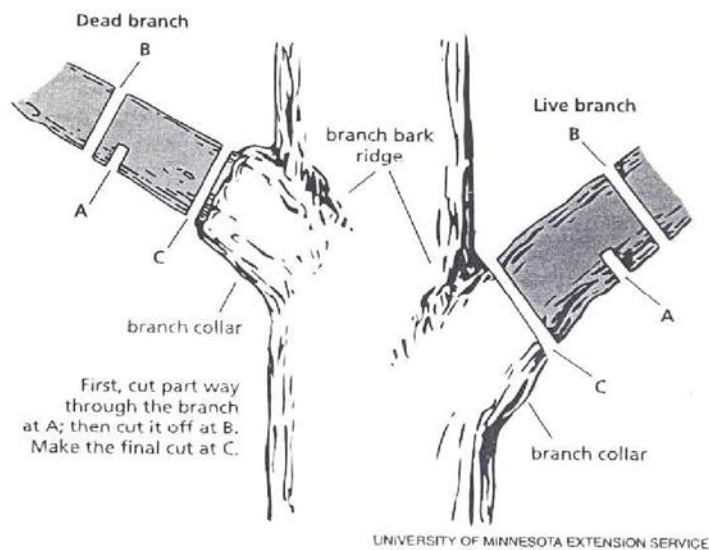
Safety Pruning

My recommendations for safety pruning on this property remain the same as in years past. The association addressed safety pruning adjacent to the beach. They can continue through other areas of the property as budget allows, removing large deadwood that could fail and strike people/property below.

Other Pruning

During our tour, we discussed the opportunity for additional pruning of white pines that border the Southeast parking lot. I believe these trees can sustain pruning of lower canopy branches to provide additional clearance to individuals using this lot and the equipment needed for snow removal during the winter. I pointed out that members should focus on pruning the lowest layers of branches adjacent to the parking lot first to determine if the clearance is adequate. If additional clearance is needed, wait ~2-3 years before additional pruning to allow trees to respond to these pruning cycles.

Proper Pruning Technique Diagram



While on site, I reviewed a request to prune the white pine off the corner of unit #53. The request was to prune half of the tree over hanging the unit. In my opinion, this type of pruning would create unnecessary and large wounds on the tree that could impact the future structural stability of the tree. I did not observe any current conditions of the tree that warrant this type of pruning or warrant immediate removal of this tree. I do not recommend pruning this tree as requested, I also do not recommend removing this tree.



Conclusions

The Island Pointe Resort property is a beautifully forested property that transports residents to that “up north” cabin. I was encouraged that management of hazardous trees is on track throughout the association. Continued proactive management will help preserve the beauty and safe use of this property. The age of most pines on this property is getting older, and individual tree mortality is expected. This will be beneficial to overall forest health. As individual trees die in the forest stand, that creates room in the canopy for other trees to grow, achieving a balance of young and old trees.

Certification of Performance

I, Nathan M. Schuettpelz, certify:

- That I have personally inspected the tree/trees and property referred to in this report and have stated my findings accurately. The extent of the evaluation is stated in the above report and the Scope of Work;
- That I have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or the property that is the subject of this report and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;
- That the assessment, opinions and conclusions stated herein are my own and are based on current scientific procedures and facts;
- That my assessment, opinions and conclusions were developed and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted arboriculture practices;
- That my compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party nor upon the results if the assignment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any subsequent events.

I further certify that I am an ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist and International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist and Tree Risk Assessment Qualified.

Signed:



Nathan Schuettpelz, RCA # 732
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST WI-0887AM