

April 9, 2021

Email: [manderson@townoflakelure.com](mailto:manderson@townoflakelure.com)

City Council  
Town of Lake Lure  
2948 Memorial Hwy.  
Lake Lure, NC 28746

**Re: Tree Removal Requests at 2072 Memorial Hwy**

Dear Members of City Council:

I respectfully request approval to remove a problematic tree from my property at 2072 Memorial Highway. The tree in question is a very mature and very large (~80-100ft), split-trunk Poplar at the end of its life span. It is clear the damage the tree has already done and the risk it poses of serious damage to not only our property but others around.

Justification of request:

- 1) The tree is at the end of its lifespan and at high risk of falling. Large branches have already come down on several occasions and there is visible crack expanding at the split.
- 2) The tree is very large (80-100ft with a ~32in diameter base) and could destroy not only our structures (home, boat house) but those of several nearby homes. Of greater concern, if individuals were inside ours or neighboring structures, this tree is of great enough size, it could lead to injury or possibly even casualties.
- 3) The split trunk increases the risk of failure considerably. Should one of the trunks fall the challenge of removing the second trunk safely becomes much greater
- 4) Should either portion of the split trunk of the tree fall it will seriously damage the shoreline and likely cause significant erosion of the area.
- 5) The tree could fall into the lake resulting in a blockage of the cove for others and a significant challenge to clear the debris.
- 6) The tree has already caused, and is continuing to cause, visible damage to the structure of the building and walkway. The walls of the main house have developed cracks and the walkway between the road and the lake has heaved up in several locations. The basement floor has significant cracks and has heaved as well.
- 7) The root system is putting the delicate septic drain field at risk for failure.

In summary, the damage already done and the risk of significant, near term additional damage the tree presents easily outweighs the benefits the tree provides. As an Eagle Scout, I promise you, I am a tree lover! Unfortunately, this one has outlived its usefulness and poses a danger to our home, family, and neighbors.

The tree will be removed by Epperson Tree service, an experienced and licensed tree business. Approval to use the parking area of our neighbors, needed for the work, has been received.

The below image indicates the location of the tree to be removed (in RED). The GREEN area

indicates the location of the replacement tree(s) to be planted. There are also a few pictures to show the size and risky location of the tree.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in reviewing this request and I look forward to the Council's approval. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

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