



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

200 N. Hill Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

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<https://www.poplargoil.gov/>

I contacted the following nurseries: **Myers Tree Farm, Ack Ack Nursery, S&H Nursery, J. Carlson Growers, and Wirkus Nursery.**

- **S&H** and **Wirkus** do not have any trees available over 6–7 feet. Since my goal was to find an option comparable in size to the NBFD3 quoted tree, I did not obtain pricing for these alternatives at the time. However, I can follow up to request pricing if we decide to pursue a smaller option—though I would anticipate the cost to fall within the \$500–\$700 range.
- **Myers** and **J. Carlson** both have trees in the 14–15' range, priced at \$1,260.
- **Myers Tree Farm** has 7-8' trees priced around \$700 depending on the actual size.
- **J. Carlson** has provided a quote for a 7' tree for \$520.

J. Carlson has a 14' tree already dug and ready for transport. We would need to pick it up and install it ourselves, as their installation is handled by a third party and is significantly more expensive. Since we've never installed a tree larger than 7', John has offered to visit and advise us on hole depth and installation. I've attached the email quote above.

Myers offers both pickup and delivery/installation options. Their installation service is available for an additional \$275. I reached out again yesterday to request a formal quote via email but have not yet received a response.

Ack Ack Nursery does have a couple of trees in the 14' range but hasn't provided pricing. They also have a larger selection of 6–7' trees priced around \$700.

Recommendation: Based on the available information, I recommend going with J. Carlson if the Village plans to purchase the tree directly (regardless of size) rather than reimbursing NBFD3 for the tree they received a quote for.

Regarding the portion of property with the spruce trees, it is an area that we have consistently mowed, treated, and maintained since I began working here, and likely for an even longer period prior to that.

We have also utilized that tree for the annual Christmas tree lighting event since 2021, without any complaints. During preparations for the most recent event, my staff and I observed several concerning issues with the tree. The needles on the lower half of the tree were no longer viable beyond the first foot or two of each branch. Additionally, the branches appeared sagging, brittle, and structurally compromised. Upon closer inspection, we identified blackish mold spots

on the trunk, indicating an infection. Mold spores from spruce trees are known to spread to nearby vegetation, potentially causing disease in other trees and plant life. Due to these factors and the risk of further spreading, we made the decision to remove the tree.

Sincerely,

David Howe

Director of Public Works