

## ***Haddon Township Shade Tree Commission Sidewalk Repair/Replacement Guidelines***

**Purpose of this Packet: To provide homeowners and sidewalk contractors guidance when replacing or repairing sidewalks in Haddon Township**

### **Modification/Realignment of Existing Sidewalks**

#### **Option #1 Ramping over tree roots**

If tree roots are heaving the sidewalk and making an uneven walking surface, raise the appropriate concrete slab to even out the surface. This can be done by excavating under the appropriate edge and placing a small bottle jack under the sidewalk. Place a piece of wood between the end of the bottle jack and the sidewalk to distribute the weight and jack the sidewalk up to even out the walking surface. Backfill soil or stones under the sidewalk to hold the position of the raised sidewalk and remove bottle jack

Note: Maximum grade allowed is 5% slope. This is equivalent to a one inch change in vertical elevation over a 20 inch horizontal distance.



Ramping over tree roots

#### **Option #2: Increase growing space by cutting and removing concrete**

Cut and remove the restricting portions of sidewalk with a concrete saw and sledge hammer and remove the pieces. Ideally, this should be done before the root flair begins to raise the entire concrete slab, thereby preventing cracking.



## Concrete Cutting and Removal

### Option #3 Concrete/Asphalt Patching or Edge Grinding to Even Sidewalk Surface



Edge Grinding\* (the light portions of the Sidewalk have been ground down)

Concrete Patching (Concrete has been added to even out the raised sidewalk edge)

\*Check with Township Compliance Officer, Betty Band, 856-854-1176, extn. 4125, before using this method.

## Sidewalk Replacement

### Option #1: Curving sidewalk around trunk



Minimum sidewalk width is 30 inches. The left edge of sidewalk can also be curved to maintain minimum width distance.

**Option #2: Pavers set in sand can be used instead of concrete.**



**What If Root Cutting is Unavoidable?**

**Guidelines for Root Cutting**

In the event that root removal is required to provide level sidewalk installation, the following specifications shall apply

- For any tree less than fifteen inches in diameter, roots less than two inches in diameter may safely be removed.
- For any tree over fifteen inches in diameter, roots less than three inches in diameter may safely be removed.
- Roots must be cut cleanly with sharpened tools.
- Roots must be protected from drying out while work is going on
- Mulch and water well afterwards

**What about Root Barriers?**

Root Barriers are installed between the tree and the sidewalk to provide a physical barrier to future root growth. This forces the roots to grow deeper, thereby helping to reduce future impact on sidewalks. The Shade Tree Commission should be contacted prior to root barrier installation.

Any questions regarding recommendations and guidelines contained in this packet can be directed to the Haddon Township Shade Tree Commission  
Phone # 854-1176 x 4200