

YOUR GUIDE TO Trees



We expect you to cut your grass regularly and prune all hedges and trees to maintain a neat and tidy length.

What do I need to do with the trees in my garden?

Trees smaller than three metres in height are your responsibility to maintain and keep healthy.

Can I plant a tree in my garden?

No – not without getting permission from Community Gateway first. The decision to plant a new tree is not a simple one, because it will have implications on all sorts of things like your neighbours, overhead wires, pipes and other infrastructure.

Are tenants allowed to cut trees down?

No – you cannot cut any trees down. Just like the restrictions that apply inside your home, you cannot cut any trees down without first asking our permission and obtaining approval.

Your tenancy agreement states: 'You must not alter or improve your home so as to affect the structure or exterior of the property, or remove, alter or replace any of the fixtures and fittings in the property without our written permission.'

My neighbour's tree is coming over the fence into our garden – am I allowed to cut it back?

You're allowed to trim any branches or leaves that come over the border into your garden – but you can only cut it off at the point at which it encroaches into your garden ensuring any pruning work does not have a detrimental impact on the tree's overall health.

What tree maintenance work does CGA undertake itself in tenants' gardens?

We will come and maintain your trees if they're three metres (or more) in height. Anything shorter is your responsibility to prune and manage in the appropriate ways: for example, it is good practice to make sure all trees, hedges and bushes do not obstruct a public right of way or creep over a fence or wall into a neighbour's garden.

How does CGA keep a track of all the trees on its land?

We keep a database of all the trees on our land and where exactly they are located. We make sure that all trees are inspected at least once every five years.

I'm having a problem with a tree in my garden. Can CGA help?

Yes, of course. Please contact Community Gateway as soon as possible if:

- A tree has blown over in high winds
- A tree is showing signs of disease
- A tree is growing close to your property
- A tree is attracting pests or nests

If you encounter any of these problems – or if you're ringing to get permission to plant a tree or cut one down – please contact us as soon as possible.

Call: **0800 953 0213 (option 1)**

Email: greencare@communitygateway.co.uk.

**community
gateway**

www.communitygateway.co.uk