



## Shady Arbor PLLC

I recommended one of two mitigation treatments. The treatment decision was based on my opinion of a tree's Condition or health. See Disclaimer below.

1. **Trees to Remove.** 90% or 1205 trees were killed or left in poor health by the drought. These trees were marked for removal using a diagonal orange paint stripe on the stem at eye level. There was also a spot placed at the stem base.
2. **Trees to Deadwood Prune.** 10% or 137 trees had deadwood in branches and tops. These trees were in good to fair health and were likely to recover from the drought. To mark these trees for deadwood pruning, stems were tied at eye level with blue ribbon flagging.

I thank you for this opportunity to help the City of Ridgeland mitigate the risk to public safety that was caused by drought-related damage to trees. If you have any questions about this information or find any errors or omissions, please give me a call. I will do my best to respond promptly.

Yours truly,



Stephen Dicke, Certified Arborist SO-5635A, International Society of Arboriculture

I would like to acknowledge my two Tree Evaluators for their help on this project.

Dennis Schiewe, retired forester. Dennis had 9 months of similar Tree Risk Assessment experience documenting Dutch Elm Disease killed trees in Denver, Colorado.

Chuck Grantham, Farm and Field Solutions LLC. Chuck is an ISA Certified Arborist with Tree Risk Assessment Qualification.

**Tree Risk Disclaimer.** A Level 1 Limited Visual Tree Risk Assessment was conducted. This was a one-sided visual assessment looking for trees that are likely to fail within one year. We looked carefully for dead trees and dead branches, but we may have missed internal defects, hidden defects high in trees, or underground problems. The time for our opinion of risk is 1 year. No guarantee of safety is provided. Tree risk is a snapshot in time and can change quickly as tree health deteriorates or as storms pass.