



To: Sarah Lawrence, Planner

From: Mark McDaniel, City Arborist

Re: Amendments to Tree List

Date: September 20, 2016

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Sarah,

Please remove the Aristocrat pear and Autumn Blaze maple from the current tree list.

The abundance of ornamental pear trees being planted within our community is of critical concern. There has been a recent phenomenon of ornamental pear cultivars crossing and creating an invasive wild population of hybrid Callery pear trees. These hybrid pear trees hold the potential to create a substantially negative economic and ecological impact on our community forest. Birds distribute the fruit and once established the Callery pear forms dense thickets that push out other plants including native species that can't tolerate the deep shade or compete for water, soil and space. There is already evidence of the spread of invasive wild pears in and around Carbondale, examples include, the property just north of Vic Koenig, which butts up to Jake Rendleman's farm and along east & west 13. The risks, especially given how this species spread outweigh its continued use as an approved tree. So, it is my recommendation that the Callery pear and all improved cultivars, which include the poplar Aristocrat, Cleveland Select, Redspire, Chanticleer, Bradford and the other 21 cultivars of the Callery pear are no longer viable trees and should be removed from the list.

The Autumn Blaze Maple is a cultivar and not a natural variety of maple trees, it is a cross between the Northern Red and Silver maple. The popularity of the tree has increased in the last 15 years, since the spread of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Communities, landscapers & developers are using the cultivar as a replacement for the loss of ash trees. The tree has a very fast growth rate, will grow relatively anywhere, and has the frequency of becoming top heavy as it matures, in which case if not trimmed properly can create structural problems resulting in wind, snow, & ice breakage. It is my recommendation that the Autumn Blaze maple be removed from our Tree list, because of reforestation efforts in such a manner as to create future pest and diversity problems due to current high populations.