Tips for Lobbying

- **KNOW YOUR ISSUE**
  Do your homework and learn the necessary background information. Know the official's stand on your issue.

- **PLAN FOR CONTACT**
  Make an appointment for a face-to-face meeting or attend a hearing.

- **BE PROFESSIONAL: BE BRIEF!**
  Limit issues and be focused on your goal. Explain why a tree should be saved. Have your questions ready.

- **IDENTIFY THE OPPOSITION**
  Find out who opposes your stand.

- **BE POSITIVE**
  Do not speak in negative terms. Thank the official or the commission for the opportunity to speak.

- **DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED**
  Don't give up! Some issues take longer to accomplish than others.

- **MAINTAIN A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP**
  Keep the door open and remain on friendly terms. You may not gain their support this time but might seek it on another issue in the future.

- **SEND A NOTE OF THANKS**
  After the meeting.

- **REMEMBER: BE PERSISTENT**

Do your Research

Review Town regulations before making an appointment with Agencies and Commissions: [www.greenwichct.gov](http://www.greenwichct.gov)

**PLANNING & ZONING**

Responsibilities include the review of applications:

- Subdivisions (2 or more lots)
- Resubdivisions
- Rezoning
- Site plans for residences in coastal areas or over 150K in volume
- Sedimentation & erosion control plans
- Municipal improvement requests
- Zoning regulation amendments
- Site plans for commercial development

**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY**

Wetlands & Watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to:

- An adequate supply of surface and underground water
- The existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life
- The protection of downstream properties
- The protection of water quality

**CONSERVATION**

The Greenwich Conservation Commission is an advisory board that assists the Town with planning and management of its natural and cultural resources.

**PARKS & RECREATION/ DIVISION OF TREES**

Town trees are on public lands, including parks, schools, town properties, and in the right-of-way easement at the front of private properties.

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**GREENWICH TREE CONSERVANCY**

A non-profit organization that preserves and enhances the tree and forest resources of Greenwich, Connecticut to benefit the community, its health and its quality of life.

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With thanks to: The League of Women Voters of Connecticut Education Fund, Inc.
This flow chart will help you determine which Town agency to contact to save a tree. More than one agency may be involved.

PRIVATE LAND

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY (IWWA) (203) 622-7736

Does the property have water-courses or wetlands?

Is the work within 100'-150' of the wetland or watercourse?

Is the work in open space or deed restricted land?

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (203) 622-7894

Does the property contain significant wildlife habitat, specimen trees or significant stands of trees?

Do the plans offer the potential for or is the property adjacent to a conservation zone?

Does the property have desirable features along roadways such as, stone walls, geological formations, and/or significant vegetation?

Is the property a potential subdivision or site plan? P&Z has some authority to protect trees under both the subdivision and site plan regulations.

Is there proposed clearcutting?

Does the property contain significant wildlife habitat, specimen trees or significant stands of trees?

Is there a potential for an open space plan?

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (203) 622-6461

Do the plans offer the potential for or is the property adjacent to a conservation zone?

According to the Plan of Conserv. & Dev. (POCD), preserving and enhancing the town’s urban forest is a desired goal. Will inappropriate tree removal impact that goal?

PUBLIC LAND

DEPT OF PARKS AND TREES (203) 622-7824
greenwichct.gov

Does the property have water-courses or wetlands?

Is the work within 100'-150' of the wetland or watercourse?

Is the work in open space or deed restricted land?

Check to see if there is a notice of a Tree Hearing that you can attend. If not, notify the Tree Warden with the address of the tree you are trying to protect. The Tree Warden will determine if the tree is a Town Tree. If so, you may attend the Tree Hearing and defend the tree.

Homeowners Ask:
How can I stop tree removal or clearcutting on a neighbor’s property?

Though the regulations are limited, ask yourself if any of the following will be impacted:

- Specimen trees or stands of trees?
- Designated scenic road vistas?
- A historic area?
- Adjacent open space?
- A particularly large property?
- Wetlands or watercourses?

If any of these will be impacted, then it is time to save a tree.