

You may have noticed dozens of dying trees along streets here in Jesse's Bluff. Most are 'Thundercloud' purple-leaved plum trees planted around 25 years ago, which is their normal lifespan. These trees are dying of old age, becoming hazards and eyesores. The Jesse's Bluff Home Owners Association met about this on February 11th. Seven HOA members attended and agreed to this plan:

- This spring the HOA will remove and replace dead or dying trees in the HOA-controlled property along North 5 Mile Road. Funds for this will come from the current HOA reserve balance.
- This spring, as trees come into leaf, the HOA board will conduct a count of dead or dying street trees in Jesse's Bluff. We would like your help in this, so please send addresses of dying street trees you see to the HOA board at this email address: treereplacement2025@gmail.com
- If you have dead or dying trees elsewhere in your yard that you also want to remove and replace at reasonable cost, or if you'd just like to get in on a group bargain for more trees, please send us your address and details on the number of trees to remove and/or the number of trees you'd like to buy.
- Once we have an inventory of trees to remove and trees to buy, the HOA will send out an RFP (request for proposal) to a few reputable tree service companies and nurseries, to get the best group pricing we can.
- For the new trees, we will offer a menu of options in longer-lived species of various sizes that work well in sidewalk strips (hardy, deciduous, fire-resistant species with less invasive roots). The RFP will ask for well-grown larger trees, not fragile whips, and ask that the price per tree will include sturdy stakes and tree ties to hold them upright for their first two years.
- We will then collect orders from homeowners. These orders will be passed on to the tree service company that submitted the best RFP bid. Homeowners will be responsible for paying the tree service company at the time of service.
- Planting and caring for your trees on your property is your responsibility, not the HOA's. Before planting, please check utility line locations by calling **811** or visiting callbeforeyoudig.org to determine safe planting spots.
- Those with dead or dying street trees who did not take advantage of the group purchasing deal will be notified by mail that the tree(s) must be removed by May 1, 2026.
- Trees are an important part of Jesse's Bluff, cooling our summers, saving money, shading sidewalks, adding to our neighborhood's value and beauty over time. Please help us keep Jesse's Bluff green.

The HOA is only responsible for trees in the HOA owned areas. It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain their own trees. It is the HOA's intent to try to play an active role in getting group pricing for the community in order to keep costs for each homeowner as low as possible.

The more homeowners that respond to the inventory that can be included in the RFP the better our pricing should be. To date we have heard from 8 homeowners about their tree inventory.