

CARE OF GRASS AND TREES

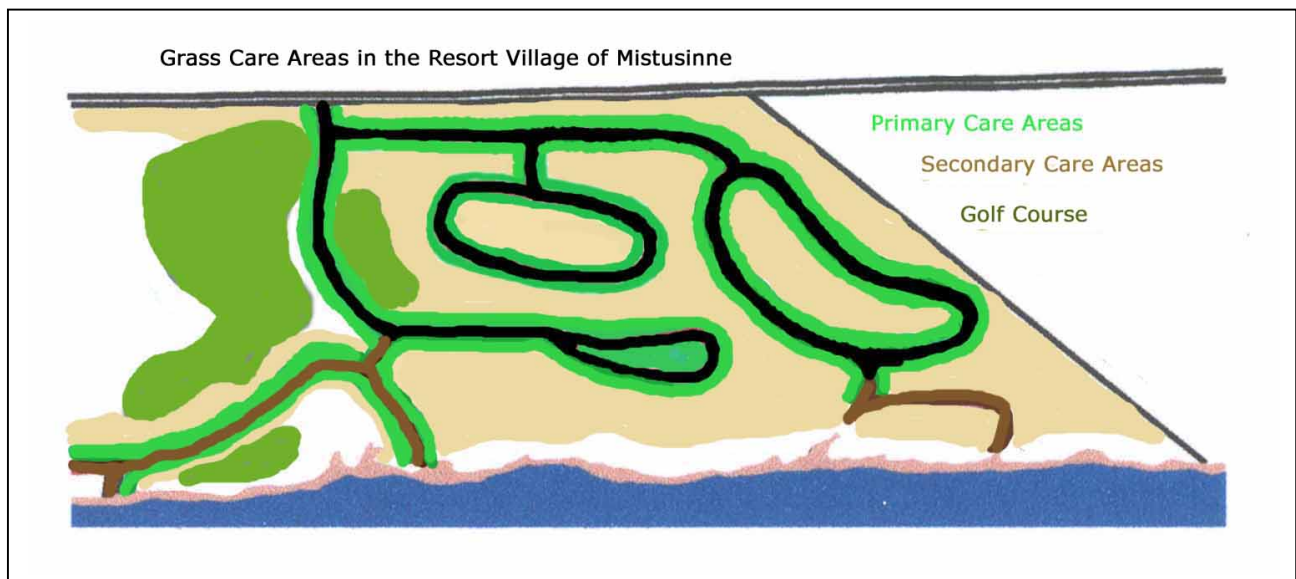
The Council of the Resort Village aims to achieve a responsible balance between two objectives:

1. To keep the Village looking tidy and cared-for;
2. To be responsible stewards of our natural environment as per Section 4.2.1 of the Resort Village of Mistusinne Zoning Bylaw.

The Council of the Resort Villages requires the following procedures with regard to the maintenance of grounds and trees in the Village:

1. CARE OF GRASS

The Council of the Resort Village has established three areas for the purpose of regulating grass cutting:



1.1 Primary Grass Care Areas

- These areas include:
 - All of the ditches on both sides of all paved streets,
 - The grassy edges alongside the access roads to the boat launch, to the north beach parking area and to the middle beach,
 - The walkways on both sides of the paved roads immediately between cottage sites (3 on Block 2/3, 5 on Blocks 4/5, and one on Block 6),
 - The middle of Block 6,
 - The playground, and the yard around the Community Centre.
- Primary Care Areas should be mowed as frequently as is required to:
 - Maintain a cared-for appearance in the Village,
 - Control invasive weeds along roadways.

- When cutting in the Primary Areas, the mower height may be set as low as 2 inches.

1.2 Secondary Care Grass Areas

- These areas include:
 - All of the remaining parts of the “Green Space District (GS)” and the “Mistusinne Commons (MC)” as defined in 5.2.2 of the Resort Village of Mistusinne Zoning Bylaw with the exception of the Mistusinne Golf course and the “Environmental Reserve District (ENV)” as defined in 5.2.3 of the Resort Village of Mistusinne Zoning Bylaw.
 - Along the Trans-Canada Trail within the boundaries of the lease land controlled by Mistusinne.
- The following areas are NOT included for cutting by Village staff:
 - The “Future Development District (FD)” and other areas north of the golf course and north of the Village brush pile.
 - The area alongside the highway outside Village limits.
- Secondary Care Areas should be mowed as follows:
 - In the spring,
 - During dry years, no second mowing shall be done.
 - During wet years, a second mowing may be done in **selected areas** but **must wait until after grasses have gone to seed.**
- When cutting in the Secondary Areas, the mower height is to be set no lower than 6 inches.

1.3 Grass on the Golf Course

- Golf course greens are cut:
 - Typically, twice a week,
 - At the discretion of the greenskeeper,
 - So as to ensure pleasurable golfing conditions.
- Golf course fairways are cut:
 - Typically, every two weeks during a wet season,
 - As rarely as once a month during dry conditions,
 - So as to ensure pleasurable golfing conditions.

2. CARE OF TREES

The Council of the Resort Village has established three areas for the purpose of regulating tree pruning and tree removal:

2.1 Primary Tree Care Areas

- These areas include:
 - Along both sides of Mistusinne Street until the intersection with Mistusinne Crescent,
 - Along both sides of Sakuhikun Street until the intersection with Sakuhikun Drive,
 - The entrance to Chekepak Crescent, and the middle of Block 6,
 - The playground, and the yard around the Community Centre.

- In the primary areas, trees may be pruned or removed to improve the aesthetics of a park-like setting at the village entrance and in our gathering places.

2.2 Secondary Tree Care Areas

- These areas include all of the other tree bluffs on Village green spaces.

Pruning:

- In the Secondary Tree Areas, there will be **no tree pruning** because:
 - The objective is to develop closed tree stands, shaded ground cover, windbreaks and wildlife cover.
 - Sucker trees are to be encouraged with trees growing randomly once they leave their rows.
 - Undergrowth in tree bluffs will assist with snow collection, as will long grasses.
- The only tree pruning permitted in newly planted tree stands should be for the purpose of peeling out a leader to ensure that there is no forked tree.
- Evergreens (spruce, pine or larch) should not be pruned.
- Except for areas mentioned in 2.1, pruning will not be done to accommodate roto-tilling.

Roto-tilling

- Typically, tilling need not happen more than once a year, usually in early spring.
- Tillage should be kept as shallow as possible to reduce root injury, loss of moisture and to prevent tree dieback.

Removal of dead trees

- In the Secondary Tree Card Areas there will be **no automatic removal of dead standing trees** with the following exceptions:
 - Only hazardous dead-standing trees are removed. Dead trees support wildlife and help collect snow.
 - Hazard trees are to be identified by Maintenance.
 - Only Village staff members are permitted to take out these hazard trees (example: near property or power line). Other people require a permit to take out dead trees.

2.3 Trees on the Golf Course

- Typically, there is little pruning of trees in the “rough areas” of the golf course except for occasional judicious use of hedge clipper on lilacs or flowering shrubs.
- Dead trees may be removed from the golf course as part of the aesthetics of the course.

3. OTHER

3.1 Use of herbicides and pesticides

- Village staff will not use chemicals for weed control.
- Tent caterpillars should be removed and burned.
- Dandelions along roadways are best controlled through mowing.

3.2 Education of cottage owners

Council will undertake to provide education to cottage owners concerning the provisions of this policy and especially emphasizing that:

- Under the provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, cottage owners are not permitted to plant trees or establish extensions to their yards that encroach onto the green spaces¹,
- Except for paths to the beach, cottage owners are ***not permitted to mow grass on Village owned green spaces***,
- Cottage owners are ***not permitted to plant, prune or cut any trees (whether dead or alive) on Village owned green spaces***.

3.3 Fire Hazard

- The possible fire hazard from longer grass on green spaces can be offset with roto tilling along tree stands and new tree plantation.
- Where Council perceives an extreme threat of prairie fire due to extreme drought condition, Maintenance will be authorized to do extra grass cutting immediately behind cottage lots.

¹ Although exceptions are recognized for trees, yards or gardens established on green space prior to the passing of the Zoning Bylaw, no further exceptions are to be permitted.