Town of Shaftsbury
Municipal Offices
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677 Vermont RTE 7A
Shaftsbury, VT
05262-0409
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TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY REQUEST FOR BIDS and BID FORM TO REMOVE ALL ASH TREES AND ALL OTHER HAZARD TREES IN THE TOWN RIGHT OF WAY ON BOTH SIDES OF A PART OF MAPLE HILL ROAD

Issued: August 17, 2026 (v.1) - September 17, 2026 (v.2)

Project Description: To remove all marked ash trees and all other marked potential hazard trees only along the roadside of the section of Maple Hill Road between Jack Cross Road and Cider Mill Road.

Site Visit: TBD 2026. See below for more information.

Deadline for Bid Submission: Wednesday September 30, 2026. Please see below for bid submission information. Please use the accompanying bid form.

Bid Opening: Monday October 5, 2026 at the Shaftsbury town offices located at 677 RT 7A, Shaftsbury VT. (Or at a specially-warned meeting shortly thereafter if there's no Labor Day meeting.)

Bid Selection: TBD 2026.

Town Contact: Questions may be directed to Dave Mance III, Town of Shaftsbury Tree Warden, 802 733 4045, or treewarden@shaftsburyvt.gov. Information will be provided to all bidders at the site visit, which anyone interested in bidding is required to attend.

Tax Exempt Status: The Town of Shaftsbury is exempt from State of Vermont sales tax.

1. Bid and Project Specifications: The project is for removal and disposal of all ash and other danger trees marked with blue paint within the municipal right of way along Maple Hill Road in Shaftsbury, VT between Jack Cross Road and Cider Mill Road Where the landowner has indicated an interest in retaining the wood, the work includes cutting and stacking logs and chipping or removal of branches as described below. See Appendix I for wood disposal directions for each landowner. In some forested areas, the trees will be felled, the tops cut down, and the wood left on the forest floor.
2. The number of ash trees by diameter class that are to be removed are as follows:

4 to 8 inches: 50 (45 ash, 5 non-ash)
10 to 14 inches: 40 (36 ash, 4 non-ash)
16 to 22 inches: 31 (30 ash, 1 non-ash)
> 24 inches: 9
Total: 130

2. Bid Selection: The Selectboard will consider the selection of a contractor at its meeting on Monday, October 5, 2026. (Or at a specially warned meeting if there's no Labor Day meeting.) The Town reserves the right to select any bid for any reason, and to reject any or all bids wholly or in part, to waive any informalities or immaterial irregularities therein, to accept any proposal even though it may not be the lowest cost, to call for rebids, and to make an award which in its sole and absolute judgement will best serve the Town's interest.

3. Bid Submission: Deadline for bid submission is Wednesday, September 30, 2026, 3:30 p.m. Bids are to be sealed and marked "REMOVAL OF ROADSIDE ASH TREES IN SHAFTSBURY" and mailed to: Shaftsbury Selectboard, Attn: Paula Iken, P. O. Box 409, Shaftsbury VT 05262 or delivered by hand to the Town office and provided to the Town Administrator if the office is open.

4. Schedule: Work, including clean up, must be completed by Sunday, January31, 2027.

5. Payment Schedule: The contractor will be paid within thirty (30) days upon the Town's receipt of invoice and completion of work, and with written acceptance of the work by appointed members of the emerald ash borer committee. Invoices shall be consistent with the bid as accepted and directed to the Town Manager, Town of Shaftsbury, PO Box 409, Shaftsbury VT, 05262 and refer to the Shaftsbury Hazard Ash Tree Project.

6. Site Visit: A site visit for contractors shall be held on TBD, 2026 at 10 a.m. We'll meet at the North Shaftsbury Community Center on 453 Old Depot Road. Questions regarding this bid request will be addressed at the site visit. In order to be eligible to bid you must be on time. Anyone arriving late will be disqualified from bidding. Questions regarding the site visit may be directed to DPW interim foreman, Tim Gulley, dpw@shaftsburyvt.gov or Dave Mance III, 802-733-4045, treewarden@shaftsburyvt.gov.

7. Insurance: The selected bidder will be required to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance with liability and property coverage of no less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $1,000,000 per aggregate, naming the Town of Shaftsbury as an additional insured prior to starting work. The Certificate of Insurance must also include Workers Compensation Insurance, unless the selected bidder has no employees, in which case a Non-Employee Work Agreement and a Liability Hold-Harmless Agreement will be signed prior to commencing work. All insurance documents must be delivered to the Shaftsbury Town Manager.

8. Traffic Control: Traffic signage for road closure/crew working can be provided by the town road crew. The selected contractor must request the proposed date(s) of road closure or partial closure

at least one week in advance of the cutting date. The Road Foreman will post notices of the closure at the appropriate road locations.

9. Landowner Agreements: The Town of Shaftsbury will be responsible for contacting landowners and advising them of the cutting. With respect to access to private lands and disposal of materials, the contractor shall adhere to the landowners' decisions, outlined in Appendix I, including landowner decisions with regard to cutting and removal of wood. See Appendix I for details.

10. Right of Way Vegetation: Remaining trees and shrubs of all species in the cutting area must be protected from damage to the extent feasible. The Town will rely primarily on natural regeneration to replace ash trees. To that end, native trees and shrubs within the cutting area will be preserved as practical through directional felling and careful positioning of harvesting equipment. The Town recognizes that some loss of regeneration is unavoidable, but expects loss to be minimized.

11. Stumps: Stumps must be cut to less than 6 inches from the ground as a safety measure to minimize damage in case of vehicle collision.

12. Site Maintenance: The contractor must ensure that no debris is left on site where it might block driveways, field access, ditches or in any way impede road crews from regular maintenance practices such as ditch clearing or grading of gravel roads at any time. Logs left on site temporarily, whether for contractor's or landowner's future use, must not impede passage of motorists and must be staged outside of the finished road surface and not in any road, ditch, or stream, and may not remain in the right of way at the completion of the work.

13. Wood Retained by Landowners: Where cut wood is to be left for the landowner pursuant to Appendix I, branches smaller than 6 inches in diameter will be chipped or removed from the site. Wood left on site for the landowner shall be cut in log lengths not to exceed 16 feet and stacked or placed in an orderly manner outside of the town highway right of way. Logs shall be safely piled and in a manner that will minimize the danger of rolling. Unless otherwise indicated in Appendix I, no wood will be left in the right of way.

14. Wood and Chip Removal: Should the landowner elect not to keep logs under the Town/Landowner agreement, the selected contractor may remove wood for their own use or to sell. On lands of Korein, in areas that abut forest, the selected contractor may drop the trees into the forest, cut down the tops, and leave the woody material in the forest at their discretion. To be very clear, this only applies to areas that are forested. All roadside trees and tops that abut open land will be removed.

15. Independent Contractor, Hold Harmless: The bidder selected to do the work shall be an independent contractor by law, and shall not be deemed to be entitled to the benefits or protections of an employee of the Town of Shaftsbury. The Town shall not be responsible for submitting payroll withholding, such as taxes, nor unemployment contributions on behalf of the selected bidder. The selected bidder shall hold the Town of Shaftsbury harmless for claims and damages in the performance of the scope of services described in the bid and this request for bids, excepting in the event of nonpayment without cause by the Town.

16. Bid Acceptance and Contract: By the submission of a bid, bidder acknowledges that the Town of Shaftsbury may accept the bid as written and, together with this request for bid and bidder's invoices for the work performed in accordance with the bid, the bid may be considered a contract for performance by the bidder. The Town of Shaftsbury reserves the right to request changes to the bid in which case the selected bidder, upon agreement to the changes, will promptly enter into a written agreement with the Town of Shaftsbury consistent with the terms of this request for bid and the submitted bid as modified.

Incorporated as part of these terms:

Appendix I: Wood disposal by Landowner

Appendix II: Map of Maple Hill Road with Landowner Names

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY BID FORM TO REMOVE POTENTIAL HAZARD ASH TREES IN THE TOWN RIGHT OF WAY ON BOTH SIDES OF MAPLE HILL ROAD

Please provide the following information – type or print please:

Name of Contractor: _____

Name of Principal Contact (if different): _____

Contractor's mailing address: _____

Contractor's phone number: _____

Contractor's e-mail address: _____

Total Quote: $_____

Estimated number of working days required to complete the job: _____

Bidder's Relevant equipment for project (owned or leased):

_____

_____

Please provide the name and phone number for three job references:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Signature of Contractor

By signing this Bid Form, you are certifying that the Town of Shaftsbury may treat this bid as an offer, the bid is made in good faith without fraud, collusion, or connection of any kind with any other bidder for the same work, and that you are competing solely on your or your firm's own behalf without connection with or obligation to any other person or firm. You also affirm that you are not currently an employee of the Town of Shaftsbury.

Name of Contractor/Company (Print):_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY – REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS ASH TREES ON MAPLE HILL ROAD APPENDIX 1 – LANDOWNER WOOD RETENTION DIRECTIVES

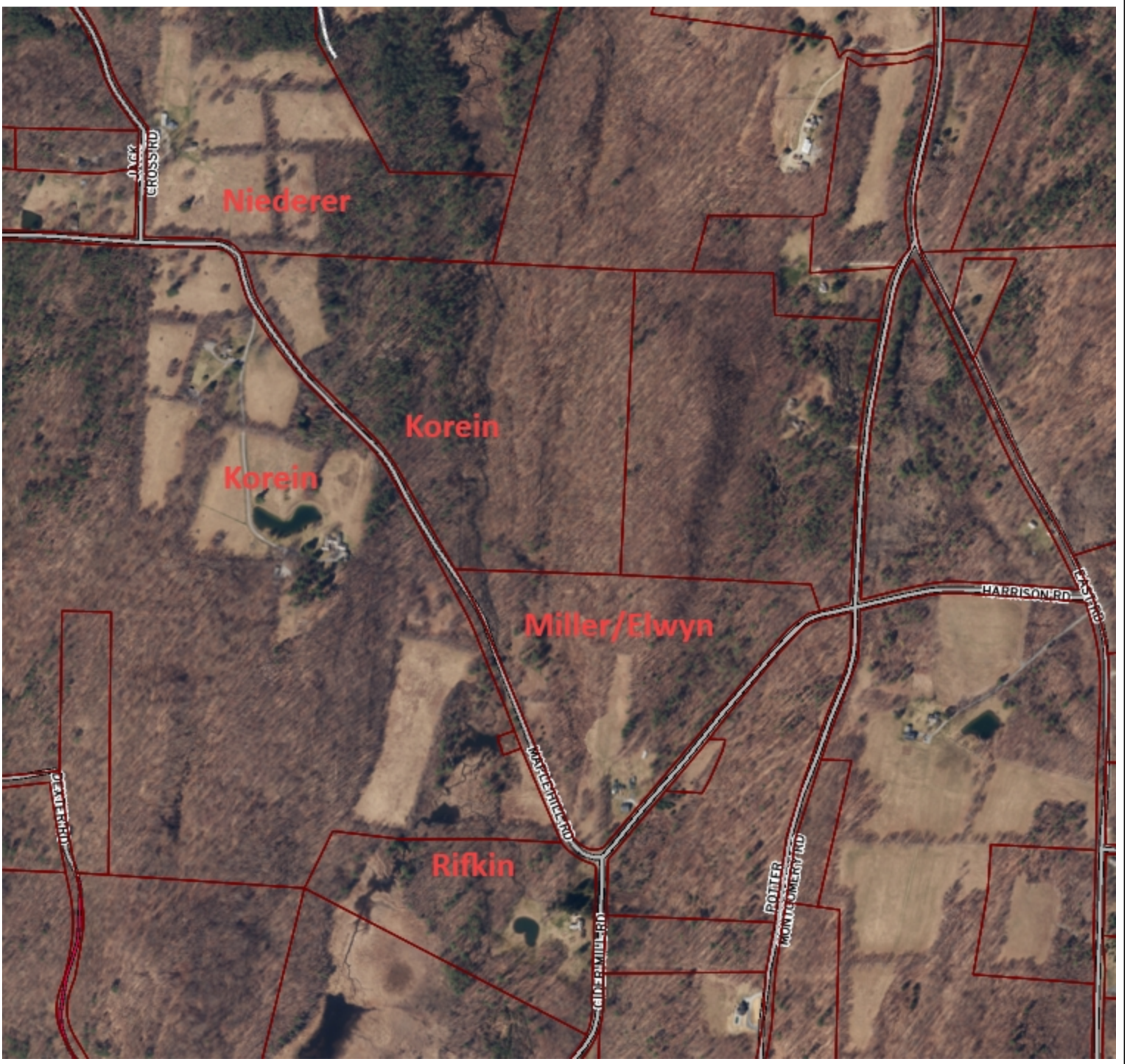
Wood Disposal by Landowner

Landowner	Address	Number of Trees	Directives
Korein	580 Maple Hill		In areas that abut open land, contractor takes logs and chips and removes tops. In forested areas only, contractor can fell trees into the forest, cut down the tops, and leave the wood on the forest floor should they choose.
Niederer	209 Jack Cross		Wants logs piled and left in field. See #13 above.
Miller et/al	1325 Maple Hill		Wants logs left at designated landing. See #13 above
Rifkin et/al	2725 Cider Mill		Wants logs added to Miller's pile.

Maple Hill Road Hazardous Tree Removal

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

vermont.gov





LEGEND

- Parcels (standardized)
- Roads
  - Interstate
  - US Highway; 1
  - State Highway
  - Town Highway (Class 1)
  - Town Highway (Class 2,3)
  - Town Highway (Class 4)

NOTES

Map created using ANR GIS mapping techology.

1: 9,489

July 23, 2026

482.0 0 241.00 482.0 Meters

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere 1" = 791 Ft. 1cm = 95 Meters

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THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

DISCLAIMER: This map is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. ANR and the State of Vermont make no representations of any kind, including but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability, or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied with respect to the data on this map.