

CITY OF VILLA GROVE  
DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-MC05

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE IX, CHAPTER 97  
OF THE VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS CODE OF ORDINANCES  
AS THEY RELATE TO TREE SPECIES**

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND  
APPROVED BY THE MAYOR OF THE  
CITY OF VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS  
THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF MAY 2026

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PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM BY AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF VILLA GROVE, DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THIS TWELFTH DAY OF MAY A.D. 2026

CITY OF VILLA GROVE  
DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-MC05

May 11, 2026

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE IX, CHAPTER 97  
OF THE VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS CODE OF ORDINANCES  
AS THEY RELATE TO TREE SPECIES**

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Villa Grove, Douglas County, Illinois (the "City"), is a duly organized and existing City created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, and is now operating under the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto with full powers to enact ordinances for the benefit of the residents of the City.

**WHEREAS**, the City previously adopted Title IX, Chapter 97 of its Code of Ordinances regarding Trees and Plants; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has for years removed damaged and diseased trees throughout the City and recently consulted an arborist concerning the need for a plan for the sustained replacement of such trees; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has determined that it is necessary and in the best interest of the City and its residents to amend Title IX, Chapter 97: Trees and Plants, Sections §97.30-97.31 of its Code of Ordinances as it relates to specific tree species to be allowed and prohibited.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, CITY OF VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS, as follows:**

SECTION 1: Incorporation Clause. The Mayor and City Council of the City of Villa Grove, Illinois hereby find that all of the recitals hereinbefore stated as contained in the preambles to this Ordinance are full, true and correct and do hereby, by reference, incorporate and make them part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2: Purpose. This ordinance is to amend Title IX: Chapter 97: Trees and Plants, Section §97.30 of the Villa Grove Code to list specific species of trees allowed or prohibited along streets and public thoroughfares and within park areas.

SECTION 3: Code of Villa Grove Amendments. Within Chapter 97: Trees and Plants, Section 97.30: Operation. of the Villa Grove Code is hereby renumbered to § 97.20 with no changes in title or language; and

Chapter 97, Section 97.31: Tree Species to be Planted. of the Villa Grove Municipal Code is specifically repealed and hereby amended to include the new following sections, Section 97.30-97.31 amended to now read, in entirety, as follows:

**“§ 97.30 TREES SPECIES TO BE ALLOWED ALONG PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

- (A) Small trees species preferred shall include: Crabapple (cultivars resistant to apple scab), Cornelian cherry dogwood, Kousa dogwood, Pagoda dogwood, Japanese tree lilac, Paperbark maple, Laurel magnolia, Serviceberry or Tree form viburnum.
- (B) Medium to Large trees species preferred shall include: Baldcypress, Elm (cultivars resistant to Dutch elm disease), Turkish filbert, Hackberry, Freeman maple, Miyabe maple, Red maple, Sugar maple, Bur oak, Chinkapin oak, Chestnut oak, Overcup oak, Red oak, Shumard oak, Swamp white oak, White oak, Dawn redwood, or Black tupelo.

**“§ 97.31 TREES SPECIES PROHIBITED ALONG PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

The following species are hereby prohibited from planting: Apple, Arborvitae, Blue ash, Green ash, Mountain ash, White ash, River birch, White birch, Boxelder, Ohio buckeye, Butternut, Catalpa, Cedar, Cherry, Chestnut, Cottonwood, Flowering dogwood,

American elm, Siberian elm, Slippery elm, Empress tree, Fir, Hemlock, Hickory, Honeylocust, Horse chestnut, Juniper, Black locust, Norway maple, Silver maple, Mimosa tree, Mulberry, Pin oak, Scarlet oak, Russian olive, Osage orange, Peach, Pear, Pecan, Pine, Plum, Poplar, Spruce, Sweetgum, Sycamore, Tree of Haven, Walnut or Willow.

SECTION 4. Headings. The headings for the articles, sections, paragraphs and sub-sections of this ordinance are inserted solely for the convenience of reference and form no substantive part of this ordinance nor should they be used in any interpretation or construction of any substantive provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 5: Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and should any provision, clause, sentence, paragraph, sub-paragraph, section, or part of this Ordinance be determined to be in conflict with any law, statute or regulation by a court of competent jurisdiction, said provision shall be excluded and deemed inoperative, unenforceable, and as though not provided for herein, and all other provisions shall remain unaffected, unimpaired, valid and in full force and effect. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent of the City Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted had not such unconstitutional or invalid provision, clause, sentence, paragraph, sub-paragraph, section, or part thereof had not been included.

SECTION 6: Superseder and Publication. All code provisions, ordinances, resolutions and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, are to the extent of such conflict hereby superseded. A full, true and complete copy of this Ordinance shall be published in pamphlet form as provided by the Illinois Municipal Code, as amended.

SECTION 7: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage and approval, as provided by the Illinois Municipal Code, as amended.

**PRESENTED, PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VILLA GROVE, ILLINOIS, at its regular meeting on this eleventh day of May, A.D., 2026, by a roll call vote as follows:

ELECTED OFFICIAL NAME	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Clark, Wayne R.	X			
Elston, Christopher R.	X			
Fulk, Andrew J.	X			
Hooker, Anthony L.	X			
Nieto, Gilbert III				X
Taylor-Sanford, Clay D.	X			
<i>If required, Mayoral vote:</i> Rasmussen, Derek L.				

APPROVED:

DEREK L. RASMUSSEN

Mayor

ATTEST:

MICHELLE L. OSBORNE

City Clerk

SEAL

