



August, 4, 2015

Borough of Chatham  
Attn: Patrick Carroll, Chairman  
Chatham Borough Shade Tree Commission  
54 Fairmount Avenue  
Chatham, NJ 07928

Pat,

Per your request I made a visual inspection and evaluation of the large Oak tree on Lower Lum Field. This was done Monday, August 3, 2015

This tree which may be nearly 200 years old appears to be in very good condition. In recent years this strong stately tree has survived numerous severe storms including Sandy, Irene and Snowtober. I observed that this specimen tree has a full canopy of large green healthy leaves, a good strong branching structure and a well-balanced root system.

Overall I see no reason to remove this tree or "restrict access" if some minor maintenance is performed. This tree should be pruned of major deadwood, thoroughly inspected and deep root fertilized to maintain health and vigor.

Some minor insect activity such as ants and chewing caterpillars should be monitored and treated as needed. Predictions are for the Gypsy Moth caterpillar to be very destructive to Oaks in the next few years. I can provide quotes on all the above services upon request.

Our opinions are based on the guidelines of The International Society of Arboriculture Guide to Tree Risk Assessment, common patterns of failure involving certain defects and species, diagnostic evidence, defects observed, and the trees history. As Arborists we cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to a structural failure of a tree. Trees are living organisms that fail in ways we do not fully understand. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time. Likewise, any mitigation cannot be guaranteed.

Sincerely,

Joe Kunkel

NJ State Certified Tree Expert 360

ISA Certified Arborist PD 0688A