



### **Inspection of Trees and Woody Shrubs**

Trees are an important part of the overall interpretation of a historic site however trees require continual care and maintenance during their life. In order to determine the scope of work for tree care inspections by a certified arborist are important. Inspections may be annual or they may alternate years depending on the overall risk status of the property and the zones.

### **Guidelines for Individual Tree Inspection**

- Visual Tree Assessments using industry standards should be performed based on the Site activity and the Risk Zones.
  - A preservation manager or a landscape manager should accompany the certified arborist.
  - High risk areas within High Activity sites should be inspected on an annual basis.
  - Other areas should be inspected routinely allowing no more than three years in between inspections.
- During the visual tree assessment the arborist should:
  - Review the condition of every tree within the zone and note species, size, structural qualities, vigor, presence of insects or disease, overall condition, observations and recommendations and priority.
  - Determine work plan for next fiscal year and a budget for work.
  - Discuss long term arbor care strategies based on the overall conditions.
- After every major storm or wind event site staff should visually inspect each site for damaged trees.
  - If there is no landscape manager assigned to the site, the site manager and preservation manager should walk the site together to perform a visual assessment of the tree issues.
  - Look for fallen trees, branches on the ground and “hangers” in the trees.
  - If any issues are noticed or staff have concerns a certified arborist should be brought in to inspect the trees.