

WILLIAM PEDUTO  
MAYOR



YVONNE HILTON  
CITY SOLICITOR

CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**  
CITY-COUNTY BUILDING

**PROCEDURES FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR  
SIDEWALK DAMAGE RESULTING FROM CITY TREE ROOTS**

1. The homeowner should first contact the 311 Response Center [3-1-1 for calls in the City of Pittsburgh] or (412) 255-2621 [for calls outside of the City of Pittsburgh] or Forestry Division at (412) 665-3625. Someone from Forestry will come out to the residence and measure the amount of damage to the sidewalk that can be attributed to the tree roots.
2. Forestry will send the homeowner a card after the measurement has been made notifying them that measurement has been completed and will further state whether the tree(s) will be root pruned or removed from the location.
3. The homeowner's contractor or homeowner must file for a sidewalk permit with the Department of Mobility & Infrastructure (DOMI), Permit Counter, 611 Second Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pittsburgh, 15219. (412) 255-2737. There is a fee of \$30.00 for this permit.
4. Once the homeowner receives notification that the measurement has been made by Forestry Division personnel, and the sidewalk permit has been obtained from DOMI, they can then have the sidewalk removed.
5. As soon as possible after the sidewalk has been removed, the homeowner should then contact Forestry Division again to schedule them to perform the necessary maintenance on the City trees.
6. Once Forestry performs the maintenance on the trees, the new sidewalk can then be poured.
7. The City will reimburse the homeowner for the portion of the sidewalk damaged as a result of the tree roots in the amount of \$8.08<sup>1</sup> per square foot, based upon Forestry Division's measurements.

The homeowner should submit a completed Report of Claim Form to the Law Department, along with a copy of the sidewalk permit (or permit number) from DOMI and a paid bill (or 2 estimates), for repair to the sidewalk. ***The City of Pittsburgh will not issue payment until a copy of the sidewalk permit or the permit number has been provided to the Claims Division.***

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<sup>1</sup> Amount of reimbursement for claims received beginning January 2, 2019. Amount is not retroactive for claims received prior to January 2, 2019. The reimbursement amount for claims received prior to January 2, 2019 is \$8.00 per square foot.

The information should be mailed to the following:

**CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW, CLAIMS DIVISION  
313 CITY-COUNTY BUILDING  
414 GRANT STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219**

Any additional questions or concerns can be directed to the Claims Division at (412) 255-2031.