

12-3204. Treatment or removal of shrubbery, trees and materials in cities; payment of costs; notice. Whenever any competent city authority, or competent state or federal authority when requested by the governing body of the city, shall file with the governing body a statement in writing based upon a laboratory test or other supporting evidence that trees or tree materials or shrubs located upon private property within such city are infected or infested with or harbours any tree or plant disease or insect pest or larvae, the uncontrolled presence of which may constitute a hazard to or result in the damage or destruction of other trees or shrubs in the community, describing the same and where located, said governing body shall direct the city clerk to forthwith issue notice requiring the owner or agent of the owner of the premises to treat or remove any such designated tree, tree material or shrub within a time specified in such notice; said notice shall be served by registered or certified mail or personal service may be made by the city marshal or other police officer, by delivering a copy thereof to the owner, or agent of such property. If the property is unoccupied and the owner a nonresident, then the city clerk shall notify the owner by mailing a copy of the notice to the owner's last known address by registered or certified mail.

If the owner or agent shall fail to comply with the requirements of said notice within the time specified in the notice, then the city forester, street superintendent or other designated officer shall proceed to have the designated tree, tree material or shrub treated or removed and report the cost thereof to the city clerk, and the cost of such treatment or removal shall be paid by the owner of the property or shall be assessed and charged against the lot or parcel of ground on which the tree, tree material or shrub was located. The city clerk shall at the time of certifying other city taxes to the county clerk, certify the unpaid costs and the county clerk shall extend the same on the tax roll of the county against said lot or parcel of ground. The cost of such work shall, except as hereinafter provided, be paid from the general fund or other proper fund of the city or from moneys derived from the levy authorized by K.S.A. 12-3203 and such fund shall be reimbursed when payments therefor are received or when such assessments are collected and received by the city.

History: L. 1961, ch. 72, § 4; L. 1974, ch. 67, § 1; July 1.