

# Neighborhood Reminder



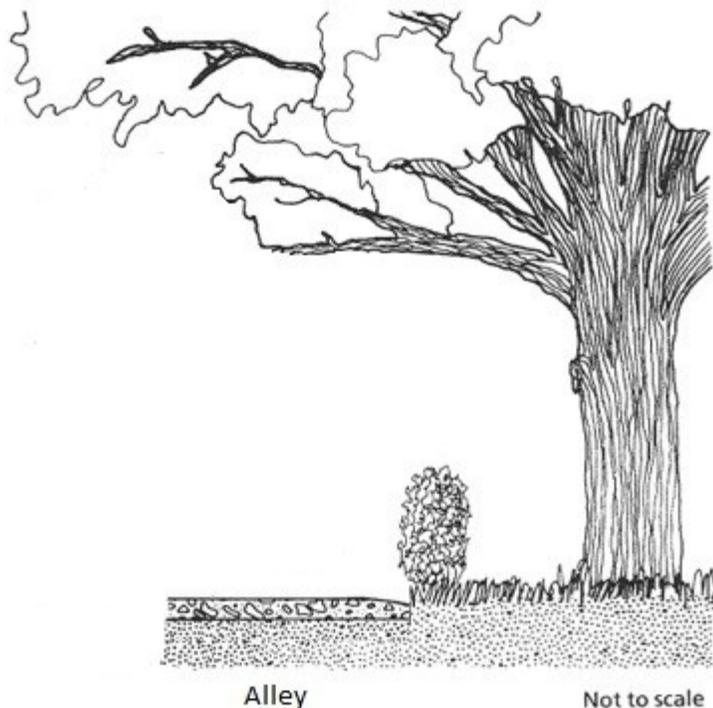
## Maintenance of Trees and Shrubbery

The City of Hagerstown is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all residents and visitors. We appreciate the contributions made by homeowners to maintain their properties and help make Hagerstown a great place to live. At times, the City must reach out to property owners to address Code issues adopted for the betterment of the entire community.

One such issue involves landscaping along public rights-of-way. The City appreciates the trees and landscaping that property owners have planted to beautify their properties and neighborhoods. In fact, the City routinely seeks grant funds for street tree planting projects as we work to increase the tree canopy cover in Hagerstown. In addition, the City has an annual awards program, Highlight Hagerstown, to recognize outstanding efforts by property owners to beautify their homes and yards. However, it is important for us all to be aware that during the growing season it is easy for trees and shrubbery to expand beyond their intended growing areas and start to encroach into public rights-of-way including alleys.

The City Code provides criteria for appropriate heights and clearances along public rights-of-way to ensure safety for people and vehicles traversing public streets, alleys and sidewalks. The following are the Code requirements for trees and shrubbery along alleys:

- ensure they do not obstruct the view of adjacent streets, alleys or other public rights of way,
- ensure to maintain all shrubbery along alley to at least 1 foot from the improved portions of the alley,
- ensure all weeds along the alley are mowed and maintained, and;
- ensure there is at least 15 feet clear above any alley.



If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Department of Housing & Community Development at 301-739-8577 x103